Technological Success for New VCS Families

- Powerschool
- Moodle
- VCS-provided Gmail account
- iPads (for 8th through 12th graders)

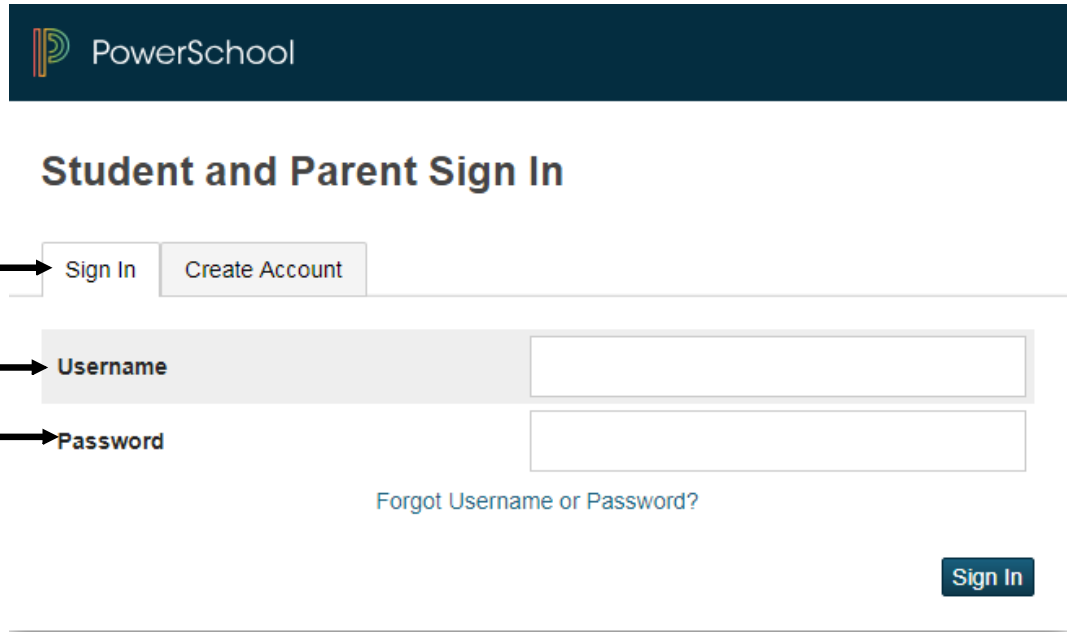
POWERSCHOOL

- Electronic student management system
- Student information is collected and stored
- A Web-based software application that allows teachers, parents, and school administrators to track and share information about students
- URL: powerschool.go-vcs.com/public

For Students

Students can login to Powerschool from any internet-enabled device with a web browser. This is where they can access grades, assignments, scores, attendance, class schedule, school announcements, etc.

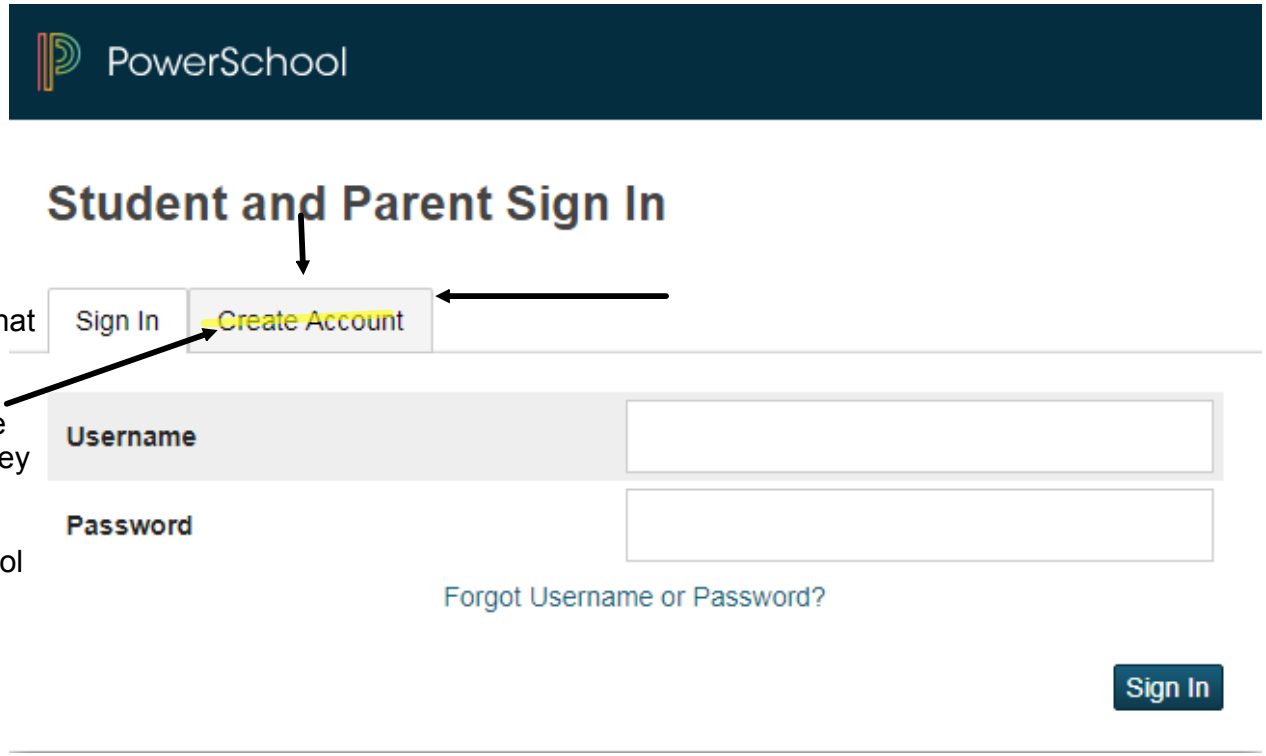
Students can login here with the username and password provided to them



If your student login info was not previously provided to you, you can get it from the appropriate office. Your username should be your student ID number. The password might be two words separated by an asterisk.

For Parents

Again, parents can access Powerschool from any internet-enabled device with a web browser. They will have access to much of the same information as students will.



