

WELCOME BACK
2023-2024



RELEVANT
ACADEMY



Aug 21, 2023

Welcome back!

I hope you are as excited as we are to be back on campus. Last year, we had a lot of changes, and so hopefully this year we can continue to settle into those changes and strive for academic success. That being said, this booklet will help you remember all the norms, expectations, contact information, and can act as a spot to help keep all your logins organized.

Our focus this year is to create learning experiences for students that re engage them with learning while earning credit. It is also to provide different resources and opportunities for students depending on their interests. We have a lot of great activities planned, but they all require one thing: YOU.

This school year will be as great as you make it! We encourage you to lean into your cohort groups and actively participate in school activities. Make sure to support yourself and your friends. Make great choices, set goals, work towards success, and keep an open mind!

Let's Be Great.

Your RA Staff



Contact List and Roles

Listed below are the current staff of Relevant Academy, along with their roles. Please locate the person that will best answer your questions before asking, this will get you to your answer the quickest.

Name	Role	Email	Phone
Lauren Blakely	Executive Director: Focuses on academics, curriculum, and behavior expectations	lblakely@relevantacademy.org Schedule an appt: calendly.com/lblakely-relevant/20min	Work: 517-925-5432 Cell: 517-899-8757
Loretta Williams	Dean of Students: Focuses on school culture, community relations, Mckinney Vento, some student behaviors, and school events	lwilliams@relevantacademy.org	Work: 517-925-5472 Cell: 734-489-9419
Leah Warner	Academic Navigator: Focuses on CTE/Middle College, apprenticeships, College prep, transcript requests, and administrative assistant tasks	lwarner@relevantacademy.org	Work: 517-925-5453 Cell: 269-339-0593
John Ley	Science Teacher	jley@relevantacademy.org	Cell: 517-667-8468
Julia Przybyla-Kuchek	Math Teacher	julia@relevantacademy.org	Cell: 517-899-6309
Jay Marietti	RAV, Comet Academy, GED	jmarietti@relevantacademy.org	Cell: 517-899 8475
Diana Thompson	Social Studies Teacher	dthompson@relevantacademy.org	Cell: 517-667-9205
Robin Elliott	English Teacher	relliott@relevantacademy.org	Cell: 517-897-6020
Michael Graham	Health and PE Teacher (virtual only)	mgraham@relevantacademy.org	Cell: 989-413-3451
Michaelle Converse	Art Teacher (virtual only)	mconverse@relevantacademy.org	X
Rebeckah Carter	Special Education Consultant	rcarter@relevantacademy.org	X



Daily Schedule

Normal Schedule

- 8:00-8:15 am- Mentor Check In
- **8:15-9:15 am- First Hour**
- 9:15-9:25 am- 10 minute break
- **9:25- 10:25 am- Second Hour**
- **10:25-11:25 am Third Hour**
- 11:25- 11:55- Lunch for all
- **11:55-12:55 pm- Fourth Hour**
- 12:55-1:00 pm- 5 minute Break
- **1:00- 2:00 pm- Fifth Hour**
- 2:00-2:10pm- School Clean up

Daily Procedures

At Relevant Academy it is the norm to use cohort days in the most efficient, safe, and effective manner to position students in being the most successful they can be.

- Students will enter the building through door 12 once they arrive. students do not leave the building in the morning once they have entered or during breaks.
- Students can use morning time, breaks, and lunch to see their friends. There is a designated spot in room 305 for students to do this. Students should avoid congregating in the hall, stairwell, and stair landings.
- The best time to use the bathroom will be before school, during breaks/lunch, and after school. It is the norm that students will not spend time using the restroom during work time unless there is an emergency.
- Students will follow an assigned schedule, working on specific content during their assigned hours. Only content specific teachers can assist students with tests and exams in their matching content..



- Students are allowed to leave campus for lunch or order delivery.
 - Lunch is from 11:10 am to 11:40 am. The norm is that we are all back in class at 11:40.
 - Students who stay on campus can eat in the student center in room 305.
 - It is the norm that all food deliveries are arranged ahead of time; no deliveries should occur after 11:30 (utilize pre order options during break one).
 - All deliveries will be dropped off in the building on the designated delivery table; students do not meet delivery drivers at the door unless it is lunch.
 - It is not the norm that a student should leave work time to receive a late lunch delivery or eat lunch during work time.

 - Students who need to access EATRAN tokens can only do so during afternoon break.
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School Attendance

At Relevant Academy, it is the norm students are present physically and mentally. Showing up to school and engaging improves short term and long term academic success.

- Students are expected to attend both of their assigned cohorts
 - Students are expected to stay all day

- If students are going to be absent, it is expected parents will contact the mentor teacher.

- students are expected to complete their weekly academic goals.

