



Laurel School District

Alternate Online Learning Handbook

2021-2022



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Alternate Online Learning Option & Considerations

For the Fall 2021 semester, the 100% Virtual Learning option will be offered to medically fragile students with a doctor's recommendation. In addition, students can be considered for the alternate online learning option with a medical doctor's recommendation if:

- 1. There is an extreme medical condition in the student's documented residence and**
- 2. Vaccinations do not provide efficient support.**

If determined that 100% Virtual Learning option is best for the student, the following should be considered:

- A. The student will be required to complete school work during normal school hours.
- B. If work is not completed during this time, students will be counted absent.
- C. We recommended an adult to be home during the school day to monitor the student while completing coursework.
- D. Truancy will be reported to the Mississippi Department of Education truancy officers.
- E. Students **MUST** stay in the program for the entire semester.
- F. Extra-curricular activities such as athletics and fine arts will not be available.
- G. Course selection for secondary students may be limited.
- H. Due to enrollment numbers, some students may be placed with a teacher in their home school, while other students could be placed with a teacher from another school or zone.
- I. If/When a student returns to in-person instruction he/she will likely be placed in a different teacher's class, and/or their schedule will change.
- J. Instruction may not include real-time interaction with teachers and/or other students.
- K. Access to high speed Wi-Fi is required.
- L. Universal screener and state/national assessments as required by the Mississippi Department of Education and/or state law are to be taken on campus according to state law. Parents must ensure student(s) are transported to the school for proctored assessments as scheduled by individual schools.



Enrollment Process

In order to participate in 100% Virtual Learning, the following requirements must be completed:

- Complete registration through Active Parent. The required documents must be uploaded:
 - a. Proof of Residency
 - b. Immunization records
 - c. Birth Certificate, etc
 - d. Medical Form and Physician's Letter (dictating the medically fragility) ([LINK](#))-- (coming soon)
 - e. Virtual Learning Agreement ([LINK](#))
 - f. Virtual Learning is for at least an entire semester. Students will not be allowed to switch back and forth between in-person and virtual classes individually.

Attendance Requirements

Attendance will be taken daily in accordance with the Mississippi Department of Education's attendance guidelines. **Cameras and microphones (although muted) are required to be on during live instruction. Students will be required to attend 330 minutes of live instruction daily.**

Grading Expectations

Students will follow the Laurel School District board approved grading policy.

Food & Nutrition

Meals are available to students who participate in the alternate online learning option. Please contact the Director of Child Nutrition, Leander Bridges, for more information at lbridges@laurelschools.org.

Special Education

A student's IEP was written to provide personalized instructional support services in a traditional school setting. An IEP meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year to determine the services that can be provided while the student is learning online.



504

A student's 504 plan was written to provide accommodations in a traditional school setting to provide equity due to that student's disability. A 504 meeting will be held at the beginning of the school year to determine the accommodations that can be provided while the student is learning online.

English Learner

English Learner students will receive services as outlined in their language service plan. The student's English Learner teacher will be in contact after school begins.

Gifted Education

Gifted students will receive services/assignments through Canvas similar to other classes. The student's Gifted teacher will be in contact after school begins.

Dress Code Expectations

Students should be dressed appropriately during school hours in the Alternate Online Learning environment.

Canvas Learning Management System

Laurel School District utilizes Canvas as our learning management system. Each day lessons, assignments, assessments or activities will be uploaded for students to complete. Students must submit assignments using this platform.

Log in information will be distributed to students at the school level.



Elementary Student Expectations

Instructional Time – The Mississippi Department of Education requires 330 minutes of daily instruction for all students, including those participating in the alternate online learning option. This is an increase of 90 minutes per day compared to last year. A synchronous (live) session may be required daily during school hours.

- **Procedures and learning expectations** – Academic procedures and expectations will mirror the traditional classroom as much as possible.
- **English/Language Arts** – The Canvas platform will house lessons including new instruction and review of standards and learning targets, independent practice (offline), and some virtual small groups and/or one on one instruction to meet the needs of students.
- **Math** - The Canvas platform will house lessons including new instruction and review of standards and learning targets, independent practice (offline), and some virtual small groups and/or one on one instruction to meet the needs of students.
- **Science and Social Studies** – The Canvas platform will house lessons linked through various sites and/or online texts. Science and social studies topics will be incorporated in English/language arts as much as possible.
- **Assessment** – Formative checks and summative assessments used in the traditional school model will be adapted to allow for online access. Students may also be required to take district and state assessments periodically throughout the year.
- **Teacher Check-ins** – All students will be provided feedback and guidance through Canvas. Parents and/or students may reach out to teachers with questions and requests for help at any time. Teachers will respond to requests by the end of the next school day.



Secondary Student Expectations

Sixth- Twelfth Grades

Secondary virtual courses will be taught through Edgenuity Courseware, a heavily video-based course curriculum. Pre-recorded video instruction is provided by Edgenuity, not Laurel School District teachers. Courses include assignments and assessments aligned to the state standards.

Secondary students will have access to all state-required core content areas and some electives.

Secondary Attendance Policy

Grades 6-8: To be counted present, students must work within a course for 48 minutes per class period. For classes that are 2 periods in length, students must work 96 minutes within the course to be counted present. Students must follow the school bell schedule and attendance will be taken after each period. Courses should be completed in the order in which they are assigned in

SAM Spectra

Grades 9-12: To be counted present, students must work within a course 94 minutes per block. Students must follow the school bell schedule. Courses should be completed in the order in which they are assigned in SAM and attendance will be taken after each block.

The student understands that it is the enrolled student who must complete his/her assigned work. Students are not allowed to record, publish, photograph, stream, post to a third- party site, sell, duplicate or share anything posted on or within the Canvas/Edgenuity platforms, either by Canvas/Edgenuity or Laurel Schools District. Violations could result in removal from the program and possible prosecution in accordance with the law.

The parent further understands that at any point the school or district feels that this learning approach is not the most effective for a student due to lack of attendance, participation, or academic growth, a conference will be held with the parent to decide if participation in the Virtual Learning option will continue.