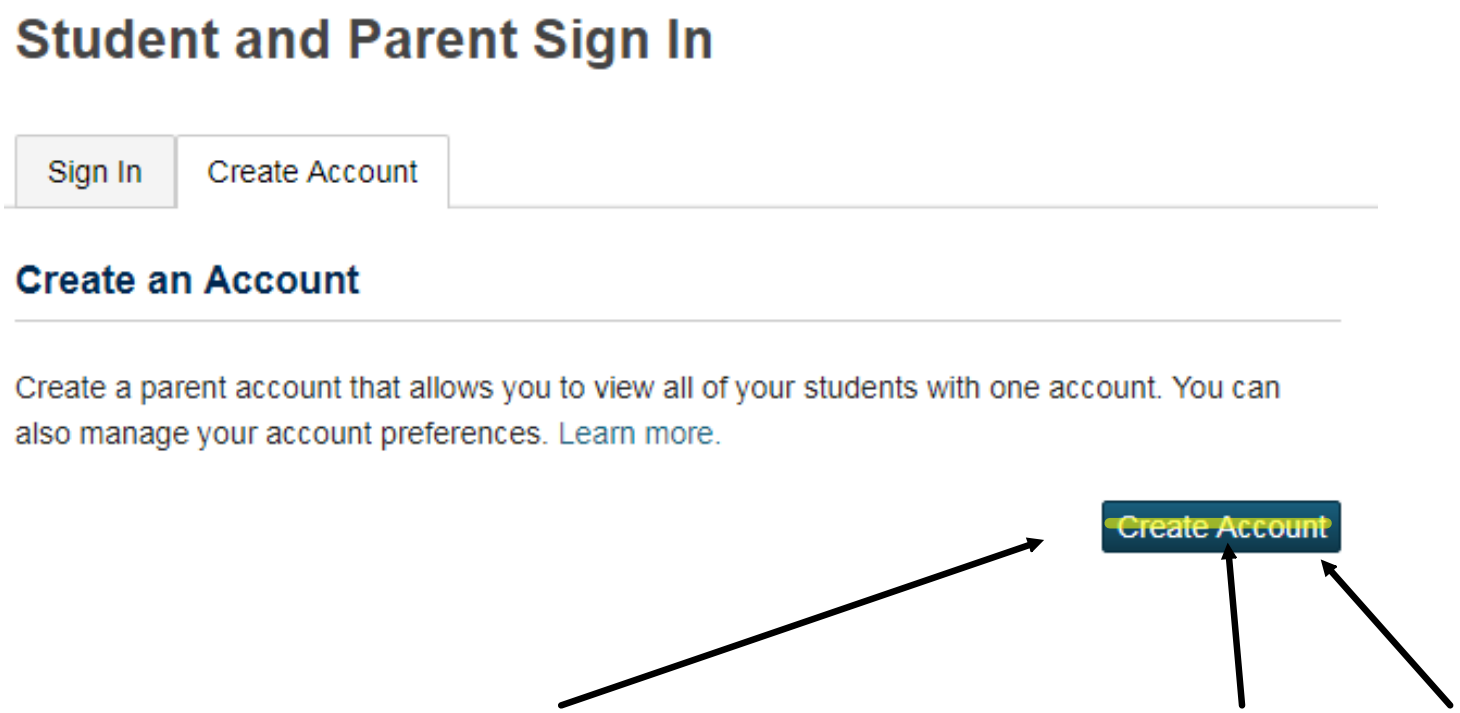
It is very important that parents create an account the first time they attempt to access Powerschool

What will you, parents, use Powerschool for?

Here you will access records of your student's grades, class attendance, tardies, etc. This is also the place to view and update the funds on their lunch account that they can use to purchase lunch in the MPR with their student ID card.

