



igniting your purpose!

October 2, 2020

Greetings to Our Spark Community,

Has an entire month already passed? It seems like yesterday when we first welcomed our students for the start of another year! I want to thank those of you who were able to share our brochure electronically with prospective families. It certainly helps us to get the word out about our school when parents can share our good news! I am attaching to this newsletter the brochure we have used to help new families understand Spark's extensive opportunities. There is a great deal to explain about our program, and your help can make all the difference, especially while COVID conditions restrict our social interactions. **Please share this week's brochure as you did with our last one.**

CANVAS...

Mr. Larochelle and Ms. Pringle have worked tirelessly to explore our new "learning management" system CANVAS. The state has been very helpful to all New Hampshire public schools by arranging for a five-year license for our schools! The system has many useful features which have taken a while to begin implementing. We have more to learn and more features to develop for our students and parents. However, we are ready to ask parents to join the system. Mr. Larochelle has provided the following instructions for all of you. Please note that classrooms are customizable and will continue to develop. Contact Mrs. Larochelle if you have any issues with CANVAS.

Observer Account Instructions

1. Have your student log in to Canvas
2. Go to the **Account** side menu and select **Settings**
3. Select the **Pair with Observer** button. A unique code will appear. Write it down or take a picture of it. Each Observer will have a **unique code**, so this will have to be done for each observer of a student with many observers.
4. Go to <https://sparkacademynh.instructure.com/login/canvas>
5. Click on the **Parent of a Canvas User** text.
6. Enter your Full Name, Email and Password with the Student Pairing Code. Check I am not a robot and click **Start Participating**.
7. You should see everything your student sees.

Surveys...

I also want to thank those of you who completed our **survey** this week. There is still time to do so through the email invitation that was sent to you this week. We will be sending this survey out to our families each month to help us monitor the effectiveness of our hybrid model. We certainly are looking forward to the day when we can begin in-person learning for everyone every day! Until then, we hope to make our current model as effective as possible.

The Spark Admissions Committee...

Parents! The Admissions Committee needs you! The committee seeks parent volunteers to join us as we strive to spread the word about our amazing school. Let's work together as we build our Spark community! Those interested may contact the chair, Sue McGowan at mcgowanfam65@gmail.com

SPARK Connect is a private Facebook group where families and students attending SPARK Academy of Advanced Technologies can connect. We help support and encourage each other and keep up a positive school spirit even when we can't be together in person. All SPARK families are welcome to join.

Free and Reduced Lunch Forms...

We do not provide lunch for our students at Spark; however, information regarding our families' incomes can help us qualify for various forms of funding which benefit all our students. Please take time to consider completing this form when your student brings one home. Second year students will be taking their forms home today, Friday; first year students will be taking their forms home on Monday. At no time is personal information divulged to any agency or organization, and all completed forms are kept in a lockable file cabinet in the Student Services Office. The only information shared is the total number of students who qualify for free and reduced lunch based on certain criteria. We would very much appreciate receiving this information if you feel your family might qualify. Completed forms should be returned to Mrs. Larochelle. Thank you!

Service Project Reminder...

We are asking each student to bring two handmade or store-bought Fall or Halloween Cards in to school to be delivered to our local veterans at the Manchester VA Hospital. The students will be asked to write brief messages and sign with first names only. In this small way, we want to reach out to our veterans and let them know that they are not forgotten.

Until next time,
Yours in Spark...



Denis Mailloux
Director