2023-2024 Framework

Our Mission

Growing minds, Empowering leaders, Transforming OUR future.

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SECTION 1: OVERVIEW

The Bath County Virtual Academy is a diverse learning environment open to 6th-12th grade students who are enrolled in Bath County Schools. Students enrolled in BCVA have full access to all resources, services, and extra activities as traditional in-person students. The goal of the Bath County Virtual Academy is to provide a learning option for students who have a current barrier for in-person instruction and have successfully completed virtual learning in the past.

Equity Statement

All Bath County Schools' students deserve the right to a free, safe, personalized, and equitable education without barriers and prejudice. All staff are responsible for creating the best learning environment, experiences, and opportunities that will lead to all students becoming college, career, and life ready.

SECTION 2: ENROLLMENT

Enrollment Requirements:

Student acceptance into the Bath County Virtual Academy is contingent upon the decision of the admission committee.

<u>Students who are currently enrolled in any public school must:</u>
1. Have an administration recommendation (in-person for the 22-23 school year).
2. Have a teacher recommendation (virtual for the 22-23 school year).
3. Have a current barrier: health impairment, socio-economic or social-emotional factor.

All Individual needs will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and professional/medical documentation may be required.

<u>Students who have never been enrolled in a public school must meet the following requirements:</u>
Submit to diagnostic testing to determine grade level placement

Students who are enrolling in BCVA must do so during the open enrollment period during the current academic school year. Late applications will not be accepted.

● Students who have been retained are not eligible for BCVA.
● Students with a history of truancy are ineligible to apply for BCVA.
● Students with Individual Education Plans (IEP) must have a recommendation of least restrictive environment from the Admissions and Release Committee (ARC).
● High school students who have not satisfactorily completed a course cannot take the course virtually for credit or credit recovery within the performance academy.
● Flexibility of admission to BCVA will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the admission committee. Medical documentation is required.
● Students may not be enrolled in BCVA for a history of discipline infractions or as a form of disciplinary action.
● Enrollment decisions by the BCVA Admissions Committee are final.

Online Facilitator:

All students will have access to a certified digital learning facilitator. The facilitator will:
● Be a point of contact for virtual students
● Be available during planning and after school as scheduled via phone, email, Remind, etc
● Bridge communication between virtual families and the district
● Keep a log of interactions, tutoring, etc. to submit at the end of each nine weeks
● Offer tutoring on a weekly basis and as needed throughout the virtual coursework
● Communicate progress with students/families
● Submit a list of students failing every two weeks to the coordinator and school administrator
● Schedule online classes with all students twice a week. Camera and microphone must be turned on during this time for both the facilitator and the student.
● Schedule academic support when needed.
● Engage in weekly PLCs focused on student success and attend all training

Student Requirements:

Step 1: Complete online Bath County Virtual Academy Admission Application

Step 2: Initial contact with Bath County Virtual Academy Admissions Committee (for enrollment and grade classification) will be scheduled via virtual and/or phone conference

Step 3: BCVA Coordinator will notify students of acceptance into the program.

- Any incomplete or incorrect information on any enrollment form may void enrollment.

- Enrollment is conditional based on the release of records from the previously enrolled district.

Individuals with Disabilities Act:

Bath County Schools will fully comply with the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and all applicable laws and regulations for the education of students with disabilities. Full implementation of accommodations and Individual Education Programs (IEP) for students with disabilities enrolled in the Bath County Virtual Academy. Section 504 Teams and Admissions and Release Committees (ARC) will be involved in determining how all special education, related services, and accommodations will be implemented for students with disabilities in the virtual setting.

SECTION 3: PREPARING FOR STUDENT SUCCESS

- Self-motivated. Students can direct their own learning environment and methods to fulfill course requirements and achieve individual academic success. Good online students can develop techniques to stay involved and interested in their online course.

- Independent Learner. The online environment enables students to learn at their own pace, relieving the stress of feeling rushed or pressured and providing enjoyment in the learning process. Online courses are not an easy

way out, though. You will have the same amount of work as you do in a traditional course, but you have the option to log in and work 24/7.

- Computer Literate. Although it is not necessary to have advanced computer skills, students should possess a working knowledge of e-mail, the Internet, and productivity programs (i.e. Microsoft Office/Google Docs), as well as basic keyboarding skills. Successful online learners have easy access to computers and the Internet.

- Good Time Management. Students must be able to organize and plan their own best "time to learn." There is no one best time for everyone, but the key is to make the time to learn and develop a daily schedule.