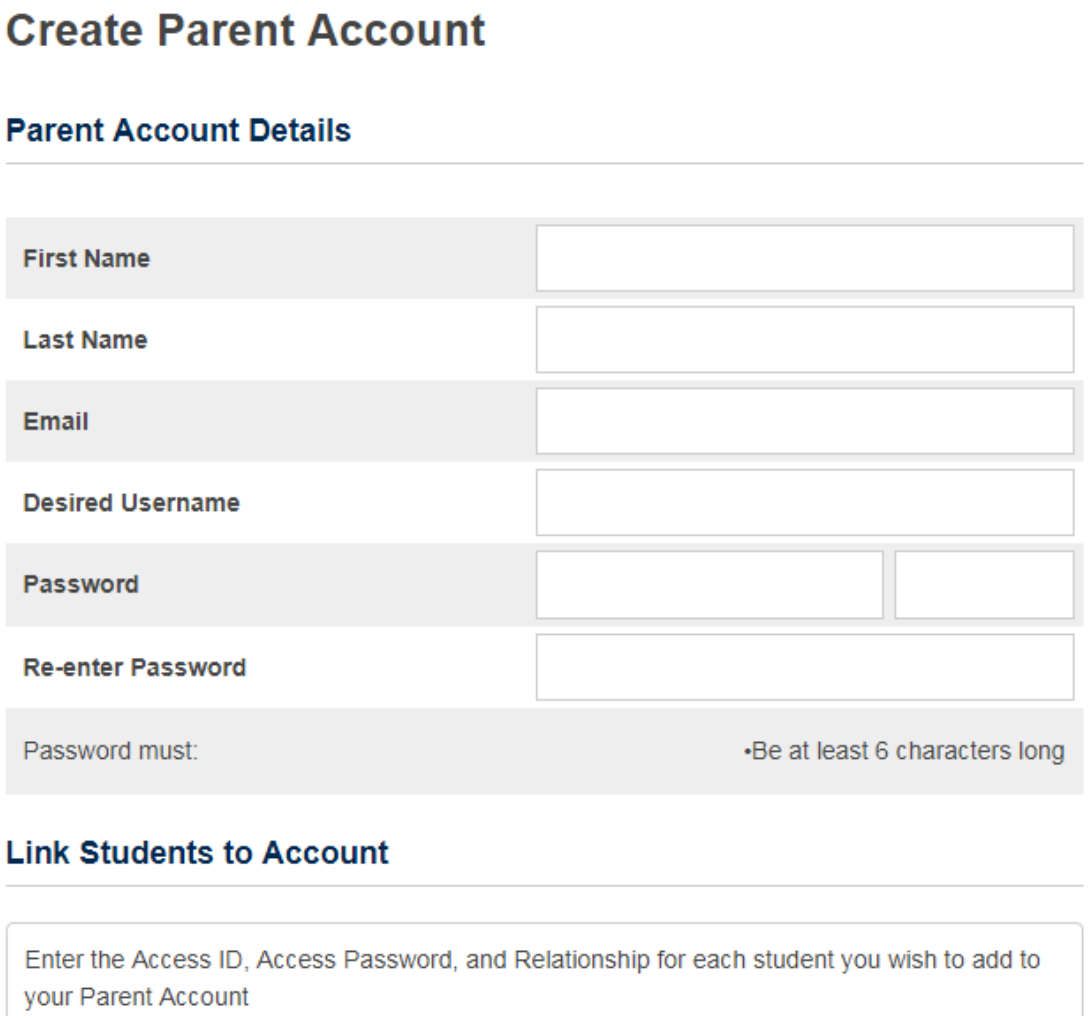
For Parents

Upon clicking on "Create Account", you will see a screen like that shown below.



For Parents

After clicking "Create Account" on the previous screen, you will see the following. Fill in your personal information under the "Parent Account Details." Each person who will be accessing Powerschool (mother, father, grandmother, uncle, etc.) may create a separate account.



Create Parent Account

Parent Account Details

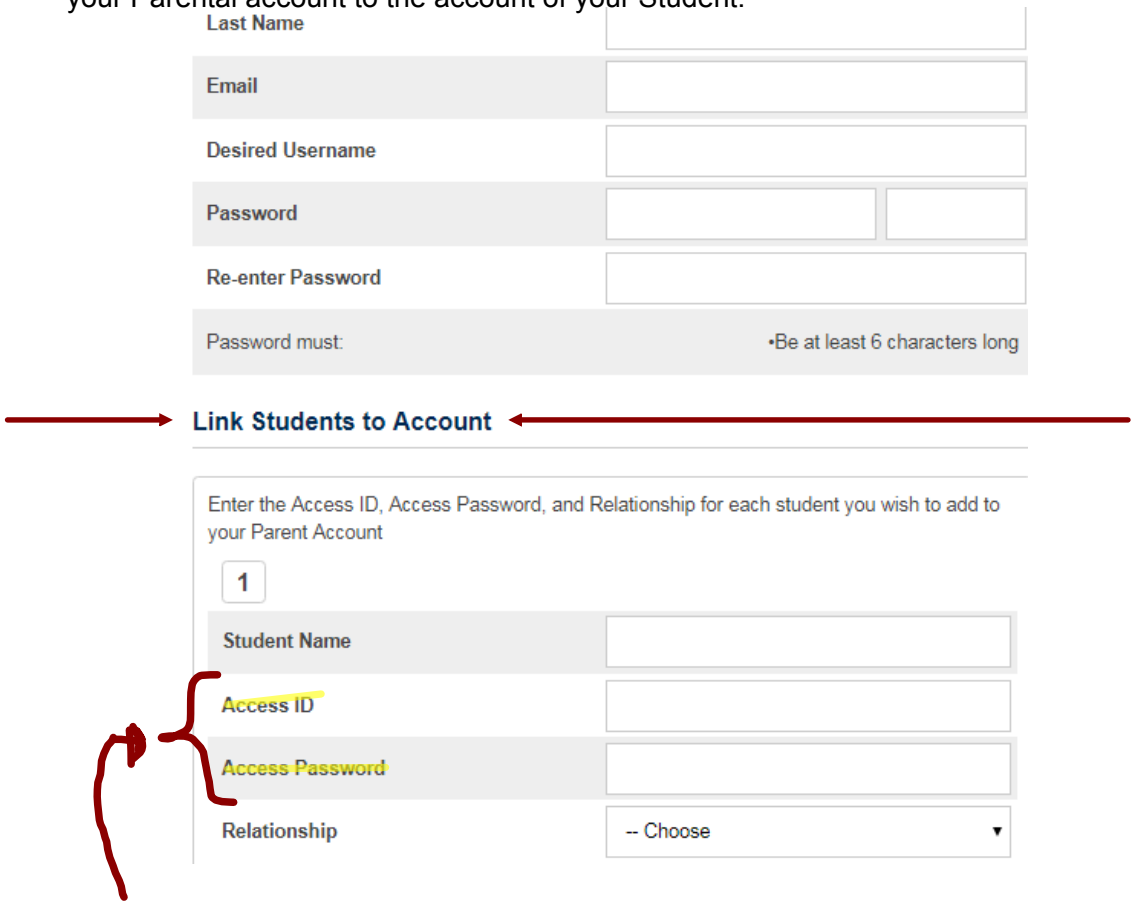
First Name	
Last Name	
Email	
Desired Username	
Password	
Re-enter Password	
Password must:	•Be at least 6 characters long

Link Students to Account

Enter the Access ID, Access Password, and Relationship for each student you wish to add to your Parent Account

For Parents

Next, you will fill in the "Link Students to Account" section. This is very important, as it links your Parental account to the account of your Student.



The Access ID and Access Password will be provided to you by VCS. The former is a code made up of six characters (like "G12345"), while the latter is two brief words joined with an asterisk (like "green*tile"). Again, this information must be provided to you by VCS. *This is NOT something you are simply making up on your own*.

For Parents

Again, parents can access Powerschool from any internet-enabled device with a web browser. They will have access to much of the same information as students will. What will you, parents, use Powerschool for?

