

Sheridan Schools Virtual Learning Plan



Why provide a virtual learning option?

By offering in-person and virtual learning options, we are providing families a choice that allows them to access high-quality instruction provided by Sheridan School District teachers in formats which will best meet their specific needs.

How will we provide a virtual learning option for our students?

ASYNCHRONOUS

- Teachers and students will engage in teaching and learning at different times and in different locations through educational and instructional technology.
- In core courses in grades K-8, teachers will not be responsible for teaching both virtual and on-site students.
- In non-core courses in grades K-12 and some core courses in grades 9-12, teachers may be responsible for both virtual and on-site instruction, but they will provide instruction to on-site students and remote students during separate class periods.

SYNCHRONOUS

- For specific courses, it may be occasionally necessary for teachers and students to engage in teaching and learning at the same time but in different locations through educational and instructional technology.

Who can be successful as a Virtual Learner?

Students who are:

- Supported by Parents / Guardians
 - Students in grades K - 5 are required to have an adult available for support and guidance.
- Self-motivated
- Independent
- Computer Literate
- Effective Time Managers
- Committed to Being Successful

What are the expectations of the virtual teachers?

SSD Virtual Teachers

- Plan, organize and provide appropriate learning experiences for Virtual Learners
- Participate in scheduled PLC activities to discuss student learning
- Communicate with parents regarding course expectations, student progress, etc.
- Provide interventions for students earning grades that average below 70% or failing to meet grade level expectations
- Report to a central location in the Sheridan School District during the required times and for additional duties as assigned to ensure the safety of students
- Update student grades for the previous week's assignments by 9:00 a.m. every Friday
- Schedule live (synchronized) meetings with students once a week to provide support
- Respond to parent or student requests submitted through school email or the Canvas Learning Management System within 24 hours during the business week
- Maintain a contact log for all interactions with students and parents
- In most instances, core teachers will teach virtual classes only.

What will students learn?

STANDARDS

- All Sheridan School District students, including those participating in Virtual Learning, will be taught based upon the Arkansas Division of Elementary and Secondary Education's Standards.
- Virtual learning instructors will have access to the same instructional resources as those teaching students on-site.

ASSESSMENTS

- Virtual students will be required to participate in the same assessments as on-site students.
- Virtual students will be required to be on-site for some assessments, such as the NWEA (MAP Growth) assessments, Grade 11 ACT, ACT Aspire, and scheduled classroom assessments.

What other supports will be provided?

ADMINISTRATIVE AND COUNSELING SUPPORT

- One building administrator will be responsible for supervising the Virtual Learning staff and students.
- One guidance counselor will serve the Virtual Learning students.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Students will remain on the enrollment roster at their zoned school for the purpose of extracurricular activities.
- If students choose to participate in extracurricular activities or athletics, they must attend all practices and events in person. Parents must provide transportation.

What other supports will be provided?

SPECIAL EDUCATION

The student's IEP team will recommend if this instructional option is appropriate for the student.

504

The student's 504 team will recommend if this instructional option is appropriate for the student.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNER

The student's LPAC team will recommend if this instructional option is appropriate for the student. (The ELPA 21 Assessment requires students be on-site to test.)

What other supports will be provided?

GIFTED AND TALENTED

Students in grades 6 - 12 will have the opportunity to participate in an accelerated, pre-AP, or AP course or courses. Identified students in grades K - 5 will receive services asynchronously.

DYSLEXIA

Students receiving services will be scheduled at a specific time for therapy based upon their needs.

FOOD SERVICE

Food Service will be available.

OTHER SERVICES

Counseling, mental health services and state required health services will also be available.

How will virtual learning be monitored?

- Weekly grades or progress toward learning standards will be monitored along with an attendance check.
- Students dropping below a 70% average in a course or failing to meet grade level standards will be required to participate in intervention support.
- If academic progress does not improve then a meeting will be held with an administrator, the parent/guardian, and student to determine the best instructional option for the student.
- It may become necessary to require a student to return to on-site instruction.

How will attendance be monitored?

- Students will be expected to complete assigned coursework each week in all enrolled courses in order to meet requirements for attendance.
- In circumstances of power failure or loss of internet, the student/parent should contact the teacher immediately.

What about student behavioral expectations?

- Students will be expected to display appropriate behavior during class sessions of any kind. All Sheridan Handbook Policies will be followed.

What about technology needs?

STUDENT DEVICE

- Students will be issued a device with access to all the required video communication software through the Canvas learning management system.

INTERNET ACCESS

- Students enrolled in Virtual Learning may apply for assistance.

How do students apply to be a virtual learner?

APPLICATION FOR ENROLLMENT

The Sheridan School District will begin taking student enrollment applications after Spring Break (pending state board approval). Enrollment is for the full, 2021-2022 school year. Parents and students will be notified of acceptance. The required Parent/Student Orientations will be completed in May.

CRITERIA TO BE CONSIDERED FOR ENROLLMENT

(The following criteria will be used to help ensure that students are successful as a virtual learner and remain on track for graduation or promotion to the next grade level.)

- Positive attendance in the current school year
- Grades (current and previous semester)
- Participation in NWEA and state-mandated assessments on campus
- Most recent student achievement data (NWEA and/or ACT Aspire)
- Past success as a virtual learner (if applicable)
- Student and parent commitments and contracts will be required

Thank you.