

## ONLINE ACADEMY

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### OVERVIEW

Southwest Parke Community School Corporation believes that face-to-face instruction delivered by a highly qualified teacher, along with a blend of digital and off-screen learning activities, offers the greatest academic success and important social experiences for students. However, in the interest of student safety during the coronavirus pandemic, we are proud to offer an online learning alternative for the 2020-2021 school year. This alternative is intended to provide parents who are uncomfortable sending their children to school with an option for them to complete grade-level curriculum and differentiated lessons from the safety of their own homes. K-8 grade students enrolled in the Online Academy will continue the same curriculum as their in-school peers through interactive tutorials, video lessons, online reading, and digital assessments. 9-12 grade students will complete digital courses through Edmentum's Plato Courseware. Those considering enrollment should understand that the requirements and expectations are more rigorous than the average eLearning lesson experience at the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

### REQUIREMENTS FOR ENROLLMENT:

- **Internet:** Students must have consistent access to a reliable internet connection sufficient to support streaming videos, live meetings, and interactive tutorials.
- **Device:** Students must have consistent access to a device compatible with the curriculum programs. Personal devices are allowed if they work with all programs the student will need to use. If there are any issues with compatibility or accessibility, the school will provide a device, which will remain the property of the school. Parents will be responsible for the cost of repair or replacement if the device is damaged, lost, or stolen.
- **Supervising Adult:** Parents, guardians, or caretakers must be diligent to assure that students are focused on their learning tasks and complete all required components on time. Each student must have a supervising adult listed as a point of contact. The online teacher will communicate with this individual if the student begins to struggle or fall behind in coursework.
- **Semester Commitment:** Students enrolled in the Online Academy must remain online through the end of the semester.

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### EXPECTATIONS:

- **Content Areas:** The Online Academy includes all areas of the grade level's curriculum. Elementary and middle school students will be expected to complete lessons in Math, English/Language Arts, Science, and Social Studies daily as well as one specials lesson per week (Art, Music, Health & PE). High school students will have a separate Plato course for each class taken. Please note that many elective courses offered in-person will not be available to students in the Online Academy.
- **Time:** The time needed to complete lessons will vary widely by individual student and grade level, but will likely fall within the range of 2-5 hours daily.
- **Attendance:** Students will check in each day to indicate they have received and are working on the day's lessons. Check-ins combined with assignment completion will account for the students' attendance.
- **Grades:** Grades will be recorded based on the academic success of assignments, quizzes, and tests, comparable to traditional classroom grading.
- **Live Help:** The online teacher will be available for live help sessions as needed. Students struggling with lesson concepts are expected to take advantage of this opportunity to receive personal assistance.
- **Communication & Adaptability:** As this is the first attempt to provide continuous online learning at the elementary level, there are bound to be some kinks to work out. Good communication and willingness to adapt as needed are important expectations for all parties.

### RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SUCCESS:

- **Headphones:** The use of headphones can greatly increase the attentiveness to lessons by blocking out background distractions and assuring clear audio. Students should have a working set of headphones or earbuds.
- **Individual Devices:** It is recommended that each student enrolled in the Online Academy have their own device to use. This allows students to work simultaneously and prevents problems created by continuously switching between accounts. Please consider this recommendation when choosing between the use of school-owned and personally-owned devices.
- **Learning Environment:** Students will be most successful if they have a good workspace (desk or table, good lighting, etc.) that is quiet and free of distractions and a routine timeframe for schoolwork and breaks.