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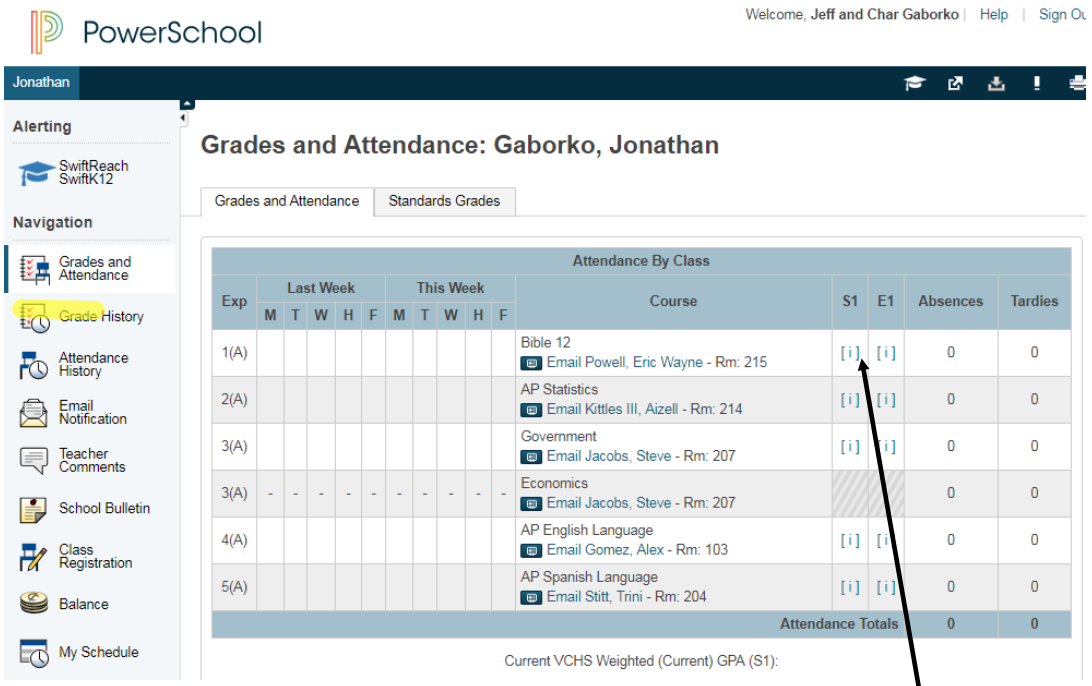

Click here to see assignments and grades.

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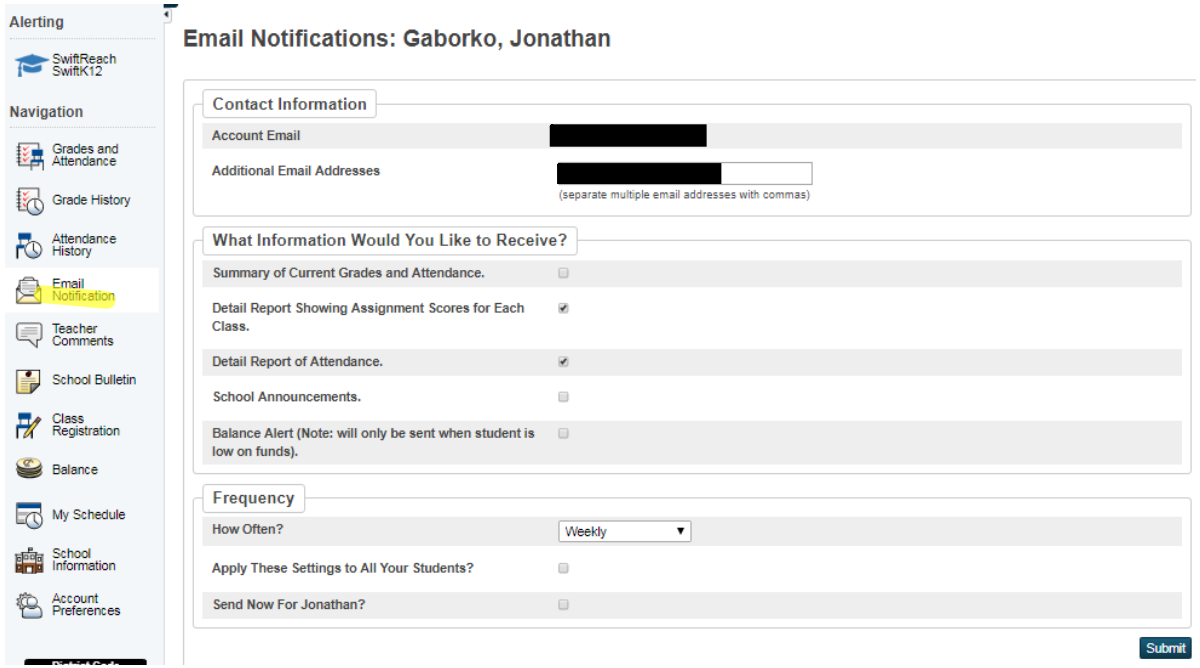

Powerschool can be setup to automatically alert you of your child's grades, attendance, lunch money funds, etc. You can adjust the frequency with which you receive these announcements.

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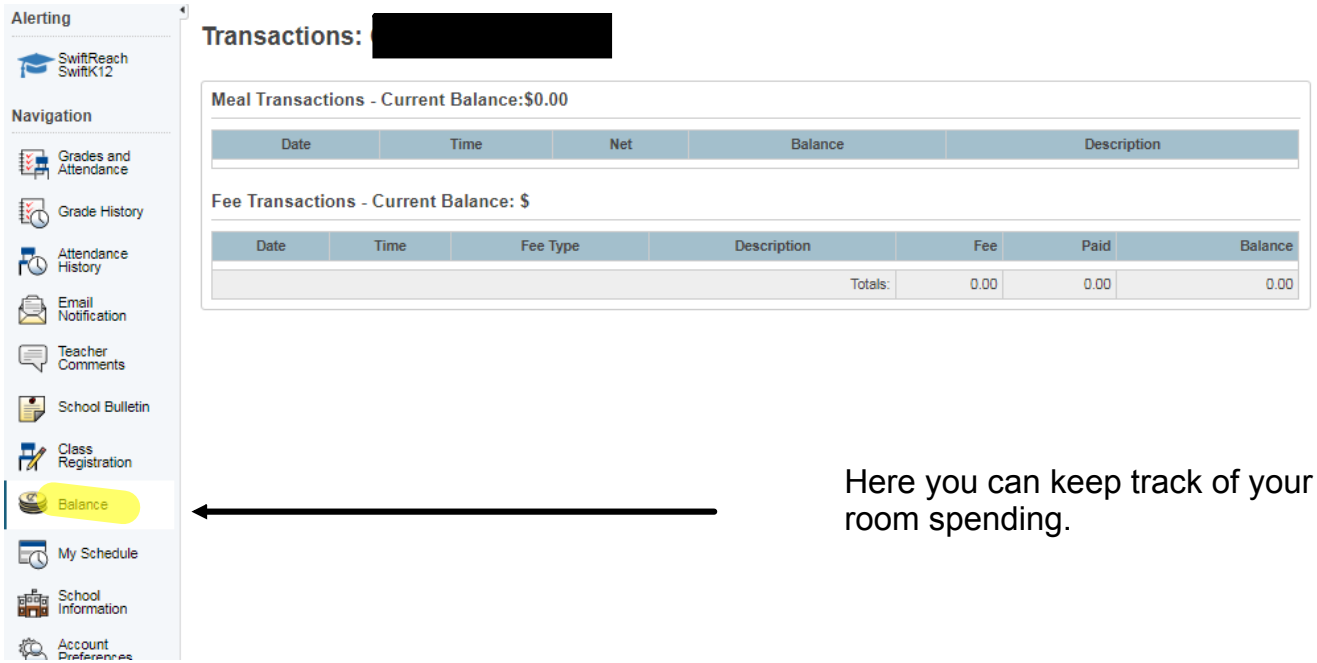


