

Welcome to:

Back to School Night

With Mr. Olsen



Welcome Back

Hello Blair Families! This is Mr. Ibarra, Mrs. McGinnis, and Dr. Perez, the proud admin team of Blair Middle & High School. We would first like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during this unprecedented time. Thank you for giving us time to work through and develop the best plan possible for the start of the new school year.

We are excited that all of our Blair families get to meet our AWESOME teachers tonight! We are confident they will walk you through what distance learning looks like in their classrooms and what their expectations for success are for your student/s.

Also, as we continue to move forward with distance learning (hopefully short term), we believe the success of virtual learning will largely rely on the partnerships between our teachers and families. Let's work together to make this year innovative, engaging, enjoyable, and meaningful for all of our students.

About Me



Experience: This will be my 5th year as a Special Education Teacher with a history of teaching multiple subjects: Geometry, High School and Middle School World and U.S. History, English, and Middle School and High School Math.

Educational Background: I have a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Carleton College in MN, and I have a Masters in Education from California State University Los Angeles

Daily Routine



1. Be Ready: Login up to 5 minutes before class.
2. Do Now (5-10 minutes) (See-Think-Wonder or Relevant Math Problem)
3. Lesson (10-15 minutes) (Reading/Debate or Guided Math Activities)
4. Guided/Independent Practice/Project Work (10-20 minutes)
5. Recap/Exit Slip (5 minutes)

Classwork Policy



1. Based on work type:

a. **Discussion Posts: 2 days/48 hours to complete**

a. **Assignments and Tests: 2 or 4 days/48 or 96 hours to complete**

Typically, homework/online assignments will be given two days a week. A smaller assignment will be given on a Tuesday or Wednesday which would be due on a Thursday or Friday. A larger assignment would be assigned on a Thursday or Friday and be do on a Tuesday or Wednesday, giving the student the weekend to work on it.

Classwork Policy



General Policies Concerning Student Work:

- a. **Students Can** retake tests and quizzes as many times as they would like as long as they correct what they got wrong and explain how they got the problem wrong in the first place.

- a. **Students Can** generally submit late work at any time for at least **SOME** credit. However, some online assignments have submission windows that close, and in that event, the student and I would need to come to an agreement about the resubmission of the activity.

Grading Policy



Grading

The (4) types of work for our class count in the following way:

Discussion Contributions (either in print or verbal)	25%
Classwork/Homework	35%
Tests	20%
Projects	20%

Grading Policy



Grading

The (4) types of work for our class count in the following way:

Assignments	40%
Discussion posts	20%
Tests	20%
iReady	20%

***iReady** is a research-based, online program that uses **personalized learning** and adaptive assessments to determine what a student is most ready to learn.

Classroom Rules



Virtual Classroom Rules

- 1. Make sure to mute yourself.**
- 2. Use the “raise hand” button for questions and comments or raise your hand.**
- 3. Whenever possible, make sure your camera is turned on and your face is seen.**
- 4. Wear headphones.**
- 5. During virtual learning, continue to observe the Blair School Expectations: Be safe, be ready, be responsible, be respectful.**

Classroom Norms



Participate: Students must contribute to the conversations!

No cyberspace lurks allowed. A shared learning environment is only effective if everyone involved actually shares. Those who participate in conversations will get class points in the Participation section of the gradebook. Providing insightful commentary and sharing your opinions during our online discussions are a requirement for passing the course.

Classroom Norms



Respect Diversity: This virtual classroom is, without question, a safe space for people of all races, genders, sexes, ages, sexual orientations, religions, disabilities, and socioeconomic statuses. Derogatory and sarcastic comments and jokes that marginalize anyone are fundamentally unacceptable, especially in the classroom. Offensive language—or language that could be construed as offensive—should be avoided and defused. In the unfortunate event that this becomes an issue, I will take immediate action to protect the safety and comfort of the rest of my students. Our ethnically rich and diverse, multi-cultural world will be highly celebrated in our History and Math classrooms.

Office Hours



Office Hours

Office hours will usually be Tuesday through Friday from 2:10 - 3:10 each of those days. You can receive one on one help or get answers to questions about assignments, tests, or projects.

Hours are subject to change from the regular times due to meetings, professional development, or an urgent matter that needs to be addressed. In order to check the latest times available, click on the “CONTACT ME” button on the class homepage in Canvas. Then follow the instructions on how to access Office Hours. Alternatively, to go immediately to the page with Office Hours, click on the Cisco Webex tab in the left column of the class Canvas page. Then click the “Office Hours” tab at the top on the screen.

Tutoring



PUSD has partnered with Paper (formerly known as “GradeSlam”) to provide every secondary student access to a skilled tutor. Paper is a digital application that will provide live tutor and writing support to all 6th-12th grade students. Students can access 24/7 support via a digital application and teachers will be provided data on the “frequently asked” needs of students. This app will be found on the Clever dashboard and become active after the school year begins. Click on this link to learn more: <https://paper.co/>

Contact Information



Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. Please [Email Mr. Olsen](mailto:olsen.colin@pusd.us)
[\(\[olsen.colin@pusd.us\]\(mailto:olsen.colin@pusd.us\)\)](mailto:olsen.colin@pusd.us)

If you need to get in contact with me but have no email access, always call the school office and they will pass on your message to me.

I am looking forward to a successful year and I hope you are too.

Sincerely,
Mr. Olsen