



*Reach • Challenge • Prepare*

Frederick County Public Schools

Virtual Opening Overview

August 2020

# Table of Contents



## Table of Contents

Letter from the Superintendent.....	1
Maryland State Department of Education Guidance .....	2
FCPS Guiding Decision-Making Principles .....	3
FCPS Enhanced Virtual Environment .....	4-5
High School Students: What to Expect in a New Virtual Environment .....	6-8
Middle School Students: What to Expect in a New Virtual Environment .....	9-10
Elementary School Students: What to Expect in a New Virtual Environment .....	11-12
Parent Supports and Resources: In a New Virtual Environment .....	13

























# Parent Supports and Resources

## *In a New Virtual Environment*



### Advice for Serving as a Parent/Guardian Learning Coach

Students participating in courses in a virtual environment should expect a rigorous academic experience which differs in demands from the Continuity of Learning that students experienced in the spring of 2020. For students participating in the Full Virtual Learning Model, the requirements and workload will be equitable to the course content and workload experienced in a face-to-face environment.



FCPS believes that parents and guardians can provide critical support to help their children be successful in a virtual learning environment.

Prior to the start of class and during engagement until course completion:

- Consider incentives to help motivate your child.
- Help your child establish and maintain a regular schedule for working on virtual courses daily. Build in breaks and encourage movement.
- Help your child establish a study space, including the technology needed for working online with reduced distractions.
- Monitor your child's progress weekly. For Frederick County Virtual School courses, biweekly progress reports will be sent from each teacher to email accounts for students, parents, and counselors.
- Help your child maintain pace and not fall behind in an effort to avoid increased anxiety and becoming overwhelmed. Secondary students should be prepared to designate 80-90 minutes per course per day to maintain satisfactory pace. A minimum of 5 hours per day. Additional work may be required for upper level course work.
- Participate in required orientation for the Full Virtual Learning model.
- Reach out to your child's teacher, mentor, or counselor, for additional support if needed.
- Reinforce that virtual courses and coursework are as important as face-to-face courses.
- Review the course syllabus with your student and define expectations.
  - Look for:
    - Assessment requirements
    - Google Meet sessions
    - Grading expectations
    - How to submit assignments
    - Teacher contact information
    - Office hours
- Set up Schoology notifications and add the Daily Digest to your parent account to help with time management and due dates.
- Sometimes learning can be a struggle. Encourage your student to contact teachers when they don't understand or have questions about an assignment. Try not to jump in too fast to "save the day."