Here you can keep track of your child's lunch room spending.

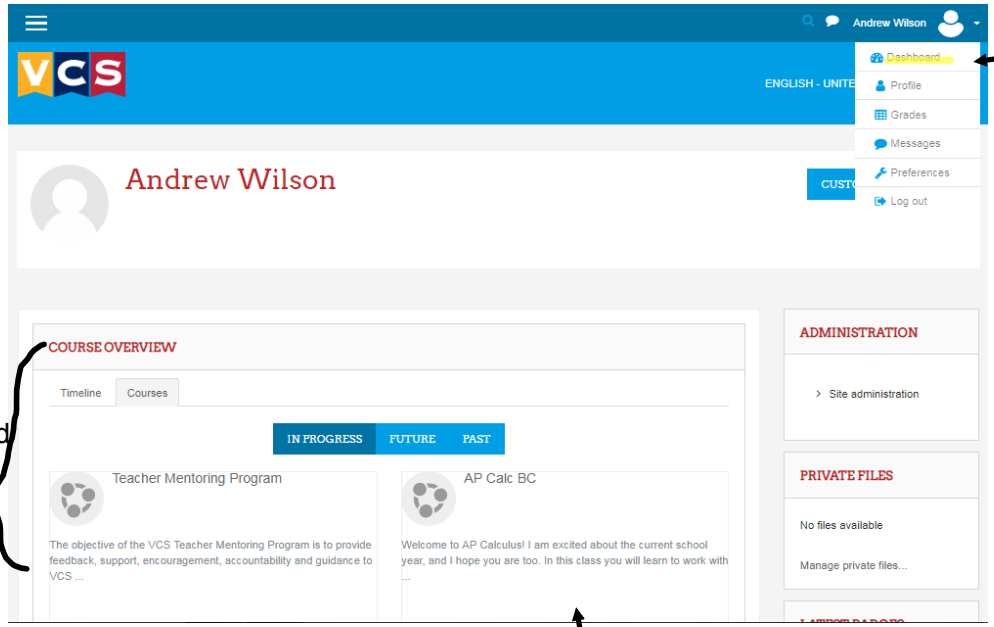
Moodle

- Web-based Learning Management System
- Allows teachers to provide information and documents to students
- Useful for lecture slides, documents, worksheets, etc.
- Missing some important information for a class? Check moodle
- URL: moodle.go-vcs.com

Students

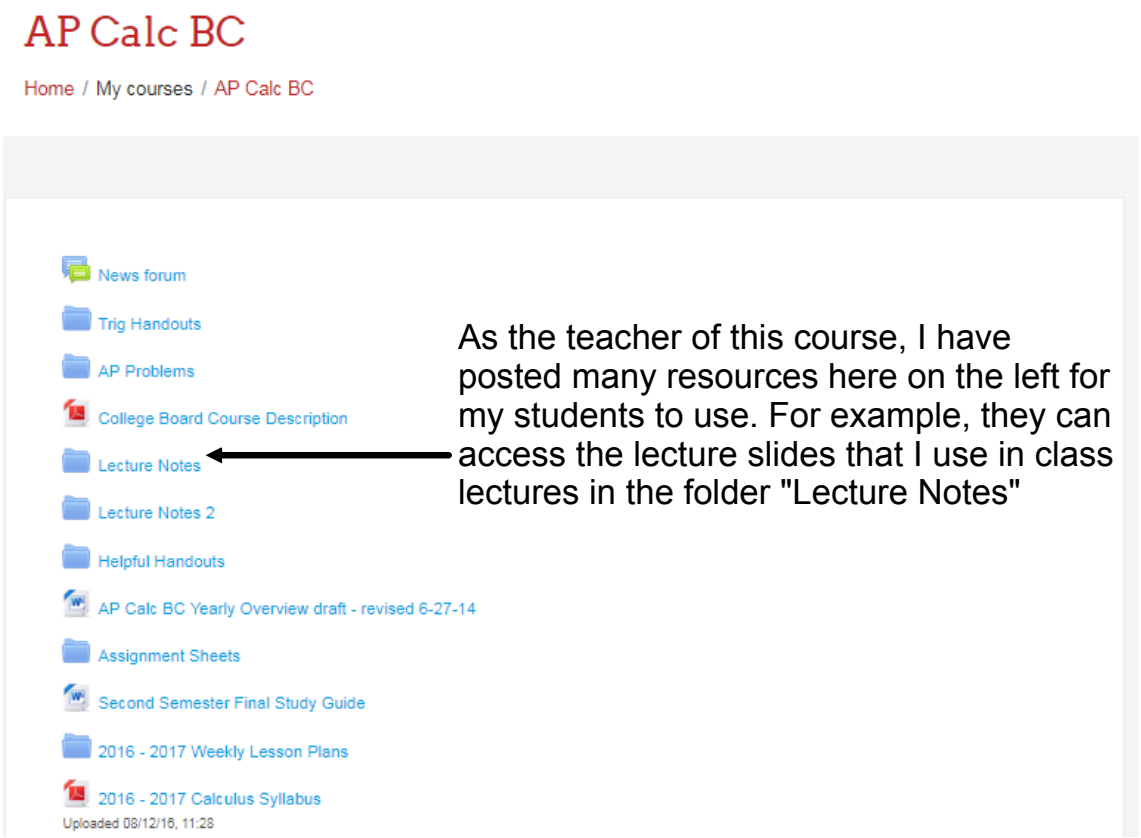
- Students will login using the same credentials that they use for Powerschool; their username is their student ID number. If a student is lacking this information, please see the office after this presentation.
- Upon login, clicking the drop-down arrow in the upper right, students can access their dashboard. (see image below)
- Moodle is arranged into classes. These are displayed at the dashboard. Students will need to enroll in each of the courses they have in their daily course schedule (Bible, Math, English, etc.) separately.

courses in which the user is enrolled



From the dashboard, a student can click on each course in which she is enrolled to be taken to the homepage for that specific course. On the next page, you will see the homepage for the AP Calc BC course in which I am enrolled.

