Mr. Bostic | TBK8 Technology

Intro to Tech | Digital Discoveries | Communication Technology | Foundations of Gaming & Simulations

Welcome everyone, my name is Nathaniel Bostic, and I am the technology teacher and one of the Technology Student Association advisors here at Turner/Bartels K-8. This will be my 19th year teaching and my 9th year here at TBK8. I am a graduate of Florida State University and ITT Technical Institute with bachelor's degrees in both Computer Animation and Digital Entertainment & Game Design.

I have been married for 17 years to my lovely wife, Rebecca, who also teaches here at TBK8 and is the other advisor for our TBK8 TSA (Technology Student Association) chapter. We have a 14-year-old son named Nathaniel and a 12-year-old daughter named Abigail.

I am so excited to see what this year brings. Below are some important things about my technology courses and classroom expectations.

Contact methods (In order of preference):

1. Canvas Message
2. Text Message: 813-485-5156

*Canvas is the main method of two-directional communication used in my technology program. *

Grade Breakdown:

Grades are based on a point system per assignment/project and are not weighted. Categories of graded assignments are as follows:

Tests/Quizzes
Skill Performance Tasks
Projects/Assignments
In Class Participation

*Canvas will be used for all technology courses. Assignments, projects, tests, and quizzes will be delivered via Canvas and all grades will be kept in Canvas. It is especially important that parents create and log into their Canvas account regularly to communicate and observe all course components and grades via Canvas. *

Tests and Quizzes:

I am not a fan of traditional written tests and quizzes. They work well with testing how much a student can memorize, but do not truly show a student's skills. Most of my formal assessments are done using project-based learning and skill performance tasks. There are concepts that must be memorized that will help students become efficient in their daily tasks. Quizzes may be given at any time, announced or unannounced. All tests will be announced in advance. A test, quiz, or assignment missed due to an excused absence must be made up before the assignment locks or within three (3) days of the student's return. If the student returns less than three (3) days before the assignment locks or after the assignment has locked, the student has 3 days to contact the instructor via Canvas inbox message for instructions on submitting for credit. Tests, quizzes, and assignments missed due to an unexcused absence or not made up in a timely manner when the student returns to school will result in a "0" for that assignment.

Homework:

I am not a fan of giving traditional homework. I do ask students to view real world scenarios, think about them in reference to what we are doing in the classroom, and be prepared to discuss them in class. But I rarely require them to submit assignments that are completed entirely at home.

Absent from class:

Students are expected to make up any missed assignments in a timely fashion. Presentations done in class will be available on Canvas for reference. It is best to complete as much missed classwork or notes as soon as possible. It is the student's responsibility to make up any missed work or notes within 3 days of returning to class. If the student returns less than 3 days before the assignment locks or after the assignment has locked, the student has 3 days to contact the instructor via Canvas inbox message for instructions on submitting for credit.

Tardies:

We follow the school tardy policy. Tardy notifications for my class are sent out via text message.

Extra Credit:

Extra credit is available each quarter and I do not apply a cap for extra credit. Extra credit must be completed during each quarter and must be submitted on Canvas during the Extra credit submission window. An extra credit assignment is opened in Canvas 3 days before the end of the quarter and will lock at the end of the school day on the last day of the quarter. Anything created by a student using software that we use in class, that was not assigned by me as a class assignment, can be submitted for extra credit. Points will be awarded based on the level of skills demonstrated and project complexity and/or difficulty.

Please review my extra credit policy below:

"Extra credit is used to enhance grades on assignments that students have attempted but were not fully successful on. Extra credit cannot be used to increase scores for students that have not completed assignments during the quarter using the late submission policy. Students that have not submitted

assignments (Warm up assignments excluded) in a quarter using the late submission policy are not eligible to use extra credit to enhance grades for that quarter.

**This does not apply to extra credit acquired for earning certifications.

Late Assignment/Resubmission Policy

If a student misses an assignment's due date, they can still submit that assignment up until the assignment's lock date. Assignments submitted late will receive a single letter grade deduction. Assignments that were completed and submitted before the due date, then resubmitted before the assignment locks can still receive full credit after the assignment has been corrected and regraded. Please note that once an assignment has been graded, it will not be regraded until the lock date passes. Students have time following the assignment due date to submit or resubmit the assignment for grading up to the lock date. Lock dates are displayed on each assignment once the lock date has been entered in Canvas. Lock dates are not entered until the assignment is due and is typically set three (3) days to one (1) week after the assignment due date. Once the lock date and time is reached, the assignment will lock, and no more submissions will be accepted for the assignment. Assignments will not be unlocked once they are locked.

Class Expectations:

1. Class time is used wisely.
2. Lab safety is key. Work areas need to be kept clean, and materials need to be handled with care.
3. Respect yourself along with others, their property, and their space. Students are expected to treat their peers and instructor with respect.
4. Food is not permitted in class. Water can be consumed during class but only in the designated area. Water must be stored on the backpack shelf.
5. Electronic devices are permitted to use in class when permission is given by the teacher. We are a technology class and will make use of multiple forms of technology, but they must be used appropriately and at appropriate times. Misuse of cell phones will result in the use of the school cell phone policy along with loss of privileges of use in my classroom.