



DRN Readitech Virtual Learning Academy



ELEMENTARY DISTANCE LEARNING INFORMATION

North Border Public Schools will be providing a Virtual Learning option for all K-6 students in the school district for the 2020-2021 school year. This program will be fully online for students, and the courses/curriculum will be provided in partnership with Arizona State University, the DRN Readitech Consortium, and the South East Regional Educational Cooperative.

All students will be assigned a teacher from the DRN Readitech Consortium who will support the online learning, assign grades, and be able to bridge students between the school and the Virtual Program. The Virtual Learning Academy program has been highlighted below:

K-6 Elementary School Program

- 4 Core Courses (Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies)
- 2 Elective Courses (Physical Education, Music)
- Grade 6 may choose from other electives based on interest.
- Access to online diagnostic and benchmarking tool (K-5 students)
- Access to adaptive skill-building software (K-5 students)

Enrollment/Grading/Reporting

DRN Virtual Learning Students will be considered enrolled in North Border Public Schools after registering online on August 14th.

- Grades will be given by teacher following the district grading practices/policies.
- District policies including attendance will apply to students enrolled in Virtual Learning Academy.

Supporting the Learning of Students

- Students will have access to a teacher for courses/programs.
- Special services will be provided for students (Special Education, EL, 504, Speech) These services will be coordinated locally.
- Teacher facilitated one-on-one and small group tutoring sessions

Technology

- iPads (K-3) or Chromebooks (4-6) will be issued to each Virtual Learning student, if needed.
- District technology staff will assist the technical issues.
- Families choosing full time Distance Learning are responsible for providing their own reliable, high-speed internet.

Timeframe

- DNR Distance Learning classes will begin on August 31, 2020. This is to allow for training of staff, organization, and program deployment.
- **Registration is due by 4 PM on Friday, August 14.** All students that do register for the DRN Readitech Academy will need to commit to the Virtual Learning Academy for at least one quarter of the school year.

A list of frequently asked questions follows. If you have any additional questions regarding the Virtual Learning Academy, you are encouraged to contact us at the district office. We will connect you with the appropriate resource individual within our school district. Please call the District Office at 701.549.3751 or contact your building principal for more information.

Justine Gruenberg (Pembina) 701.825.6261 Justine.Gruenberg@k12.nd.us
Nick Amb (Walhalla) 701.549.3751 Nicholas.Amb@k12.nd.us

Frequently Asked Questions Designed for the Parents/Families Considering Virtual Learning in 2020-2021

Will this be like last spring's distance learning?

This experience will be very different than like last spring's distance learning. Expect a rigorous, scheduled program. Your child will be doing scheduled activities much the same as they would in a normal school day. Parents will be expected to ensure that the child is ready to learn each day, and ensure that the actual work is complete and submitted by the student. Attendance will be monitored and will follow North Border School District's policies. **Lack of participation and student engagement will result in loss of grade level promotion.**

Can students transition back to in-person learning at the end of the first quarter or semester?

Yes. Any student who chooses to go back to in-person learning may do so at the end of the first quarter of the 2020-2021 school year, students will be allowed to transition back to face to face instruction prior to that point.

Can students transition from in-person learning to Virtual Learning Academy?

Yes. K-6 students will be able to join the Virtual Academy at the beginning of the quarter.

Who will be teaching my child in the Virtual Learning Academy?

Students will be enrolled in an online program provided by Arizona State University. The teacher will be assigned by the DRN Readitech Consortium, and will not be the teacher at your local school.

Will my child be assigned a certified teacher?

All educators teaching in the program will be certified in the areas they will be assigned. The teachers will be licensed by the North Dakota Education and Standards Practices Board and will continue to be supervised by DRN Readitech Consortium. Local school administration will work with families in the case of non-participation/attendance, failure to complete assignments, or discipline issues.

If my child receives special services for special education, will those services continue?

Yes. Any student on an IEP that is enrolled in the program will continue to be assigned to a case manager that will be responsible for ensuring their IEP is followed. The IEP may need to be revised prior to beginning in the academy if specific language and/or service is not appropriate due to online learning. Utilizing teleconferencing for IEP meetings for families uncomfortable with entering the building is an option.

How will I know if my child is progressing at grade level within the Virtual Learning Academy?

Each student will be assigned a teacher(s) who will monitor the progress of students and will assign grades for each course. The expectation of these teachers will be to utilize PowerSchool and provide progress reports for parents/families.

Will my student be able to access school counselors?

Yes. We will be able to arrange for off-site meetings and/or telecounseling sessions for student.



DRN Readitech Virtual Learning Academy



DRN READITECH VIRTUAL ACADEMY ENROLLMENT FORM

I hereby enroll my child(ren) as follows in the DRN Readitech Academy in partnership with the North Border Schools.

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Grade _____

Child's Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Current Grade _____

I understand and agree to the following terms and conditions, hereby enroll the above named child(ren) in the DRN Readitech Virtual Academy.

The enrollment period is one quarter at a time unless there are extenuating circumstances, and administration approval.

I agree to support my child in their education from home, providing a suitable place for them to work. I expect the work to be rigorous and challenging. The work load will be similar to a traditional school day.

Parent or Guardian

Date

REGISTRATION CLOSSES FRIDAY, AUGUST 14 at 4:00 P.M.