

FRONTIER SCHOOLS ACADEMIC PLAN

2020 - 2021



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Academic Plan

Once campuses reopen, Frontier Schools will be offering families two learning models throughout the 2020-2021 school year. Families can either choose to learn remotely in our online learning environment or in-person at their Frontier campus. In alignment with Missouri Learning Standards, Frontier has collaborated with Edgenuity and Pathblazer to create an all-in-one virtual learning system for our students. These learning systems will be used for both virtual and in-person learners to connect with the option they have selected.

This system will contain assignments, grading, progress reports, and parent messaging options for both virtual and in-person learners. Schools and teachers may use other software as needed (ex. Zoom video conferencing) to enrich the learning experience. Virtual learners will be able to participate in Zoom conference meetings and virtual classes featuring teacher-student interactions with their teachers and fellow classmates during normal school hours each class day. In-person learners, of course, will attend campus during normally-scheduled school hours. Students with specialized educational needs – such as ESL and intervention/IEP – will continue to receive those services either virtually or in-person.

Learning Environments

Frontier's primary goal in offering both in-person and virtual classrooms is to provide families with the flexibility to choose the option that best fits their needs, while still delivering a rigorous, student-focused academic environment regardless of the location. Accordingly, our classroom experience and coursework will be almost identical, regardless where students are learning. Therefore, if a student needs to change his or her learning environment due to COVID-19 or other considerations, the child's learning process won't be interrupted because all students are exposed to similar learning experiences and curricula.

| In-Person Learning | Virtual Learning | |
|--|---|--|
| Students and teachers will attend class-in person five days a week | Students will join sessions via Zoom | |
| 1-1 Chromebook/IPAD | 1-1 Chromebook/IPAD | |
| Edgenuity/Pathblazer Lesson | Edgenuity/Pathblazer Lesson | |
| Access to same learning resources | Access to the same learning resources as in-person students | |
| Use of Interactive products to engage in learning | Use of Interactive products to engage in learning | |
| Attendance is based on physical presence in class | Attendance is based on course completion | |

- In-person students may move into virtual learning for a period of time if necessary for school closure due to an individual showing COVID-19 symptoms, according to county or state regulations.
- All learning experiences are aligned to the district curriculum and Missouri Learning Standards.
- Virtual learning will be a quarter long commitment. Families will be given the option to change at the end of the first quarter.

Virtual Learning

All activities will be designed to meet the needs of the students in the virtual environment through technology tools and differentiated blended learning experiences. The full experience will be consistent with their peers learning in-person on campus.

Our elementary students (*grades K-5*) will use a combination of district curriculum and Pathblazer, provided through Edgenuity. Our secondary students (*grades 6-12*) will use a customized curriculum delivered through Edgenuity.

Sample Virtual Instruction Schedule for Elementary

| Tentative Bell Schedule | Duration (minutes) | Session |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 8:30 AM - 9:15 AM | 45 minutes | Course 1 |
| 9:15 AM - 9:20 AM | 5 minutes | Recess* |
| 9:20 AM - 10:05 AM | 45 minutes | Course 2 |
| 10:05 AM - 10:10 AM | 5 minutes | Recess* |
| 10:10 AM - 10:55 AM | 45 minutes | Course 3 |
| 10:55 AM - 11:30 AM | 35 minutes | Lunch/Recess* |
| 11:30 AM - 12:15 PM | 45 minutes | Course 4 |
| 12:15 PM - 12:20 PM | 5 minutes | Recess* |
| 12:20 PM - 1:05 PM | 45 minutes | Course 5 |
| 1:05 PM - 1:10 PM | 5 minutes | Recess* |
| 1:10 PM - 1:55 PM | 45 minutes | Course 6 |
| 1:55 PM - 2:00 PM | 5 minutes | Recess* |
| 2:00 PM - 2:45 PM | 45 minutes | Course 7 |
| 2:45 PM - 2:50 PM | 5 minutes | Recess* |
| 2:50 PM - 3:35 PM | 45 minutes | Course 8 |

