

Dear HCS Families,

Huntsville City Schools (HCS) is committed to providing a quality educational experience for all students. Therefore, we are implementing modifications to the virtual program for the second semester of the 2020-2021 school year. To give you more time to review the modifications, we have extended the Huntsville Virtual Academy (HVA) registration deadline to Friday, November 20, 2020. Students who select the virtual learning option will remain in that option for the entire semester. Please note that HVA is a semester-long commitment, and students will engage in virtual learning throughout the entire semester. *Any family who does not complete the HVA registration form will be considered a traditional student for the second semester.*

It is important to note that HVA teaching assignments are likely to change for the second semester as enrollment changes. Your child is not guaranteed to have the same teacher second semester, but all students will be assigned a certified teacher.

Kindergarten - 5th Grade Modifications:

- K-5: The curriculum will transition to FuelEd using the Alabama College and Career Ready standards. Schoology will continue to be used to access class assignments, receive instruction, and communicate with teachers.
- Virtual classes may potentially be combined across schools depending on student enrollment. This may result in a change of teacher for some students.
- Students should expect to be engaged in daily online learning with standards of pacing and rigor used in the traditional classroom. Teachers will provide lessons, projects, direct instruction, and guided practice opportunities through interactive instructional meetings.
- Virtual learning requires daily interaction with content. Students will be required to log into classes at the scheduled times, turn on their cameras, and participate in every class taught by HCS teachers.
- These courses offer live instruction, and students must attend at the scheduled time. Those who do not will be marked absent.
- Schoology and Zoom will continue to be used as communication tools.
- District assessments will be administered online at designated times throughout the school year that align with the testing schedule that includes dates and times for parents. **All ALSDE mandated assessments will require students to return to campus for completion.**
- All IEP, 504, and ESOL accommodations for instruction and assignments will be followed. Students will continue to receive support as part of virtual learning.
- HVA students will be required to maintain course grade averages of 70% or higher to remain in Huntsville Virtual Academy.
- Students with course averages below 70% will be contacted by school administrators to create an improvement plan.
- If your family is presented with an extenuating health condition after the HVA registration window has closed, please contact your school principal for appropriate assistance and guidance.

Grades 6-12 Modifications:

- Instruction will be synchronous for most courses across all grades, meaning students must log in at designated times to receive live instruction.
- Students participating in specialized courses via ACCESS or Edgenuity must log in daily and submit work by assigned due dates. These courses are asynchronous, meaning students work at their own pace; however, students should log into the courses daily to continue pace to complete the course.
- HVA students who were attending specialized courses (magnet, JROTC, Drivers Education, etc.) at their home school may continue to participate in that course with the school's permission. HVA students who are not able to participate in highly specialized courses (Career Technical Education, Fine Arts, etc.) that require hand-on activities for completion may be moved to a virtual elective via ACCESS or Edgenuity. School principals will assist with this process.
- Students may continue to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities.
- Students in grades 6-8 will participate in six courses:
 - Math (Regular/Honors)
 - English/Language Arts/Reading (Regular/Honors)
 - Social Studies (Regular/Honors)
 - Science (Regular/Honors)
 - Physical Education
 - Elective
- Students in grades 9-12 will participate in a modified (A/B) day block schedule. Students will receive lessons and assignments for 4 courses daily. Students will have a schedule that reflects the schedule at their home school as much as possible. It will consist of a combination of courses:
 - Math (Regular/Honors)
 - English (Regular/Honors)
 - Social Studies (Regular/Honors)
 - Science (Regular/Honors)
 - Elective
 - Elective
 - Elective
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- If your family is presented with an extenuating health condition after the HVA registration window has closed, please contact your school principal for appropriate assistance and guidance.

If you wish for your student to be in HVA the second semester, please complete the enrollment form at huntsvillecityschools.org/hva by Friday, November 20, 2020. We hope this information has been helpful. If you have additional questions or concerns, please contact your school administrator.