



Parent Newsletter

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On March 15, 2008, Virtual Virginia opened registration for all 2008-2009 courses. Parents who wish to discuss their student's enrollment in Virtual Virginia courses should contact their local school counselor for more information.
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Pat Franklin, Virtual Virginia's Advanced Placement Art History instructor, has been selected by the National Art Education Association to receive the 2008 National Supervision/Administration Art Educator of the Year Award. This award recognizes Mrs. Franklin's exemplary contributions, services and achievements to the field of art education. The award was presented on March 27 during the NAEA National Convention in New Orleans.



Congratulations, Mrs. Franklin!

A Message from the Director

We are so pleased to have your students with us this school year. Many of our students are experiencing the world of online learning for the first time. Virtual Virginia instructors and staff are here to help you and your child succeed. We realize that this form of learning brings lots of opportunities and challenges. Our goal is to enable every child in achieving educational goals and preparing for advanced studies in higher education.

Spring brings AP exams and the final push to the finish line. It is critical that students continue their studies and stay on pace with their learning now. When the weather warms and summer is just around the corner, students sometimes get spring fever. Please join with your child's instructor in making sure your students are focused on preparing for AP and final exams in their classes.

A complete listing of toll-free numbers for our instructors is on the Virtual Virginia website. Please do not hesitate to call your child's teacher or our school counselor, Erin Berry, if you have any questions.

Cathy Cheely, Director

AP Exam Dates May 5th - 16th

A reminder to all parents and students that the Advanced Placement exams are scheduled to begin on May 5th. All students planning to take an AP exam should have ordered their test through their local school. Students are reminded that review sessions are in progress now in all Virtual Virginia courses and we strongly encourage our students to participate if they plan to take an exam.

Parents of students who took AP classes with Virtual Virginia in the fall are asked to remind their student to attend AP exam review sessions with their instructor. We wish all our Virtual Virginia students the best of luck on this test. The score on this test determines the amount of college credit a student receives for their AP course. If you want to know how the college or university you want to attend uses AP exam scores, please visit www.virginiamentor.org. Check out the Commonwealth College Collaborative for a listing of all Virginia public and private university policies on AP exam scores.

Virtual Virginia in the News!

National Public Radio featured Virtual Virginia in a five-minute audio presentation recently. The report focused on expanding options for students through virtual schooling. The program was broadcast on *Morning Edition* and an excerpt was highlighted on the NPR website. Please visit the NPR website to listen to the complete audio broadcast and view the excerpt and photos of our Chinese instructor and some of

Pre-Course Assignments for Advanced Placement Courses

All students enrolled in Advanced Placement courses for 2008-09 should access the pre-course assignment for their course prior to the start of the school year. These important assignments allow students to explore the expectations of an Advanced Placement course and to examine the components of that course's AP exam. They also encourage students to consider their own study habits and plan for their success in the course and on the exam. Students should be prepared for discussion board assignments; however, the discussion boards will open when courses begin. Visit www.virtualvirginia.org and click on Course Information>Pre-Course Assignments for further information, and to download printable copies of the Pre-Course Assignments.



our students from Rappahannock High School.

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=89070946>

New Courses for 2008-2009

Virtual Virginia continues to grow! New classes have been developed to meet student and school requests. Four new courses join the course catalog next year.

Middle school students who are just starting their world language exploration will have an opportunity to take a foundation course in language entitled Survey of World Language and Culture. This exciting new class will be taught by a team of instructors and will include modules in Chinese, Latin, French and Spanish. The class is open to middle school students as well as high school students who may need an additional language credit or want to explore other languages in preparation for college study.

Students in Chinese II will be able to continue their Chinese studies with Chinese III next year. This new course is the latest installment in a planned rollout of Chinese I – IV which will be capped with the development of Advanced Placement Chinese in 2010.

Latin IV will join Latin I-III in the Virtual Virginia lineup. This course will strengthen students' skills before taking Advanced Placement Latin.

Finally, many students have been requesting a course in advanced computer science. Next year, we will expand our mathematics course options by offering Advanced Placement Computer Science A. The course is focused on concepts including programming techniques and introduction to data structures.

For prerequisites and detailed course descriptions, please visit our website at www.virtualvirginia.org/courseinfo.

Clubs Organized at Virtual Virginia

Virtual Virginia is proud to offer students enrolled in a Virtual Virginia English course participation in the National English Honor Society. We will conduct a Virtual Virginia online Induction Ceremony in April, and will hold at least one online NEHS activity before the end of Spring semester. Students granted membership in NEHS will maintain their membership during their 2008-2009 school year at Virtual Virginia. The next opportunity for membership will be early fall. Interested students must hold at least a 3.0 GPA and have an interest in literature and writing. Students should submit their application to their Virtual Virginia English instructor. We look forward to students sharing their original writing, taking virtual literary field trips, and attending presentations by guest speakers. "Great literature is simply language charged with meaning to the utmost possible degree". -Ezra Pound Contact April Lawrence @ virtualvirginia.org for more information.

The Virtual Virginia Latin Club had its first meeting in January of this year. The Latin Club is open to any Virtual Virginia Latin students. Students join the Latin Club by attending a meeting. Club members meet via Elluminate sessions in the evening. Club activities to date include travelogues, contests and student presentations. A variety of other activities are in the planning stages. Virtual Virginia will also begin its first Latin Honor Society in May of 2008. Students are admitted to the Latin Honor Society based on teacher recommendation and numerical average. Contact Janis Murphy @ virtualvirginia.org for more information.