Example course homepage

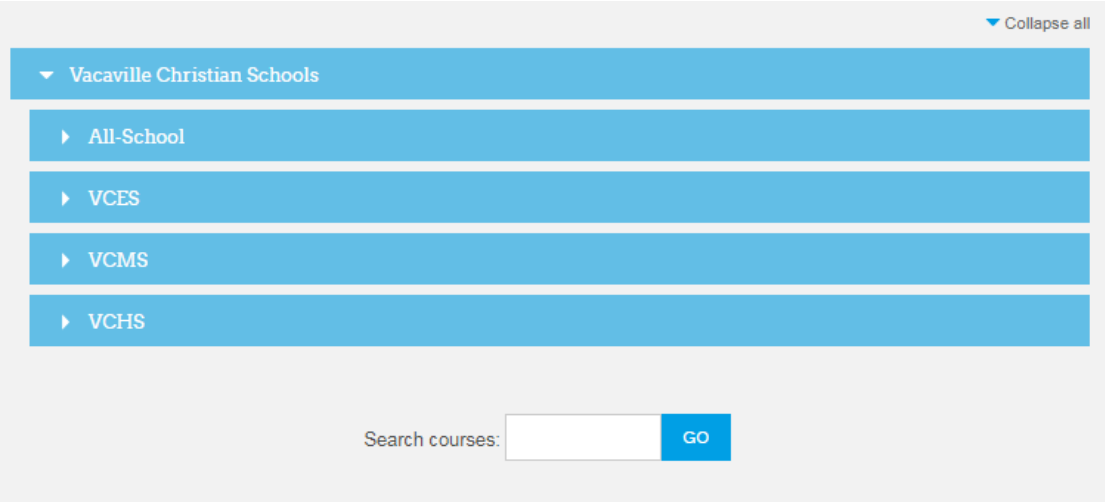


Students - Enrolling in a Moodle Course

- Students will login using the same credentials that they use for Powerschool; their username is their student ID number. If a student is lacking this information, please see the office after this presentation.
- Upon login, clicking the drop-down arrow in the upper right, students can access their dashboard. (see image below)
- Moodle is arranged into classes. These are displayed at the dashboard. Students will need to enroll in each of the courses they have in their daily course schedule (Bible, Math, English, etc.) separately.

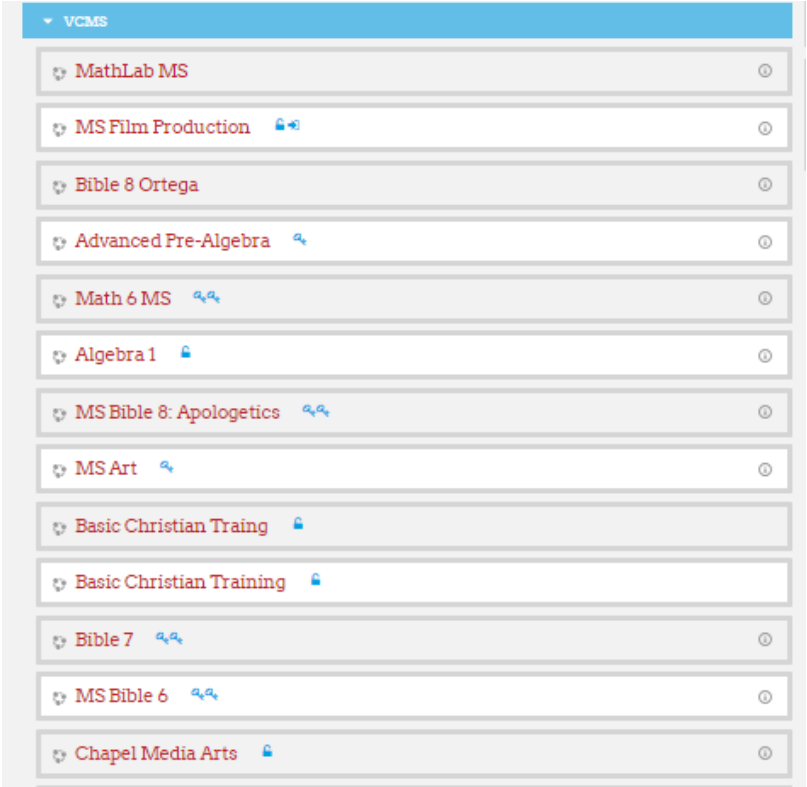
Prior to enrolling in her various courses, a student will have very little to do in Moodle. So, we need to know how to enroll in a course.

After logging in to moodle, a student should scroll all the way down to the bottom of the page and see a search box, as in the following image.