- Effective Communicator. Students must use e-mail and discussion forums to communicate with their peers as well as the instructors. The ability to write clearly to communicate ideas and assignments is essential. This method provides the learner with rapid feedback as well as a means to inform instructors of any concerns or problems that they may be experiencing. In addition, a good online student will ask for help when there is a problem. For instance, if your password does not work, ask for help immediately. Do not wait for two or three days. It could take a day to fix the problem, and you cannot miss an extended period of work time in your online course.

- Personal Commitment. Because there are no bells that begin and end classes, students must have a strong desire to learn and achieve knowledge and skills via online courses. Making a commitment to learn in this manner is a very personal decision and requires a strong commitment to perform in order to achieve academic success. Remember that a BCVA course/subject is much like a traditional course at school. You will receive a grade at the end of the course that will go on your transcript.

- Academic Readiness. The student should have the basic reading, writing, math and computer literacy skills to succeed in the class.

- Technologically Prepared. A successful online learner knows how to open, create and/or save a document; use various technology tools (e.g., dictionary, thesaurus, grammar checker, calculator); and identify various file formats (e.g., doc, xls, pdf, jpg).

Pacing and Attendance Requirements

Bath County Virtual Academy (BCVA) allows students flexibility in the amount of time spent on schoolwork. BCVA is not an opportunity to bypass well-established attendance requirements with in-person classes. **There will be required class meetings via zoom twice a week.** Students will be required to participate daily in classwork and a day without activity will be considered an absence. Nine unexcused absences will result in transfer back to in-person instruction in Bath County Schools.

SECTION 4: DIGITAL LEARNING GUIDING PRINCIPLES

(From Kentucky Department of Education)

In order to ensure that digital learning resources, online courses, and blended learning courses meet or surpass the standards of high-quality traditional instruction, the following five Guiding Principles have been established:

1. Digital content is reviewed and endorsed by a highly qualified teacher within the school (and/or district).
2. A highly qualified teacher or content mentor oversees student learning performance and demonstrated mastery.
3. Learners have access to mentors who are highly qualified teachers, content coaches, or recognized experts in the course field, providing guidance in their digital learning experience.
4. Student learning experiences are personalized by considering factors such as diagnostic data, learning style, and learning needs, allowing for student choice, voice, and pace.
5. Effective teaching practices outlined by Bath County Schools CEP are equally applied to digital learning experiences.

Content

The course content is carefully aligned through a program titled Edgenuity with the Kentucky approved academic standards for each digital learning resource, online course, and blended learning course. In cases where applicable, these resources and courses also align with Kentucky course descriptions and are assigned course codes as per the guidelines of 704 KAR 3:540.

- The content can be sourced from vendors, developed by qualified content teachers, or a combination of both.
- Before enrolling students in online courses that are not accredited or approved, a local review committee, consisting of a highly qualified teacher in the relevant subject, an administrative representative, a district technology coordinator representative, and, if available, a curriculum/instructional coach, reviews the courses.
- All digital learning resources, online courses' content undergo review and endorsement by a highly qualified teacher who specializes in the appropriate subject matter.

Digital Pedagogy

• Teachers receive training in delivering online learning utilizing Edgenuity as our platform.

• Online courses incorporate components that enable students to access the course content at any time, from any place, and progress at their own pace.

• Students enrolled in an online learning course have access to a highly qualified teacher with two-way communication, collaboration, assistance with questions, and tutoring.

Technology Readiness

- • Students in the BCVA must have access to their own laptop or device, reliable access to the internet and a good internet connection.
- • The development of digital citizenship skills for students and teachers prior to and during online learning experience is an integral part of technology readiness.

Assessment System

Schools and districts consistently assess their assessment systems to align with the objectives of college and career readiness for online learning. This evaluation includes analyzing student proficiencies and working towards reducing proficiency gaps. The assessment data points encompass a range of metrics, such as comparing digital and non-digital student data, performance data, and gap data.

The assessment systems for digital learning programs are designed to provide valuable data and feedback loops to gauge teacher effectiveness, student proficiencies, and program quality.

These systems incorporate various elements, including:

- Observational evaluations conducted by teachers, students, teacher supervisors, and principals.
- Completion of Bath County Schools benchmarks, MAP assessments, and other required state assessments.
- Test scores, performance-based assessments, project-based assessments, problem-based performance evaluations, and similar measures.
- Community-based needs assessments.
- Documentation of faculty meeting minutes, Professional Learning Community (PLC) minutes, student council data, and public feedback.
- Establishing feedback loops to address personalized learning paths, remediation, acceleration, school improvement planning, Response to Intervention (RtI) strategies, and overall planning.
- BCVA students are required to take all required assessments (state and local) on campus.

Resource: Kentucky Department of Education Digital Learning Guiding Principles

For more information please visit:
https://education.ky.gov/educational/AL/pbc/Pages/default.aspx

Application Deadline
July 24, 2023