



AtSchool Layout Explained

Main menu

This is the upper part of the menu (the blue section on the left of the page). You will need to log in first to get access to the content.

Other Menu

Just below the main menu is the Other menu, which has content that is accessible for everyone, even without a password. You will find here a selection of our best students' work, a selection of useful Internet links, our Document Database with all kinds of useful documents, such as posted homework, help files for using the AtSchool website and general downloads.

Latest News

This section will list the latest files that were posted. They can include teacher's homework pages, but also some of the students' work.

Popular

The pages that are visited most often are listed here. There must be a reason why everyone is visiting these pages! Check it out now!

Polls

We like to know what is going on in our community. We will be posting serious and not-so-serious polls here. Just vote for one and make your voice heard.

Special Mention to:

Downloads and Uploads

See the Document Database in the Other Menu for downloads. Some of our teachers will post content here for students to download. Occasionally, you will find downloads here too that celebrate the school's diversity and artistic wealth. For instance, Ms. Lee just posted the song "Lift Every Voice and Sing", performed by our students. Click on the "Documents Database" menu, select the Music/Dance section and click on the link to download the MP3 file.

AtSchool Website Launched!

The AtSchool website is a new platform for digital collaboration at Community Prep. Students can work on their projects on-line, teachers and students can review the work and offer comments. Everything is available, on-line, 24/7 for everyone with a CP provided Username and Password.

Security Counts

We understand that on-line predators can potentially pose a risk for students who do their homework on-line. Therefore, our AtSchool website is available to our students and teachers only. Of course the students are encouraged to share their password with their family, but not with anyone else. Some parts of the website are open to everyone (see the "Other" section of the menu), but most of the website is available to registered Community Prep users only.

Also, any content that is provided by the students, be it a classroom assignment that is made on the AtSchool site, or comments on other student's work, is subject to a teacher's approval before it is published.

How to use the website

Point your browser to:
<http://atschool.communityprep.org>. Note that there is no www after the http://!

The AtSchool site will load in Guest mode. You will see the front page, with all the menus, but only the guest pages will be available to you (sections like the ones under the Other Menu and the Poll).

At the bottom left side, in the blue menu, you will find the Login Form. Enter your Username and Password and all the sections available only for registered users will now be unlocked.

Click on any of the menu items to see if there is any content of interest. Some of the grade Home Folders are not in use yet, but content is added every day. Check in with us regularly.

First uses of the AtSchool Website

The 6th grade has kicked off using the AtSchool site by publishing some of their poetry work while in class. Most poems also have some comments from other students, so it serves as a good introduction how this site can be used to foster collaboration in the school environment.

The 7th grade will create their e-portfolios on-line. The e-portfolios is the new term for the mastery project, which is the presentation of the 7th grade students of the work they have done all year. Their e-portfolios summaries will be on the AtSchool website, with links to writing pieces, PowerPoint presentations and an interactive timeline for their Humanities section. An example of such an e-portfolio is in the 7th grade Home Folder, under Ms. Paull's Portfolio.

How did we do it?

The AtSchool website runs on Mambo, a free content management system. Mambo uses a database to keep track of all users, menus and content items, and uses the PHP language to display all this information on your browser screen. All the information in the database, the PHP scripts and the web pages are hosted on our external hosting server.

Mambo is another example of the way free, public license, software development is changing the world of computers. Free operating systems (Linux), free office applications (OpenOffice), free everything: it's the way of the future.