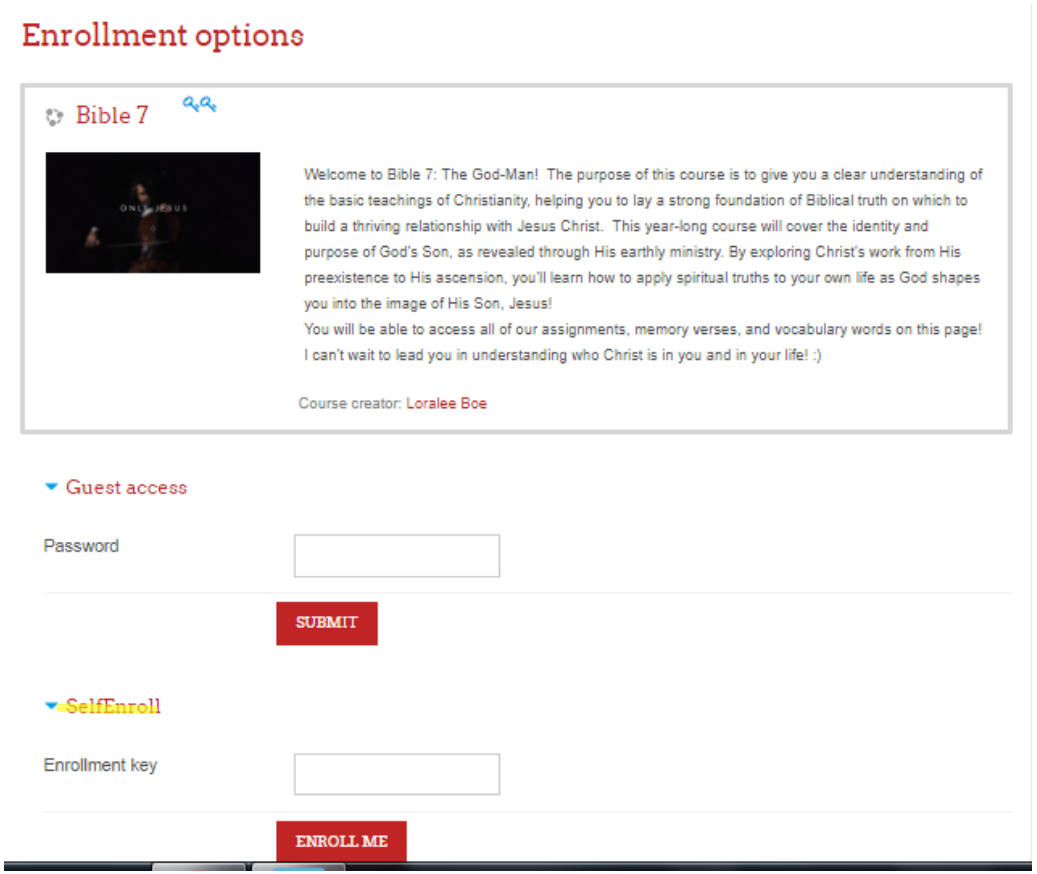


Students - Enrolling in a Moodle Course

From here, a student should click on the school in which they are enrolled, VCMS if middle school or VCHS if high school. The school name will expand to show various courses. The student will need to find the one she wishes to enroll in and click on it. If the course cannot be found, she may need to click on "view more."



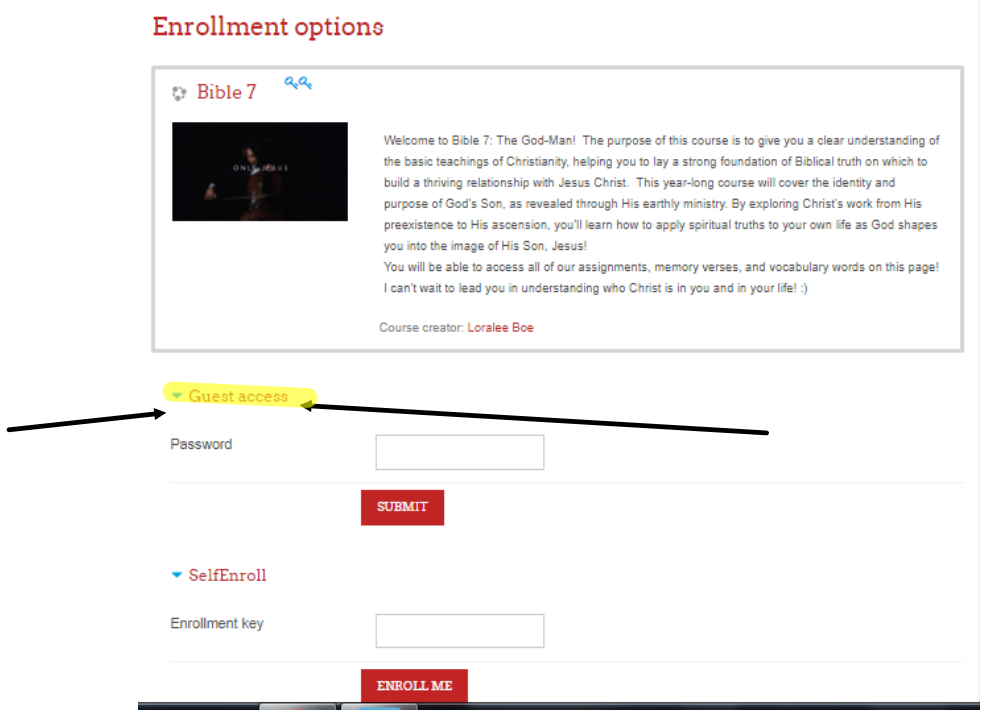
Below I have clicked on "Bible 7" as an example. You can see the page that I am taken to. You see under "Enrollment options", both "Guest access" and "SelfEnroll". The former is for parents, while the latter is for students.



Note the "Enrollment key". This is a password that the student needs to get from their instructor. They will type it in the box and click the red "ENROLL ME" button below the box. This will enroll the student in the course. Now the course can be accessed from the dashboard, as shown previously.

