Info Session
March 25, 2024
Today’s Agenda

1. Welcome Message
2. School Overview
3. Academic Information
4. Student Services & Support
5. Technology & Virtual Learning
6. Virtual Campus Tour
7. Student Life & Engagement
8. Q&A Session
9. Closing Remarks
The mission of the Virtual Innovators Academy is to provide high school students with rigorous, personalized, state-of-the-art virtual instruction with a project-based learning approach.
Meet Our Principal

Terri Grey
Founding Principal
MEET OUR EDUCATORS

Mr. Ortega
Visual Arts

Ms. Henry
Physical Education Teacher

Ms. Godoy
ELA / SPED Teacher

Ms. Peters
Math Teacher & Ed-Tech Coordinator

Dr. President
Career Foundations/Work-based Learning Coordinator

Mr. Julien
STEM Teacher

Ms. Manzella
Speech Teacher

Ms. Williams
Special Education Teacher

Ms. Lowry
ELL/ELA

Ms. Friedman
ELA/Math/Special Education
MEET OUR STAFF

Theresa Wyre
Assistant Principal

Gayathri Iyer
School Counselor

Jasmine Rodriguez
School Secretary

Jeffrey Rodriguez
RJ/Attendance Coordinator

Christine Lee
Tech Specialist

Christal Bernard
Parent Coordinator
We prioritize the four C’s of 21st-century learning:

- Communication
- Collaboration
- Critical Thinking
- Creativity
School Provided Devices

- Apple Macbook Air or Chromebook
- Headphones
- Hotspots (limited/upon request)
- TI-84 Calculators
- Physical Education Equipment (jump rope, yoga mat, etc.)
- Academic Information -

9th & 10th Grade Courses

- ADVISORY
- HUMANITIES
- STEAM
- REGENTS MATH
- PHYSICAL EDUCATION
- DIGITAL ART
- WORK BASED LEARNING
### 9th Grade Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:45</td>
<td>Community Circle</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 - 10:20</td>
<td>Science Lab</td>
<td>HUM (ELA)</td>
<td>STREAM (LE)</td>
<td>HUM (ELA)</td>
<td>STREAM (LE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:15</td>
<td>Science</td>
<td>HUM (SS)</td>
<td>STREAM (M)</td>
<td>HUM (SS)</td>
<td>STREAM (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 - 12:00</td>
<td>Socratic Seminar/ SYNCH</td>
<td>HUM (StudyHall/Office Hours/Services)</td>
<td>STREAM (StudyHall/Office Hours/Services)</td>
<td>HUM (StudyHall/Office Hours/Services)</td>
<td>STREAM (StudyHall/Office Hours/Services)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:45</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 - 2:15</td>
<td>Socratic Seminar SYNCH</td>
<td>Digital Art</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Digital Art</td>
<td>PE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 - 3:15</td>
<td>StudyHall/Office Hours</td>
<td>HUM (Project)</td>
<td>STEM (Project)</td>
<td>HUM (Project)</td>
<td>STEM (Project)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 10th Grade Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Mon</th>
<th>Tues</th>
<th>Wed</th>
<th>Thurs</th>
<th>Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 - 9:45</td>
<td>Community Circle</td>
<td>Advisory</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
<td>Advisory (COOP)</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 - 10:30</td>
<td>Socratic Seminar/ Independent Reading SYNCH</td>
<td>HUM (ELA)</td>
<td>STREAM (LE)</td>
<td>HUM (ELA)</td>
<td>STREAM (LE)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 - 11:15</td>
<td>Science Lab</td>
<td>HUM (SS)</td>
<td>STREAM (M)</td>
<td>HUM (SS)</td>
<td>STREAM (M)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 - 12:00</td>
<td>(Asynch/office/Group)</td>
<td>STEM/StudyHall/Office Hours/Services</td>
<td>HUM/StudyHall/Office Hours/Services</td>
<td>STEM/StudyHall/Office Hours/Services</td>
<td>HUM/StudyHall/Office Hours/Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 - 12:45</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45 - 1:30</td>
<td>World Languages</td>
<td>WBL</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>WBL</td>
<td>PE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 - 2:15</td>
<td>Socratic Seminar/ Independent Reading SYNCH</td>
<td>World Languages (ASYNCH)</td>
<td>RJ-Advanced</td>
<td>World Languages (ASYNCH)</td>
<td>RJ-Advanced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 - 3:15</td>
<td>StudyHall/Office Hours</td>
<td>HUM (Project)</td>
<td>YUN GOODY STEM (Project)</td>
<td>HUM (Project)</td>
<td>STEM (Project)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
How do you earn a credit at VIA?

