



## 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 (TSA) advisors here at Turner/Bartels K-8. This will be my 19th year teaching and my 10th year at TBK8. I am a proud graduate of Florida State University and ITT Technical Institute, holding bachelor's degrees in both Computer Animation and Digital Entertainment & Game Design.

I have been happily married for 18 years to my lovely wife, Rebecca, who also teaches here at TBK8 and serves as the other advisor for our TSA chapter. We have two wonderful children: a 15-year-old son named Nathaniel and a 13-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 prioritize authentic learning over rote memorization. While traditional written tests and quizzes can measure how well students recall information, they often fall short in evaluating true skill mastery. Therefore, most of my formal assessments are based on **project-based learning** and **performance tasks** that reflect real-world applications.

That said, some foundational concepts do require memorization to support students' efficiency in daily tasks. To assess these, **quizzes may be given at any time**, either announced or unannounced. **All tests will be announced in advance** to allow adequate preparation.

### Assessment Make-Up Policy:

- If a student misses a test, quiz, or assignment due to an **excused absence**, they must complete it **before the assignment locks or within three (3) days of returning to school**.
- If the student returns **less than three days before the assignment locks or after it has locked**, they must **contact the instructor via Canvas inbox within three days of their return** for instructions on how to submit for credit.
- Work missed due to an **unexcused absence**, or not made up in a timely manner, will result in a **zero (0)**.

### Homework:

I believe that traditional homework assignments often emphasize repetition over meaningful learning. Instead of assigning tasks to be completed entirely at home, I encourage students to engage with **real-world scenarios**, reflect on how they connect to our classroom content, and come prepared to **discuss their insights** during class.

While formal homework submissions are rare, students are expected to think critically outside of class and contribute thoughtfully to in-class discussions. This approach supports deeper understanding and helps students apply their learning in authentic contexts.

### Make-Up Work Policy:

Students are expected to complete any missed assignments in a timely and responsible manner. To support this, all in-class presentations and materials will be made available on Canvas for reference.

It is strongly recommended that students complete any missed classwork or notes as soon as possible upon returning. Students have three (3) days from their return to class to make up missed work or notes.

If a student returns less than three days before an assignment locks, or after it has already locked, they must contact the instructor via Canvas inbox within three days of their return to receive instructions for submitting the assignment for credit.

### Tardies:

This class follows the school-wide tardy policy. To help parents stay informed, tardy notifications specific to this class are sent via text message.

#### Extra Credit:

Extra credit opportunities are available each quarter, and there is no cap on the number of points a student can earn. All extra credit must be:

- Completed during the current quarter
- Submitted via Canvas during the designated Extra Credit Submission Window

The submission window opens three (3) days before the end of the quarter and closes at the end of the school day on the last day of the quarter.

Students may submit original work created using software taught in class, as long as it was not assigned as part of a regular class assignment. Points will be awarded based on:

- The level of skill demonstrated
- The complexity and difficulty of the project

*Please review the course extra credit policy below:*

Extra credit is intended to enhance grades on assignments that students have attempted but may not have fully mastered. It cannot be used to replace or make up missing assignments that were not submitted during the quarter following the late submission policy.

Students who have not submitted required assignments (excluding warm-ups) during the quarter using the late submission policy are not eligible to use extra credit to improve their grade for that quarter.

*Note: This restriction does not apply to extra credit earned through certifications.*

#### Late Work and Resubmission Policy

If a student misses an assignment's due date, they may still submit it up until the assignment's lock date. Assignments submitted after the due date will receive a single letter grade deduction.

Students who submit an assignment before the due date and choose to resubmit it for corrections before the lock date may still receive full credit, based on the revised work. However, please note:

- Once an assignment has been graded, it will not be regraded until the lock date has passed.
- Students have time after the due date to submit or resubmit assignments for grading up to the lock date.

Lock dates are displayed on each assignment in Canvas once they are set. Lock dates are typically entered after the assignment is due, and usually fall three (3) days to one (1) week after the original due date.

Once the lock date and time is reached:

- The assignment will lock, and no further submissions will be accepted.
- Assignments will not be unlocked once locked.

Class Expectations:

- **Use Class Time Wisely**  
Students are expected to stay focused and engaged during class to make the most of instructional time.
- **Practice Lab Safety**  
Maintaining a clean and organized work area is essential. All materials should be handled with care to ensure a safe learning environment.
- **Show Respect**  
Respect yourself, your peers, the instructor, and everyone's property and personal space. A respectful classroom fosters collaboration and learning. "Just be nice"
- **Food & Drink Policy**  
Food is not permitted in the classroom. Water may be consumed, but only in the designated area, and must be stored on the backpack shelf when not in use.