

Fall 2017

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome back to another school year! You will be excited to learn that your child is in a classroom/course that is using a robust student learning platform called *Empower*. *Empower* is an online tool that supports standards-based learning. *Empower* gives students, teachers and families a common framework to see what has been learned, along with evidence of the learning, and what's next in a student's education. Students, families and teachers can monitor and track the learning process with greater ease and clarity. In addition, *Empower* has the ability to serve as a digital learning platform where students can access resources, identified by teachers, that support their learning. During this time of implementation, some of your child's courses/classes will be reported in Infinite Campus (Campus Portal) while others will be in *Empower*.

We have been methodically implementing *Empower* in Eastern Carver County Schools over the last two school years. Our implementation strategy has allowed us to learn what works best for students, parents and teachers, in addition to supporting our commitment to a successful, scaled rollout. This fall, roughly 200 teachers across the district will be using *Empower*. To prepare for the integration of *Empower*, staff have participated in professional development focused on instructional best practices, standards-based curriculum design and review, and training specific to *Empower*.

To support the transition, we have created an *Empower* link on our website under the Parents tab, <http://www.district112.org/parents/>. We recommend you bookmark this site to help answer questions regarding navigating *Empower* and better understanding your child's progress. Additionally, we have added a connection to *Empower* in Campus Portal for the classes using the tool. Your child will receive instruction in the use of *Empower* and share additional information with you. Each building will offer *Empower* support and you may leave questions and feedback on the parent *Empower* support page.

Thanks for your continued support of Eastern Carver County Schools as we work to provide Exceptional, Personalized Learning for all students.

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