- What happens if students don't meet expectations?
 - If a student misses one or more days of school two consecutive weeks
-OR/AND-
 - If a student does not meet their academic goals two weeks in row
-THEN-
 - The school will reach out to the GC and family to revisit expectations and discuss a future progress plan.



In Class Expectations

At Relevant Academy, it is the norm students respect themselves, the classroom, their peers, everyone's right to learn, and the Relevant Academy staff.

- All students will participate in the start-of-class activity to help center their focus.
 - All music and lecture videos are listened to using ear buds/ headphones.
 - When working with a teacher, students will turn off any music they are listening to.
 - All cell phones are silenced, put away, or flipped over on the desk.
 - Tests can only be taken in the test assessment center in each class. students are encouraged to use their notes.
 - While in class, students will quietly work on their material, creating a positive and focused environment for all.
 - During NWEA and state testing the environment should be silent out of respect for all students in the room.
 - At the end of each work session, students will help clean up and put away chromebooks.
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Learning Experiences

At Relevant Academy, it is the norm to participate in group learning experiences that help form 21st century skills of collaboration, critical thinking, problem solving, analytical thinking, and inquiry. It is the norm that all students participate in two learning experiences per subject by the end of the Semester (January 27). Students will sign up for learning experiences during the second week of each semester.



Timing Your Success

At Relevant Academy, students are expected to earn a total of 18 credits to graduate. students are able to accomplish this by completing four classes per semester. It is expected that students meet this goal in order to stay on track for their graduation. Some students may have more than four classes due to being credit deficient or desiring early graduation.

- students need to complete a total of 4 classes every semester (about 19 weeks)
- students should have 50% of all their classes completed or 2 full classes completed by the end of Quarter 1 (fall) and Quarter 3 (spring).
- students will always work on at least two classes at a time
- students will have target end dates set in Edgenuity to help them recognize how much time they should spend per day to meet their goal
- students will meet with their mentor teacher to help track their goals to make sure classes can be completed on schedule

Behavior Expectations

At Relevant Academy, it is the norm to treat others with empathy, understanding, open-mindedness, and respect. It is the norm to uplift our community, engage with our peers, and cheer ourselves and others on when we succeed or when we misstep. It is the norm to reflect and improve. We are always working towards aligning our actions and values with our goals. At Relevant Academy it is the norm to celebrate students who meet behavior expectations on a consistent basis.

- students come to school every day, on time with the intention of success
 - students that use EATRAN should call two weeks ahead of time and schedule rides and make sure your bus is scheduled for after 2:30. If this is not possible please reach out to Lauren.



- students respect the privileges they have at RA by following the norms and rules
 - This includes driving, working, cell phone use, leaving campus for lunch, choosing the class they want to work, using the bathroom unescorted, attending school events.
 - students use affirming words with themselves and others, avoiding unkind or hurtful language. This also means keeping the confidentiality of your peers, verbally or via social media.
 - students put effort into their learning by accepting challenging work, problem solving and critical thinking. students avoid plagiarism and cheating.
 - students hold each other accountable to help make sure learning environments always remain safe and positive.
 - students respect each others' personal space by avoiding touching, hovering, or hurtful actions.
 - students assist each other when needed.
 - students respect the physical environment by discarding trash in garbage cans, keeping bathrooms clean, and avoiding any destruction of school property.
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Dress Code

At Relevant Academy, students dress comfortably and appropriately.

- All students should wear clothes that cover their chest, stomach, and bottom.
- No large chains, bandeau, sagging pants
- No articles of clothing that promote gangs, drugs, alcohol, violence, or sex
- On school outings, students are expected to wear their RA shirts
- students who do not meet the dress code expectation will be provided an alternative outfit



What Happens if We Make a Mistake?

At Relevant Academy, the norm is to approach each other with understanding and respect. Sometimes people make mistakes. We acknowledge when we make mistakes, we are honest about the mistakes, we take responsibility, and participate in any follow-up accountabilities. These accountabilities could involve parent contact, meeting with administration, and in-school accountabilities. For extreme cases, students may have out-of-school accountabilities. We always move on and work towards making better decisions in the future.

What is the purpose of Relevant Hour?

Relevant Hour is a focused time where students are able to create trusting and secure relationships. During this time, students will learn, improve, and master life skills, job-seeking skills, and communication skills. students will also focus on the emotional well-being through lessons that challenge us to improve relationships, communication skills, confidence, and respect for self and others.

What Should We Anticipate?

At Relevant Academy, it is the norm to create an environment students are excited to attend. This is done through community events, in school celebrations, birthday celebrations, in-class parties, community service, school-sponsored events, and assistance in creating personalized learning pathways. students should look forward to making connections with their peers, participating in all activities, and being able to participate in programs that align with their future goals.