

## Academy of Advanced Technologies Public Charter School Grades 9-12

igniting your purpose!

September 20, 2019

Dear Parents & Guardians,

I want to begin by thanking you for providing important feedback to help us bring the best educational experience possible for your daughters and sons. After all, we are just getting to know your kids as we attempt to give them time to get used to Spark. Please know that we value your perspective as we work together for your kids.

Progress...

Your children are fully addicted to ALEKS now that we have the program in place, and it appears to be functioning as expected with our students reaching their individual levels of proficiency They are also diligently applying themselves to SolidWorks. So far, so good!

As a balance to all of the screen time that our students are spending in Math and Tech Classes, Science is more experiential with mousetrap cars and physical world measurements/applications. Humanities is most definitely low-tech as part of that balance. Although the pen and paper approach in Humanities is a strange one for many students, they appear to be surviving the experience and perhaps benefitting from it.

Your kids are not only working hard; they are working together and understanding each other as we form our Spark Community. As we have studied some of the theories of societal development, we are putting into practice the values we want to include in our daily lives.

Next Wednesday's Exploration will involve the following:

- Two basic health videos\*
- Art Class
- Hiking on the MCC trails\*\*







\* The links to the videos are included here for you to preview. Please feel free to ask that your student not view one or both videos if that is your preference.

<u>youtube.com/watch?v=RQupiauyZYE</u> - Tony Horton on exercise and healthy eating.

<u>youtube.com/watch?v=jQ2eOHK5WRL</u> - Animated presentation on personal hygiene.

\*\* We were excited to learn that Manchester Community College has hiking trails for us to explore right here on the campus. We will explore those trails for the first time this Wednesday and see how much area they cover. We do know that there are already some botanical markers. Perhaps we can add more. The trails will also provide an opportunity for service if we help maintain or upgrade them. A community garden on the site may provide us with a chance to explore yet more options regarding botany, biology, and sustainability. Spark's possibilities are growing.

One last note, as we prepare to receive applications for next year's year one students, I would ask that you consider helping us present Spark to the community through Open House Nights and other community connections. We will be reaching out to you to assist us through the Advisory Board as well so as to make even more community connections and increase the opportunities we can bring to our students.

Sincerely,

Denis Mailloux Director





www.sparkacademynh.org