

## **VIRTUAL LEARNING OPTION: FALL 2020 FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS**

### **What platforms will be used for students in a virtual setting?**

*As a district we would like to have one platform to use for Secondary and one to use for Elementary as the needs for the two systems are significantly different. The elementary teachers are still determining which system they will be using. At the secondary level, students taking the virtual option will have a platform based on the option they choose. If they choose IDLA, they will work through IDLA's platform. If they choose mastery campus they will be using Odysseyware.*

### **Do I need a doctors note to apply for the virtual learning option?**

*No doctors note will be required. Parents will make the decision based on their knowledge of their family's health and their student's learning needs.*

### **How are teachers assigned for the virtual option?**

*We have reached out to our teachers to ask for volunteers and have had more than enough to fill what we anticipate will be the need. Students choosing the mastery campus option will be assigned teachers from Preston High School that are currently teaching subjects in mastery campus. In addition there will be options for IDLA, which would have students working with teachers outside of the district, but with much more experience in the online medium.*

### **What kind of video conferencing will be expected of my student?**

*Video conferencing and class "meetings" will be determined by the teacher of the course. Students who choose to take the virtual option will be expected to attend the required sessions and communicate with teachers if they will not be able to attend other meetings. Recordings of many of the meetings will be available to increase flexibility.*

### **Will this be like the classes that were done in the spring?**

*No. While this will not be designed to be more difficult than a regular class, there will be a higher degree of expectations for students than they had in the spring time. Teachers will continue to work with parents and students to adjust as well as they can, but the goal is that the students in the virtual setting will receive the same instruction as those in the face-to-face setting.*

### **Will the virtual learning be harder or easier than face-to-face?**

*No. Though it will be different. The method of instruction may have different challenges, but the goal is to not make the scenario more or less difficult than the face-to-face setting.*

**Why do I have to commit to at least a semester?**

*This is more of a logistical requirement than anything else. With the options we are pursuing with both elementary and secondary learning trying to integrate the learning model from virtual to face-to-face, midsemester, is daunting. We will re-evaluate in November and December to see, one, if the spread of the disease is such that we can go back to normal operations, and two, if the instructional model will not negatively impact the students.*

**Can my high school or jr. high student participate in elective classes?**

*It will depend on the class. Not all classes can effectively be moved into a virtual setting. As such, please work with your counselor and principal. They, in turn, will work with teachers to see what options will be available for your student.*

**Is there an extra cost to participating virtually?**

*No. There is no extra cost. Fees, such as IDLA, Odysseyware, etc., that might be made for a student will be paid by the district.*