Parents - Guest Access

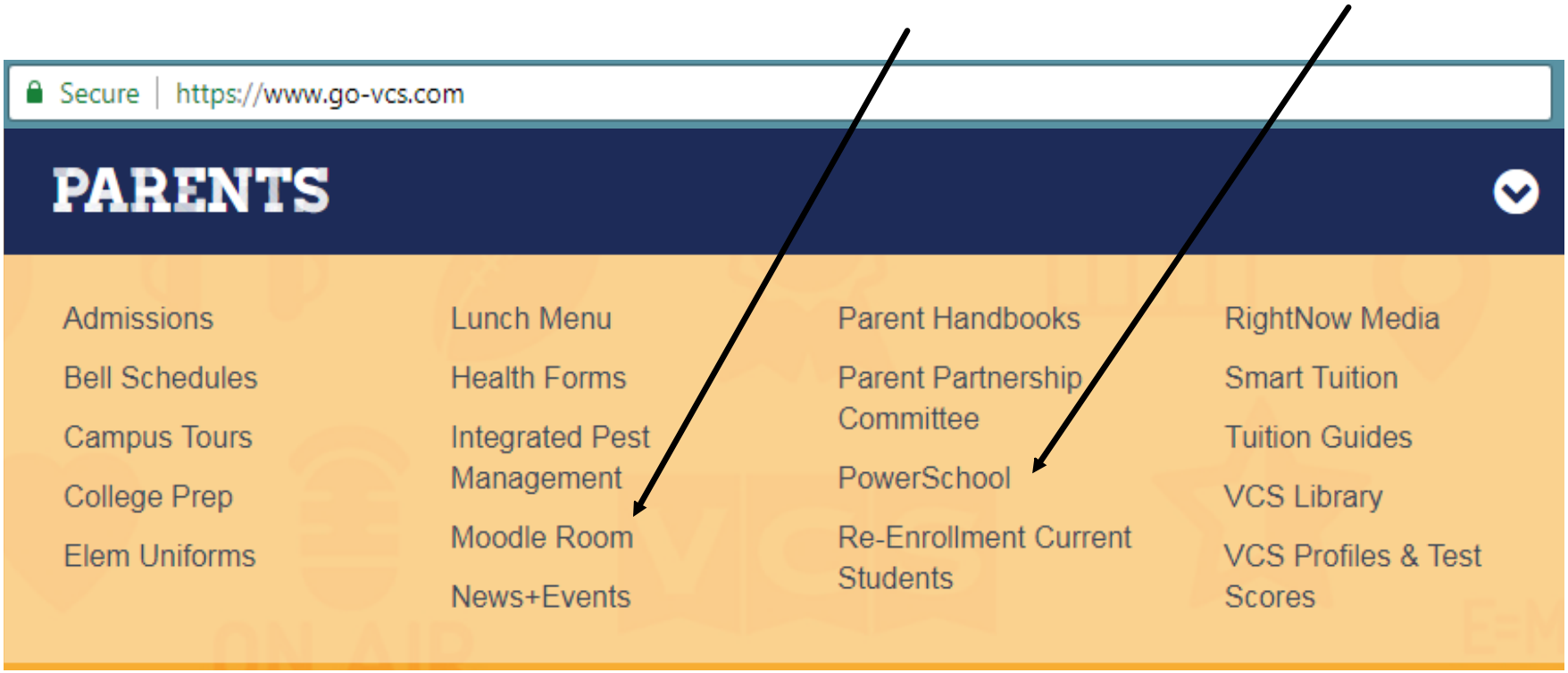
- Students will login using the same credentials that they use for Powerschool; their username is their student ID number. If a student is lacking this information, please see the office after this presentation.
- Upon login, clicking the drop-down arrow in the upper right, students can access their dashboard. (see image below)
- Moodle is arranged into classes. These are displayed at the dashboard. Students will need to enroll in each of the courses they have in their daily course schedule (Bible, Math, English, etc.) separately.
- *Parents will NOT enroll in moodle courses*. Parents access moodle via the "guest access" option.



Let's return to the example of the Bible 7 course. Parents will use the "Guest access" feature if they need to view the moodle page for one of their child's courses. They might wish to do so to check an announcement from a teacher or information about an assignment.

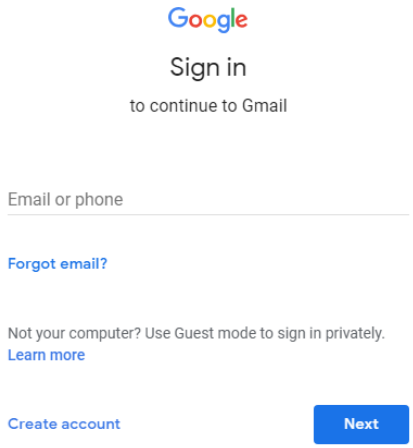
Forgot the URL for One of The Important Websites?

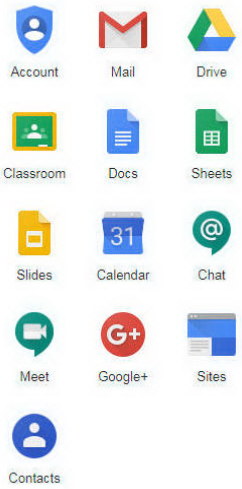
No problem. Just visit www.go-vcs.com. Both moodle and Powerschool can be accessed from links provided at the bottom of the school's homepage.



VCS-provided Gmail account

- VCS provides every student with a Gmail account at the domain go-vcs.com
- The student's email address will be their student ID number followed by "@go-vcs.com". For example: 12345@go-vcs.com
- This email address works similar to a typical Gmail account, so students will need to login at gmail.com in a web browser or download and login to any of a number of apps Google maintains in its app suite, for instance Gmail, Google Sheets, Google Drive, etc.
- Students have a massive amount of free cloud storage available to them in Google Drive by way of this email address. We very much want them to use this cloud storage, their school-provided email account, and any of Google's apps that they may find useful.
- Students need to be checking their school-provided email daily, as their teachers will use these email addresses to communicate with them and inform the students of important matters.
- Please note: *Whenever students email VCS staff members, they must use their school-provided email account*.
- Teachers will be using many of the Google apps to share documents and other digital resources with students. It is very important that students login to their school-provided accounts when accessing these resources. Failure to do so will prevent the students from accessing materials that they need for the academic course and hinder their success in the classroom.





iPads

- Though 6th and 7th graders will NOT need them, each student enrolled in grades 8 through 12 will need an iPad for her individual academic use.
- Provision of the iPad is the responsibility of the student and her family. VCS will NOT provide iPads to students.
- At VCS, iPads are to be treated as any other piece of classroom equipment (think pencils, calculators, etc.). They are tools to be used for academic success, not sources of distraction.
- The middle school and high school campuses are equipped with WiFi that the students may use while on campus to assist in their academic flourishing.
- Students in grades 8 through 12 must bring their iPads with them to campus daily, just like any other piece of equipment needed for class.
- iPads are to be charged nightly at home so that low batteries do not hinder classroom success.
- The aforementioned suite of Google Apps (Gmail, Google Drive, Google Docs, etc.) makes the iPad a powerful and invaluable means of completing coursework.
- The specifics of how iPads are used will vary from course to course and teacher to teacher.