As an option for re-entry, Harrison County Schools is offering a virtual school for those families in grades Kindergarten through 12th for the 2020 – 2021 school year. If you are a virtual student you will not report to your school but will receive instruction at home through WVVS for the entire semester.

- The West Virginia Virtual School (WVVS) instructors are certified to teach in West Virginia and are hired and evaluated through the West Virginia Department of Education (WVDE).

- Teachers for the WVVS courses may or may not be employees of Harrison County Schools.

- Most WVVS courses are split into two parts to align with school semesters. Students registered for full-time virtual courses will remain in those courses for the entire semester regardless of the date of completion.

- Registration discussions may take place by contacting the school principal or counselor from August 12th through September 15th. Students will be permitted to attend school face-to-face following the staggered start schedule prior to making the decision of how to receive instruction for Fall 2020.

- Reliable home internet access is the responsibility of the family.

- For more information on the WVVS, visit our WVVS General Information for Parents/Guardians of K-12 Students.
1. **Will it be possible for special needs students to participate and moreover thrive in this virtual opportunity?**
   
   Yes. A student’s IEP or 504 plan must be reviewed to determine whether the necessary accommodations can be provided virtually.

2. **Would this be required to be completed during schooling hours or if it could be completed in the evenings or weekends?**

   Because structure is best, the best practice is that parents/guardians designate a schedule for students to complete work in the WVVS courses online course at home. It is recommended that parents/guardians work with their child to create a schedule that best reflects what the child would be doing if he/she was at school. Each school designates a teacher, counselor, mentor, or administrator to make weekly contact with the student to ensure that the student is making progress. The WVVS teachers encourage students to proceed at their own pace, although some courses follow strict pacing guides. This pace is determined and communicated by the WVVS teacher, who is a WV-certified teacher but may or may not be a Harrison County teacher.

3. **If my child receives special services like speech therapy, physical therapy, or braille through an IEP, will he still get those special services if he is enrolled in WVVS?**

   The student’s IEP case manager can best answer this information when the parent/guardian requests that the student’s IEP or 504 plan be reviewed to determine whether the necessary accommodations can be provided virtually.

4. **Is this the same program that has been being offered?**

   Yes. Harrison County Schools has been utilizing WVVS as an option for grades 6-12 for several years. This year, in response to COVID-19, the WVDE has added a K-5 component in WVVS.

5. **Will virtual school students be required to participate in the general summative assessment?**

   Yes. Virtual school students will be held to the same testing requirements as brick and mortar students.

6. **What are the appropriate WVEIS codes for virtual students?**

   The WVDE has provided these WVEIS codes for virtual students to counties. This information will be part of the training that principals and counselors receive on August 11.

7. **Is there training available to parents/guardians to assist their virtual students?**

   Yes. When a school approves registration into WVVS, the student will receive an email that includes a training module link from WVVS. This link familiarizes the student and parent/guardian with the WVVS platform.
8. **How will I know about my child’s progress in WVVS?**

For students enrolled in grades K-2, children and their guardian(s) will be required to meet with the online teacher via Microsoft Teams weekly. Additional communication with children (via the guardian) will be made as needed via email and other communication tools. Progress reports for students in the virtual school model shall be sent home to all students at the middle of each 6- or 9-week grading period by a method determined at the school. The child’s school is required to assign a teacher, counselor, or administrator as the local course facilitator. The facilitator will receive regular reports about student progress and will communicate these to the parent/guardian through progress reports provided electronically or by other means.

9. **Does the county provide a textbook for my child in WVVS?**

The WVVS teacher will determine the instructional materials used in a course. This may or may not be the textbook that is adopted by Harrison County Schools. If there is a need for a textbook, manual, lab materials, or software for a WVVS course, this request should be communicated by the parent/guardian to the school administrator or designee so that the need or support can be addressed.

10. **Can my child attend school face-to-face AND take WVVS courses?**

The registration window for WVVS is August 12 through September 15. A public school student may attend school face-to-face until the principal/counselor approves full-time enrollment in WVVS. Once a public school student is enrolled as a full-time virtual student, the student would not attend school face-to-face. See also Question 11.

11. **If my child is approved as a WVVS student, do I need to supply my high school diploma to the Attendance Director?**

Only parents/guardians who are homeschooling their child need to provide this documentation to the Attendance Director. There are 3 options for instruction in Harrison County for the 2020-21 school year: 1) face-to-face/remote as determined by the Governor; 2) Virtual; 3) Homeschool.

12. **Does the county provide an iPad to my child if he/she is enrolled in WVVS?**

A student who is enrolled as a public school student who is taking WVVS due to the COVID-19 pandemic may retain or be issued the use of the county-issued iPad in grades 3-12.

13. **What is the difference between remote learning and WVVS?**

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**Did You Know?**

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**Remote Learning**

- Level 3 of Harrison County Schools Re-entry plan used only when face-to-face Pre-K – 12 instruction is not permitted by order of the Governor due to pandemic concerns. Student would not physically attend school.
- Harrison County teachers, Harrison County Curriculum, Harrison County Learning Management System (Schoology).
- Continuous grade-level instruction tailored to students by responsive teachers with strong support for Special Education and English Learner students.
- Live class meetings are available through Schoology Conferences and Microsoft Teams upon teacher request.
- Follows Harrison County Schools grading policy, progress reports are sent home via LiveGrades at the middle of each grading period and official report cards are issued.
- Includes Harrison County Technical Support for Schoology, Newsela, iReady, electronic textbooks, and iPad issues using the 304.526.7777 technical support line.

**West Virginia Virtual School**

- Full-time virtual school option available to K – 12 students on an individual basis by approval of the school principal. Student would not physically attend school.
- WVDE hired and evaluated teachers, pre-packaged curriculum purchased from outside vendors, WVDE Learning Management System (Desire2Learn) (D2L).
- Two-part courses separated by semester with potentially delayed teacher response and limited support for Special Education and English Learning students.
- No live teacher-student contact required for grades K-12, weekly teacher-student contact required for grades K-5 in Microsoft Teams.
- Does not follow Harrison County Schools grading policy, students are given one final grade at the end of each semester (no 6-week or 9-week grades). School contact sends a progress report regularly, not affiliated with LiveGrades.
- Does not include Harrison County Technical Support. Login issues can be supported by the school, but all other technical issues are the responsibility of the WVDE.