



Jo Ann Walters Elementary School
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Virtual Learning Expectations

All students at Jo Ann Walters Elementary will use blended learning going forward and will receive instruction with Google Classroom, Lincoln Learning, our learning management system Buzz, and other online resources. We recognize that the Dierks Virtual Learning option may be necessary for some families at this time, and we want to work with you for the success of your child. Our virtual learning agreement is based on a nine-week commitment. District staffing and master schedules are set based upon student/parent requests for virtual learning and cannot be easily changed once school begins. At nine-week intervals families may review and adjust their virtual learning choice. Please know that we will have systems in place to support students in their respective learning environments.

Student Expectations:

Students who plan to complete their work completely online have expectations that must be met. A successful virtual learner is self-motivated, has excellent verbal and written communication skills, can manage time well, and will reach out to his or her teachers if help is needed.

The following standards are required for enrollment in the virtual learning option:

- Commit to keeping up with the pace of the course, to participate in classes, and to complete all course assignments, projects, and testing requirements.
- Log in, complete, and submit each day's assignments as scheduled.
- Agree to invest the time necessary daily for successful completion of all coursework.
- Sign and agree to follow the district Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) governing the use of technology including the Internet, understanding that inappropriate use of technology will not be tolerated and can lead to withdrawal from the Dierks Virtual Learning program.
- Understand that anything done online with respect to your courses can be retrieved and printed at any time by the school staff (administrators, teachers, technology specialists).

Parent Expectations:

All parents who have students enrolled in virtual learning will be expected to support both the student and staff by doing the following:

- Ensure that the student has the necessary device, equipment, Internet access/bandwidth, etc., needed to participate in virtual learning. If you do not have a device, one may be checked out from the school upon request. If you do not have Internet connectivity, public wifi access areas may be considered.
- Ensure the student does not attempt to access inappropriate content or engage in cyberbullying.
- Ensure that the student has sufficient time in his/her schedule each day to do the course work and that such scheduled time will be a priority for the student.
- Encourage the student to ask questions, to participate in class discussions, and to ask for help when the student needs it.
- Make sure that the work turned in by the student is the student's own work and that it is not done by or aided by others.
- Keep track of all course deadlines, pacing guides, and other expectations.
- Communicate with the virtual instructor about the student's progress as needed.
- Acknowledge that attendance will be taken for virtual learning and your student must satisfactorily complete assigned work on time, or he/she may fail the class(es)/grade level.
- Acknowledge that although your student is enrolled in virtual learning, he/she will be required to take some assessments onsite and transportation for these onsite activities will be the responsibility of the parent(s).

- Acknowledge that in order for your student to be successful in virtual learning, communication between the school and home is critical.

Both the parent and the student agree that they understand the requirements set forth above; that they will meet the listed expectations; and that they understand that the student's success depends on meeting the expectations. The parent and student also understand and agree that the student's enrollment in the virtual program will remain in place at least through the end of the first nine weeks.

TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS

Consistent and quality broadband internet is necessary for your student to have a successful virtual learning environment. Students will be issued a Chromebook or other reliable device by the district for educational use upon request. The device may be picked up at the school office Thursday, August 20 or Tuesday, August 25 during school hours. The device should be maintained and returned to the school when virtual learning ends or at the end of the school year, whichever occurs first. The student's family is responsible for any damage to the device or accessories.

CURRICULUM

Unlike the 2019-20 AMI process due to COVID-19 which focused on essential skills and practice, the Dierks Virtual Learning option will provide a more comprehensive and rigorous curriculum which includes new learning material. While students are not expected to be logged in to their device the full school day, they can expect to dedicate a similar amount of time for instruction and completion of digital lessons, collaborative activities, and related tasks. The curriculum taught will be provided primarily through Lincoln Learning but may include other content. All lessons and activities will be selected by and graded by the teacher of record or his/her designee.

Support services will continue for students who receive special accommodations, modifications, and/or therapies.

Teachers will share their conference period times with families in case a virtual meeting, phone call, or face-to-face meeting is needed. Teachers are eager to assist all their students. Requests for assistance should be addressed within 24 hours of receipt.

ASSESSMENT

All Dierks students, whether in Dierks Virtual Learning or our traditional blended learning program, will participate in our district's assessment system. Some of these tests will occur at the student's school; others may be taken virtually. Parents will need to arrange appointments with the homeroom teacher for assessments that must be taken on campus. At this time the following assessments are required of Dierks students, and state mandated tests must be taken on campus. We will follow any updates from the DESE.

- Classroom assessments (K-6)
- STAR or Early Literacy Assessment (K-6)
- DIBELS, RAN, and DSA (K-2)
- i-Ready (K-6)
- ACT Aspire (3-6) or DLM alternate assessment (3-6 as needed)
- ELPA (K-6 as needed)
- PAST (K-6 as needed)

ATTENDANCE

Student attendance will be monitored and recorded daily. Attendance is based on logging into courses and completing assigned work. Work that is submitted late may earn reduced scores. If a student is ill and unable to complete the daily requirements, the student's parent or guardian should contact the office and notify the homeroom teacher through the LMS.

Teachers will have no less than weekly check-ins with students enrolled in Dierks Virtual Learning. Students are expected to follow the procedures outlined by the homeroom teacher including attending any scheduled virtual meetings.