Synchronous Time + Study Hall + Asynchronous + Project Time = Credit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Block</th>
<th>C Day Mon</th>
<th>A Day Tues</th>
<th>B Day Wed</th>
<th>A Day Thurs</th>
<th>B Day Fri</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00-9:45</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Community Circle</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
<td>ADVISORY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45-10:30</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Synch Socratic Seminar</td>
<td>STEAM (Science)</td>
<td>HUM (English)</td>
<td>STEAM (Science)</td>
<td>HUM (English)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30-11:15</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Asynch Socratic Seminar</td>
<td>STEAM (Math)</td>
<td>HUM (Social Studies)</td>
<td>STEAM (Math)</td>
<td>HUM (Social Studies)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15-12:00</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>RJ</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Digital Art</td>
<td>PE</td>
<td>Digital Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00-12:45</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:45-1:30</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Synch Science Lab</td>
<td>Regents Math</td>
<td>Digital Art</td>
<td>Regents Math</td>
<td>Digital Art</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-2:15</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Asynch Science Lab</td>
<td>Study Hall</td>
<td>Study Hall</td>
<td>Study Hall</td>
<td>Study Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15-3:15</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Study Hall</td>
<td>Project (STEM)</td>
<td>Project (HUM)</td>
<td>Project (STEM)</td>
<td>Project (HUM)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

= sections of your day that all count toward your HUM credit
How do you earn a credit at VIA?

Synchronous Time + Study Hall + Asynchronous + Project Time = Credit

= sections of your day that all count toward your STEAM credit
### Problem-Based Task:
Inspires and energizes students to dive into the curriculum to solve a problem and develop a solution over a period of 4-5 weeks.

### Rubric:
Provides students with clearly-articulated expectations for the solution they will submit.

### IDE’s Design Process:
A six-step methodical approach to developing a solution to a problem: formulate, explore, ideate, sift, simulate, and advocate. Also known as DESIGN THINKING.

### Individualized Learning Opportunities:
Five types of instructional activities tailored to students’ needs to promote high levels of learning for all: learning, practice, application, assessment, and reflection...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Teacher-Led Benchmark Lessons: Teachers meet with the class through videoconferencing to build a “felt need” for why students need to learn a particular concept or skill.</th>
<th>iLearn Activities: Activities include choices with text, video, websites, and simulations.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>iLearn Assignments: Students are given assignments for which they must submit text, video, or a file.</td>
<td>iLearn Discussions: Students engage in asynchronous discussions around a specific topic.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small-Group, Mini-Lessons: Teachers meet with up to five students through videoconferencing to provide direct instruction in a specific aspect of a skill or concept.</td>
<td>Teacher Facilitation: Teachers join a student at their “Virtual Desk” through videoconferencing to assist in learning content, developing a process for their own learning, and managing time and resources.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>iLearn Checklists: Students self-assess progress toward curricular goals in order to stay focused on those goals.</td>
<td>Efficacy Notebook: Students reflect on how an activity/lesson will help in solving the overarching problem, how the learning relates to prior learning, and what else they want to know.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Ways Through Which Student Learning Is Assessed:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>iLearn Quizzes</th>
<th>Teacher Conference</th>
<th>Monitored Tests</th>
<th>Transfer Tasks</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

A School Without Walls Virtual High School Program utilizes the Learner-Active, Technology-Infused Classroom (LATIC) framework delivered through NYC’s iLearn learning platform. Here is an overview of what learning looks like at A School Without Walls:
Student Services & Support

- Meals: NYC DOE will provide free breakfast and lunch meals to students enrolled in VIA to pick up from a designated school building.
- Metrocards, IDs, independent reading books, arts and wellness supplies offered
- Comprehensive onboarding for student and family with ongoing tech resources
- Social Emotional Learning:
  - Community Circle - Announcements, Resources, Celebrations, Student-Led
  - Advisory - Academic tracking, Executive Functioning, Peer Support, Digital Citizenship, Games and Interactives, Restorative Practices and Identity Empowerment
  - Wellness Check-Ins - Daily Forecast; Attendance & Positive Behavior Incentives
  - Physical Education, Movement, & Mindfulness
- Special education: ICT, SETSS, 15:1, OT, PT, Counseling, Speech therapy, Skilled paras
Virtual Learning Tools

● iLearn NYC
● Zoom
● Google Docs, Google Slides, Gmail
● One Note
● LessonBee, Littera Tutoring, Aleks
Central Learning Platform - iLearnNYC

A School Without Walls

Monday June 5th A-DAY

Christine Lee posted on Jun 5, 2023 6:45 AM • Edited
Attendence @ VIA

You Rock!

CERTIFICATE OF ATTENDANCE

PRESENTED TO:

Your Name Here!

FOR PERFECT ATTENDANCE DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER!

TERRI GREY
PRINCIPAL

THERESA WYRE
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL

Virtual Innovators Academy.

Every Student, Every day! VIA and the DOE expect 90% attendance or better.

Excellent Attendance = Academic Success!

Last year VIA attendance was 97% and we are continuing that trend!

You miss a day at VIA, you miss a lot!

