

## Ballard County Schools Virtual School Program Information

**At Ballard County Schools, we believe that the best way for a student to receive the highest-quality and best education is from a live, certified teacher.**

BCS will offer Virtual School options for students who meet the qualifications for medical needs at grade levels P-12. Documentation of the medical need will be required during the application process.

Students accepted for Virtual School will participate in an online platform (to be determined) - with *no* live teaching.

Completion of a Virtual School APPLICATION will be required, and must be completed online. After the application is processed, a committee will review the application for acceptance. The committee will consist of the student's building level principal, district chief academic officer, director of pupil personnel, the director of special education (if necessary), and teacher of record for Virtual School.

NOTE: Students enrolled in Virtual School WILL NOT be able to participate in extracurricular activities or sports at Ballard County Schools.

### **Students want to attend Ballard County Virtual School must do the following:**

1. Complete a Virtual School APPLICATION found at <https://forms.gle/aJL3Uo42F7Xy3GsM6>. As a part of this application process, a committee will review each application. In addition to the medical need, the committee will review student behavior, transcripts/report card, attendance (participation), previous success in online learning, and any assessment scores.
2. If the student application is accepted, the student (along with a parent/guardian) must come in person to enroll at the Ballard County Board Office, 11 Vocational School Road, Barlow.
3. Each student (along with the parent/guardian) must sign a **Memorandum of Agreement /Contract** which outlines the expectations of the program. (Please refer to the student expectations and Memorandum of Agreement below.)
4. The Virtual School will NOT have extra curricular activities or sports. Virtual School students will NOT be allowed to participate in such activities at their school.
5. Students will complete their courses through an online program/platform. Ballard County teachers will NOT provide live instruction.
6. Participation for students who are eligible for IDEA services will be determined by the ARC to ensure student needs are able to be met in a virtual format.
7. Specially-designed instruction for students with disabilities may be provided in brief live sessions with a special education teacher/service provider as determined by the ARC. Students will be expected to participate in scheduled sessions.

## Memorandum of Agreement / Contract

### Ballard County Virtual School students must commit to the following:

- **Ensuring access to a working device (Chromebook, laptop, desktop) and strong, reliable internet for the duration of time enrolled in Ballard County Virtual School.**
- Participating in quarterly reviews of their progress with the parent/guardian. This review is mandatory and must be attended virtually or in person.
- Completing all assignments and tasks independently without copying the work of others or having others do their work. All work submitted must be of the student's own creation.
- Developing and adhering to an *initial daily* school work schedule of no less than one hour for each course each day, five days/week. Students will be expected to devote the amount of time necessary to pass courses and remain on schedule for each nine-week or semester grading period.
- Coming to school in person for assessments (final exams, state testing and ACT) as often as once a quarter throughout the year.
- Complying with the Virtual School program coordinators for task completion on assignments, quizzes, and assessments
- Maintaining passing grades at all times; staying at or ahead of the pace of assigned material.
- Spending extra time on completing tasks/assignments if starting the program after the beginning of the school year. This is necessary to complete all required work prior to the end of the nine weeks, semester, or regular school calendar.
- Maintaining an appropriate, respectful tone with Virtual School program coordinators at all times, both verbally and in written form.
- Complying with any other directions or guidelines communicated by the Virtual School program coordinator.

### Additional student/family commitments:

- Students/Families will communicate with the Virtual School program coordinator through Ballard County Schools email accounts and/or direct phone calls to district phones.
- Any change of residence, phone contact information, e-mail address, etc., must be communicated IMMEDIATELY to the Virtual School program coordinator.
- Students who receive IDEA services must participate in sessions with a special education teacher and/or service provider on a set schedule. The platform, length and frequency of these sessions shall be determined by the ARC.
- If a student chooses to leave the Virtual School program, he/she will not be allowed to return during the remainder of the school year.

**Removal from the Ballard County Virtual School may occur for the following reasons:**

- Inappropriate conduct or communication through the virtual program may be grounds for dismissal from Virtual School, and/or may result in disciplinary action consistent with the Ballard County Code of Behavior.
- Students must maintain a passing grade in all courses. A 30-day trial period will be implemented for each new student in the program. As long as students are completing all necessary requirements, progress will be monitored at the end of each quarter or semester. However, if students are not making adequate progress after the initial 30-day trial period - or at any time during the school year - they may be dismissed from the program.

You must sign this agreement after being accepted.

I, \_\_\_\_\_, understand the requirements to remain in the Ballard County Virtual School Program, and am fully committed to meeting the expectations that have been clearly stated in this document. My signature here indicates that I understand all the stipulations in this document, and that I will exercise the discipline to complete every course in which I am enrolled.