Subject to change on In-Person Instruction begins

Students will be provided individual schedules by each campus

*Lunch/Recess time and duration may vary by campus

Sample Virtual Instruction Schedule for Secondary

| Tentative Bell Schedule | Duration (minutes) | Session |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|
| 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM | 90 minutes | Course 1 |
| 10:00 AM - 10:05 AM | 5 minutes | Break* |
| 10:05 AM - 11:35 AM | 90 minutes | Course 2 |
| 11:35 AM - 12:10 PM | 35 minutes | Lunch* |
| 12:10 PM - 1:40 PM | 90 minutes | Course 3 |
| 1:40 PM - 1:45 PM | 5 minutes | Break* |
| 1:45 PM - 3:15 PM | 90 minutes | Course 4 |

Subject to change on In-Person Instruction begins

Students will be provided individual schedules by each campus

*Lunch/Recess time and duration may vary by campus

Virtual Learning Expectations

- 1. Teachers will teach virtual students from their classrooms or other designated facilities.
- 2. If a staff member shows any COVID-19 symptoms, she/he will be sent home and continue teaching from home (if health conditions allow), in accordance with CDC guidelines.
- 3. Teachers will provide virtual sessions via Zoom and provide the experience through Edgenuity and other platforms. Zoom sessions will follow a regular school schedule similar to in-person.
- 4. Parents will ensure that their child has access to a device and a distraction-free place to work and engage in learning.
- 5. Parents will ensure that their children attend required sessions on time and keep up with assignments.
- 6. Parents will ensure that students have breakfast and lunch in the assigned time period.
- 7. Students are expected to engage in lessons just like attending in-person learning.
- 8. Students will be required to complete the assigned coursework and meet the teachers' assessment standards for a passing grade.
- 9. Students should be ready to participate in class/virtual activities and discussions during designated times/school hours.
- **10.** Grading will be the same as defined in the student handbook.

Sample Student Organization Schedule for Grades K-5

Sample Student Organization Schedule for Grades 6-12

Expectations for Student Participation in Virtual Classrooms

- 1. Use equipment as outlined in the Frontier Schools Technology Agreement
- Follow Frontier Schools Student Code of Conduct
- 3. Follow class schedule as specified by Frontier Schools
- 4. Sign into classroom on time every day for meetings, and engage in classroom activities
- 5. Wear appropriate attire, as outlined in the Free Dress Days section of the <u>Student</u> Dress Code, when in virtual meetings
- 6. Establish a workspace that is organized and free of distractions to optimize learning
- 7. Use school email to log into all Frontier Schools online systems
- 8. Complete learning activities in a timely manner
- 9. Use integrity and do your own work, in accordance with school policies
- **10.** Respond to teacher emails and comments in a timely manner
- 11. Seek help if you need extra support or are feeling overwhelmed (teachers, counselors, interventionists, principals, etc.)
- **12.** Support each other in this new way of learning

Frequently Asked Questions

1. How will Frontier's virtual learning in the Fall be different from last Spring/ Summer School?

After analyzing various learning tools over the summer, we have decided to transition to Edgenuity and Pathblazer for our online curriculum platforms instead of the previously used Google Classroom. We will continue to use Zoom in the fall as our main way for the students to interact with their teachers and receive a live learning experience.

During Summer School, the new school database, PowerSchool, was introduced. We will continue to use this database through the 2020-2021 school year. PowerSchool has a great interface for parents to stay informed and monitor their child's progress and grades. It also offers a mobile app, like our previous database, to make it more convenient for the parents.

Technical Support Contacts

| Campus | Email |
|--|------------------------------|
| Frontier School of Innovation Elementary | aalriyami@frontierschool.org |
| Frontier School of Innovation Middle | nsakoki@frontierschools.org |
| Frontier STEM High School | ealtinci@frontierschools.org |
| Frontier School of Excellence | ikamilov@frontierschools.org |

Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

2. What curriculum will Frontier use? Who will teach my child?

Frontier will use the district-built curriculum alongside Edgenuity/Pathblazer. Our curriculum directors and teachers may supplement the curriculum using several online tools (Edulastic, Zoom, Aleks, Zearn, MyOn, Alberts, Vocabulary.com, Edgenuity) to build interactive lesson cycles.

