Pitt County Virtual Learning
Grades 4 - 8
2021-22 School Year

General Information

Students in grades *4-8 have the option of registering for Pitt County Virtual Academy (PCVA) for the 2021-22 school year during the designated registration window, May 3-14, 2021. Selecting this option means that the student opts out of in-person instruction, when the district determines that 100% in-person instruction is feasible. Families must commit to at least one semester, with a recommendation of a one-year commitment.

Families who choose PCS Virtual Academy should expect the following to be true across all grade levels:
- Students will remain enrolled at their base school as assigned by PCS Student Assignment.
- To the degree possible, students will be assigned teachers from their base school.
- Instruction will be provided through Canvas, the district's *Learning Management System*.
- Learning opportunities will include both recorded "On Demand" and live instructional sessions via Zoom.

Students & families who participate in PCVA will be permitted to participate in available co-curricular and extra-curricular activities including athletics through their base school.

Parents of students not currently enrolled in PCS should contact the school in their attendance area to enroll their child(ren). Once a student is enrolled in a school, the assigned school will provide families with the option to register for the PCS Virtual Academy. Prior to the start of online courses, the base school will issue the student a PCS device.

PCVA Daily Structure

Students who choose fully online instruction should expect the following to be true across all grade levels/content areas:
- Students will experience a daily school schedule that includes the same components of the school day as their grade level peers participating in face-to-face or blended instruction to the degree feasible.
- Students will be provided any counseling or social/emotional support from their base school staff.
- Students will experience an intentional effort on the part of the PCVA teacher(s) to make meaningful connections and to create a true classroom community.

PCVA is offered to students in grades 9-12 through the yearly PCS high school registration process. Contact your high school with questions.

PCVA Instruction

Students who choose to engage in fully online instruction should expect the following to be true across grades 4-8.

- Students will experience the PCS core instructional program online. Instruction will be standards-aligned and focused on ensuring student mastery.
- Students will be assigned a PCVA teacher. Structures will be in place to communicate needs and progress to a student's base school and to parents or guardians.
- Grading structures will be consistent with in-person and blended instruction environments as outlined in Board Policy 3400.
    - Note: In the event a **student is not engaging** or making adequate progress, the principal **will require** the student to come back to campus for face-to-face instruction.
- Support from Special Education Services will be provided by qualified teachers and related service providers as specified in the student's IEP.
- Any specialized services (Special Education, ELL, 504 Plans, Intervention Plans) will be implemented in collaboration with a PCVA EC teacher and by staff at the student's base school to provide continuity of service during the school year. If these services cannot be adequately provided in a virtual environment, the student may be asked to return to campus.
- Students will continue to receive updates and services via their base school.These services include but are not limited to AIG, ELL, Intervention and 504 services.
- Teachers will work in collaboration with other school staff members to align instructional practices and expectations.
- It may not be feasible to access all specials/elective programs in a fully online environment. Students who choose the PCVA program option may need to have their specials/elective schedule choices adjusted.
- Students and families can contact the Student Help Desk for technology assistance (252)-830-4222 when needed.
- Students and families will have access to library media services.

Virtual Learning Request Process

Official Virtual Learning Requests open: May 3, Registration window: May 3rd - May 14th

Criteria to be considered for PCVA services for the 21-22 School Year:
- Past virtual learning engagement (student success and regular participation)
- Previous year's academic performance (must maintain a "C" average)
- Grade Level Performance as indicated on End of Grade Testing, NC Check ins, iReady assessments, and other data points available
- Reliable internet (does not include school-provided hotspot or cellphone data plan)

Request Process (space is limited)
- Parents/Students review information from April 19-May 2nd.
- Official Virtual Learning Requests open on May 3rd.
- Submit Virtual Learning Request to to base school counselor through May 14th.
- School committee will review PCVA criteria and or approve/deny Virtual Learning Request.
- Base School Counselors will submit approved VL requests to Digital Learning.
- PCVA will notify both the school & parent when the student has been enrolled for virtual learning.

In the event that there are more approved requests than spots available, a lottery system will be used to determine which students will be enrolled in PCVA for the 2021-22 school year.

PCVA Virtual Learning Request
Grades 4-8
2021-22 School Year

Virtual Learning Request Window: May 3 - May 14, 2021
Complete, sign, and return to your child's school before the May 14th deadline.

Basic Student Information

Current School: _____

Student Name: _____

Student Email: _____

Primary Phone Number: _____

Parent Name: _____

Parent Email: _____

Home Address: _____

Secondary Phone Number: _____

Additional Information

What grade will you be enrolled in during the 21-22 School Year? (circle)

Grade: 4   5   6   7   8

Does your child have either of the following? (check) ___ 504   ___ IEP   ___ ELL   ___ AIG

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- Previous year's academic performance (must maintain a "C" average)
- Grade Level Performance as indicated on End of Grade Testing, NC Check ins, iReady assessments, and other data points available
- Reliable internet (does not include school-provided hotspot or cellphone data plan)

Please provide any additional information (beyond the criteria) your school team needs to consider in order to recommend your child for Virtual Learning through PCVA.

Complete, sign, and return to your child's school before the May 14th deadline.

Student and Parent/Guardian statement of agreement

I understand:

- Space for PCVA is limited, and students must have success in both an academic and virtual learning environment or present an extenuating circumstance that dictates that virtual learning is the most appropriate setting.
- As the parent, I am responsible for providing front line support to ensure my child is actively participating in all aspects of instruction, activities, and other requirements as provided by the teacher.
- As the parent and student, we must have daily access to a computer and reliable internet access (not a phone data plan or school provided hotspot) to ensure successful participation in daily instructional activities.
- As the student, I will commit the time it takes to be successful in a virtual environment. I realize that this option requires self motivation, independence, and effective communication to my teacher(s) when questions and concerns arise.
- As the parent, I understand my child must come to the school campus (or designated location) to participate in state-mandated instructional check-ins and end-of-year testing.
- I understand that my middle school child may be eligible to participate in sports if they meet the state athletic eligibility requirements. (Must pass 6 of 7 courses for the previous semester the sport is played).
- As the parent, in the event my child is not engaging or making adequate progress toward course requirements, the principal will require the student to come back to campus for face-to-face instruction.
- Students enrolled in PCVA cannot return to face-to-face instruction until the start of the 2nd semester (January 2022). If moved back to face-to-face instruction for any reason, the student cannot return to PCVA during the current school year.

_____   _____ _____
                Student Signature   Parent Signature   Date

School Use Only (check which applies, sign, and return to Digital Learning)

_____The school believes this student is a qualified candidate for virtual learning.

_____Based on extenuating circumstances, the school approves this student for virtual learning.

_____The student does not meet the criteria for virtual learning.

_____   _____ _____
Date   Printed Name - Principal (or designee)   Signature