

Welcome to the Virtual Learning Academy!

We are thrilled to have the opportunity to offer a fully remote option for you during these unpredictable times. The staff at the Virtual Learning Academy is eager to meet you and work together to ensure an incredible year of learning for the students. This is going to be an exciting and new experience for us all.

Our team has spent the summer preparing to provide high-quality virtual instruction and discovering the most effective ways to engage and build our school community in a remote environment. We will have access to a variety of online platforms and tools to bring all of the knowledge, inquiry, exploration, creativity, and innovation of the classroom to your home. The staff is prepared to not only teach and support the students but families as well. Stay tuned for community events and orientation dates!

Amanda Davis and Elizabeth Sesma-Olinsky will be the co-principals. Ms. Davis will take the primary duties for 6-12 grade and Ms. Olinsky will cover the kindergarten through fifth-grade students. We have a parent/student/school compact that will help guide each student's responsibilities. [Access the compact here.](#) We want to answer the most frequently asked questions for all of you.

General Information

What will the day look like for my child?

A typical day will be from 9:00-2:00. It is a compressed day with approximately 20% less instruction. They will have a daily check-in with teachers for attendance. Students will be synchronous (directly online with teachers) and asynchronous (offline learning work) during the day. Students will not have synchronous learning the entire time during the day. Asynchronous work will be completed throughout the day. The exact schedule will be guided by your child's teacher/s.

What supplies will I need to have for my child?

NUSD will provide a device for every student (ipadTK-1, Chromebook 2-12). In addition, students will be able to go to their home school to pick up additional supplies for their grade level, journals, special textbooks, and anything else they might need. NUSD will have learning platforms for all students: K-5 Epic, Reader's/Writer's Workshop, Imagine Learning, Social Studies Weekly, Mystery Science, 6-12 APEX, and specific content platforms for the subject matter). If you have supplies at home (crayons, markers etc) for younger children especially they may use them but the school site will supply materials.

My child has special services (special education or a 504 plan), who will be the case managers, teachers, and administrators?

If your child has a current IEP or 504 plan, the home school team will be their case managers. The VLA teacher will attend the meetings and if the VLA administrator is needed they will attend also. If a new referral is needed, that referral will be handled by the home school team, but the VLA staff will be part of the team.

In order to make sure every student is prepared for the start of school, please let us know if you need any of the following by completing the [GOOGLE FORM](#) as soon as possible.

- Device for Virtual Learning
- Grades TK-1 - Ipad & grades 2-12 - Chromebook
- Internet access at home
- Access to a printer at home or at a shared community location

K-5 Information

What is expected of me to support my child?

Younger kindergarten-2 grade students will need more support to log on and complete assignments, but during instruction, you will not need to instruct your child but monitor their time during instruction. Older children will 3-5 grades should be independent and not need any direct support but will need monitoring for daily work completion and attendance.

What will it look like for Kindergarten-Fifth grade groups?

We have created VLA schools at each site. Most students will be able to attend their resident school with students and teachers from their resident school. Some students may attend another VLA school as overflow

Will my child get electives?

At this time K-5 will have asynchronous time for P.E. and music on a virtual platform after the core instructional time. This may be in the form of a video or an activity sent to the class by a P.E. or music teacher.

6-12 Information

What will my student's daily schedule look like: VLA will mirror the daily schedule of the middle and high schools. The only difference will be that VLA students will remain in remote learning if/when the flexible in-person students return to a face to face model.

When will my student receive their schedule? We are working with all of the middle and high school administrators to complete student schedules as soon as possible. All VLA students will receive their schedules via email prior to the first day of classes, August 20, 2020.

Will my child get electives? All middle and high school students will have elective classes in addition to their core content classes.

Will AP courses be offered in VLA? Yes, high school students will have access to any AP course that was offered at their home school.

Amanda Davis

~ Amanda Davis & Elizabeth Sesma- Olinyk
Elizabeth Sesma-Olinyk

Co-Principals Olive Elementary
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