Frontier teachers in your child's school will continue to provide individualized support for your child. Students will be asked to participate as they would in a typical classroom.

3. How will we learn the online delivery system?

Frontier will provide orientation for our students and parents on August 27, 2020. During this orientation, you will have an opportunity to understand how our curriculum and instruction work on Edgenuity and Zoom.

4. Will the students' work be graded?

Frontier students will receive regular grading as defined in the <u>students' handbook</u> for course work.

5. Will the students take state assessments this year?

Students participating in both in-person and virtual learning will be required to participate in state testing like MAP/EOC/WIDA, etc.

6. Will high school students' schedules change?

Due to shift to virtual education, bell schedules will be updated. This will affect some changes in students' schedules. Our counselors will update the schedules in a timely manner before school starts on August 31, 2020.

Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

7. If a student needs help from the teacher, what is the teacher's availability and how would the student connect with the teacher?

Teachers will set up online office hours via Zoom conference so that students/ parents can access additional support, as needed. Teacher contact information is also available on the platform and database to make contacting them for further support easy and convenient.

8. Will Frontier offer GT programs?

Students in the Gifted and Talented Program will continue to receive additional challenging learning experiences both virtually and in-person. The Gifted and Talented Education Coordinator and the GT Committee are working to create enrichment opportunities to meet the diverse needs of our gifted learners at all grade levels and campuses.

9. Will students have opportunities to participate in extracurricular activities?

Each campus will use state approved MSHSAA guidelines when it comes to extracurricular activities. Campus administrators will determine the final decision regarding activities. If activities become available each campus will release more information.

10. Will there be field trips?

Field trips are not permitted at this time.

11. Will all students receive a device/laptop/computer to access online instructional content?

Yes, all students will be issued a Chromebook/IPAD that they can use at home to access online learning material. If there are any issues with internet access, please make sure to contact your child's school.

Frequently Asked Questions (cont.)

12. Will high school students still be able to take electives?

Edgenuity offers a wide range of elective courses aligned with Missouri Learning Standards. Students will be able to take elective courses that Frontier teachers have customized using the new platform. Campus high school students will continue to use Missouri Connections, as recommended by DESE, to create their I-CAP portfolios. I-CAP is an individual career portfolio that consists of self-reflection, career assessments, short videos and more detailed information about various careers and colleges. College guidance counselors will also Zoom conference individually with students to meet their college guidance needs.

13. How will my student access support services (SPED, ELL, Social Worker)?

Students and parents are given access to SPED / 504 services virtually through the same platforms as the general education programs are using such as Zoom, Edgenuity, PathBlazer, etc. Teachers will reach out to students and parents through phone calls, setting up what is needed for each student individually. Our teachers provide accommodations, modifications and services between virtual and in-person instruction, as provided per their IEP / 504.

Frontier Schools will continue to provide ELL services to our students. During virtual learning, the new program Edgenuity will provide numerous tools and scaffolds to support the ELL students. Program courses will be personalized to provide appropriate accommodations to ELL students with various language abilities, learning styles and needs. In addition, Edgenuity will offer additional ELL courses for grades 4-10 that align with WIDA standards and Missouri Learning Standards to boost learning outcomes for our English Language Learners.

Frontier Schools provides social work services in each of our buildings to give additional social-emotional support for our students and families. In addition, they are able to provide brief strength based interventions to students, resources to families and additional support services, as needed. Support staff contact information is available on the website or by contacting the front office.

For all additional questions please see the <u>District Reopening Plan</u>, which is in accordance with all CDC and local guidelines.

^{***}The information in this document is subject to change at any time. In the case changes are made, information will be sent out as soon as possible to adjust for the new changes.***