Absences add up. Missing just 2 days a month means a student misses 10% of the school year.
Virtual Learning Norms

- Keep cameras on while in class
- Utilize the chat, unmute, and virtual hand on zoom when necessary.
- Communicate with your educators about absences, missing work, and if you need to step away.
Virtual Learning Norms

Remember the Golden Rule

Treat others online as you would like to be treated. Be kind, considerate, and inclusive in all interactions.
Work-Based Learning

- Work-Based Learning provides Virtual Innovators Academy students with structured learning experiences through exposure to career options via the classroom, community and industry activities that incorporate guest speakers, site tours, paid internships and industry competitions.

- WBL serves as a bridge for students to learn how to take those roles from the classroom into a professional setting.
Future Career Pathways

- Web Development
- Culinary Arts
- Music Production
- Film Making
- Digital Animation
- Podcasting
- Graphic Arts
- Student Government
- Video Game Development
- Drone Cadets
- eSports
- Coding
- Theater Arts
College Readiness (Preparación para las Universidades)

Preparation starts in the 9th grade!!

➢ College exposure through college rep. visits and virtual and in-person college tours.
➢ Students can participate in college level courses such as College Now @ Lehman College, Advanced Placement (AP), and college courses @ Monroe College.

Programas de enriquecimiento
➢ Académicos de SEO
➢ Red de oportunidades
➢ Programa de Honores en Ciencias de la Universidad de Columbia
VIA is A Restorative Community

Harm and Needs
As a community we recognize harm and quickly address the needs of the community to repair damaged relationships.

Obligations
Those who have caused harm have an obligation to make amends with the community.

Engagement
All stakeholders are trained in Restorative Practices and as such serve as the voice of the community.
# Restorative Justice

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Training</th>
<th>All members of the community are trained and certified in Restorative Practices.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Community Building</td>
<td>Circles are held weekly to check-in on the community and disseminate important information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Led</td>
<td>A group of students that are fully trained as Circle Keepers develop and facilitate circles based on the needs of the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcoming Circles</td>
<td>Circles style meetings are held with new students and their families to acclimate them to the community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reintegration Circles</td>
<td>When students are away for extended periods of time due to illness or other circumstances they are reintegrated into their classes with a circle.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Student Life & Clubs

- Esports Team
- Video Game Development
- Web Development Coding
- Digital Animation
- Girls Who Code
- Music Production
- Podcasting
- Student Announcer Videos
- Digital Agency
- Epic Theater
- Drone Cadets + Much more!
Family Engagement

- Advisory Board
  - 2 Parents
  - 2 Students
  - 2 Staff Members
  - 2 School Partners

- Family Newsletters

- Family Meetings with Freedom Ink & Principal

- Daily Office Hours with All Teachers

- Family Conferences 4 Times a Year

- Family Trips

- Family Testimonials

www.virtualacademynyc.org - @virtualinnovatorsacademy - info@virtualacademynyc.org
Student Life and Engagement
EARLY SUCCESSES

YTD Attendance
96%

Scholarship
Students on track for 11 plus credits
97%

Students Taking an Advanced Math Class
31

Students Enrolling in College Level Coursework
11%
Q&A and Closing Remarks:
FAQs

● When does the school year start? **We follow the New York City Public Schools calendar as we are a public NYC school. The calendar for the 2023-24 school year has not been released by NYC. Usually, the first day of school is three days after Labor Day so we anticipate starting on Friday, September 8th. This date is subject to change.**

● Should my child return their iPad or laptop to their middle school? **Yes, we will provide your child with a MacBook or a Chromebook. Please return all devices borrowed from the middle school to the middle school because students may only loan 1 device at a time. If the middle school does not accept the iPad, we will switch it out for you.**

● When will you give out laptops and where? **We will distribute laptops in late August and early September from 2 locations, one in the Bronx and one in Brooklyn.**

● What are the two locations of the school and when does my child have to come in person? **We have one location at 916 Eagle Avenue in the Bronx and a second location at 131 Livingston Street in Brooklyn. Your child will come with an adult to pick up a laptop, supplies, books, a MetroCard, and a high school identification card in the fall and the spring. We take trips 1-2 times a month and those are optional, and in person. We provide all materials and you do not need to purchase any school supplies. You may purchase noise-canceling headphones, a graphing calculator, and your own computer if you wish.**
FAQs (cont.)

- What do I need to do to enroll my child? We will send out electronic paperwork that includes an emergency card, immunization form, and other forms needed for high school using Operoo (an online system) and we use the New York City Schools Account. Please ensure you can log into your NYCSA using this [link](#). Please look for this information via email in July and August.
- Will we offer a Summerbridge? Incoming grade 9 students will be invited to a 3-day orientation where they will begin to learn our procedures, take a placement test in ELA and math and build community with other virtual trailblazers in late August and early September after we distribute devices.
- When will my child receive a schedule? Schedules are distributed on the last day of orientation.
- What classes will my child take? Your grade 9 student will take STEM, Humanities, Art, Physical Education and Advisory.
- Will my child take Regents? Your child will sit for the math Regents at the end of grade 9.
- How can I get help? Please email me at tgrey@schools.nyc.gov or call 929-617-5168 for more information.
Thank you!