

Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy

Opening fall 2021

[Click here to view this presentation in video format with a narrative by Mr. Leath.](#)



Our purpose

We are carrying out the Denton ISD mission statement of **empowering lifelong learners to be engaged citizens who positively impact their local and global community** through a virtual learning environment.

The Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy is a public, tuition-free school, serving students in kindergarten through 8th grade. This option is for students who thrive in an online learning environment.

Who we are



We are Denton ISD staff and teachers.

Principal: Caleb Leath

Teaching staff: We are selecting current Denton ISD teachers and staff.

Staff locations: All staff will be based and work from a Denton ISD campus.

Staff Development: All staff will participate in Denton ISD staff development as well as additional staff development specialized for virtual teaching.

Who we serve

Our Virtual Campus serves Denton ISD students in Kindergarten through 8th grades, that physically reside in our district boundaries.



Sample Schedules and Middle School Courses

Sample schedules for each grade level and middle school courses are posted on [our website](#).

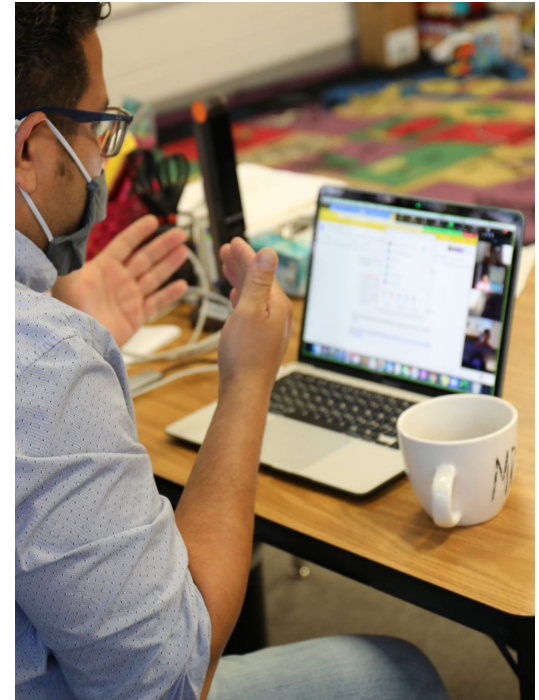
The student's school day may include:

- **Synchronous instruction:** *Two-way, real-time, live instruction between teachers and students.*
 - Including whole group instruction, small group instruction or working with peers, and/or conferencing with the teacher.
- **Asynchronous instruction:** *Time for students to work independently on assignments given by the teacher.*

Specific schedules will be created by the teachers, based on a student's needs. This will include when a student needs to be connected, or live.

K-5 Special Areas

Each week the students will have a combination of synchronous and asynchronous activities for Music, Art, and P.E.



6th–8th Grade Electives

Physical Education and Health Grades 6-8	Fine Arts	World Languages	Technology Courses	Family and Consumer Science Courses
PE 6 PE 7 (with embedded Health) PE 8 (with embedded Health)	Art 1, grade 6 Art 2 (Art 1 prerequisite) Art 3 (Art 2 prerequisite)	Spanish 7 Spanish 8 (Spanish 7 prerequisite)	Investigating Careers, grade 6 Principles of Information Technology, grades 7-8 Principles of Arts, A/V Tech, and Communication, grades 7-8	Lifetime Nutrition and Wellness, grades 7-8 -Interpersonal Studies, grades 7-8

Clubs

Clubs will be offered at a variety of levels that are age and interest appropriate. These provide an additional opportunity for students to connect through learning and connect with other students who have similar interests.

We are considering options such as Coding, Yearbook, Student Council, e-Sports, Book Clubs, STEM, Engineering, Digital Photography, and many more.

Timeline: Club options will be shared with all students the first two weeks of instruction. They will be able to choose which club to participate in.

Clubs will start the third week of school. Clubs will meet after the student's school day has completed once a week.

At the end of each nine weeks, students will have the opportunity to select a different club.

Technology needed at home

Recommended home technology

High Speed Internet (Denton ISD has WiFi hotspots available if needed)

Each student will have a Chromebook provided by Denton ISD. You are welcome to use your personal computer with a webcam and keyboard.

A mouse would be helpful, but not necessary.

Headphones with a microphone would be helpful, but not necessary if the computer has them built-in.



What are the guardian responsibilities?

- Attend one of the parent orientation events in August before the first day of instruction.
- Maintain open communication with your child's teacher and make school a priority.
- Be patient. It can take time to adjust to a virtual learning environment.
- Establish a schedule and stick with it. Understand that for the first several weeks, it will require more frequent supervision from you for your child. As you and your child adjust to the school year, this can be adjusted.
- Be prepared to frequently monitor your child's work. This will vary with grade level and student's independence.
- Set-up a school learning space. Students will need to get ready for school just like they do for a Face-to-Face campus. They will be expected to participate in class discussions and have their camera on daily.
- Arrange to pick up materials during occasional distributions.
- Students will have to travel to a location to take their state required test.
 - TELPAS for English Language Learners starting in 2nd grade and up.
 - STAAR for all 3rd-8th grade students.

How is the Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy different from Connected Learning?

Virtual Learning Academy 2021-2022

- Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy teachers will only teach Virtual Academy students, instead of having to teach Connected Learners and Face to Face learners at the same time.
- Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy students will have more options for clubs and online activities, as opposed to clubs that were cancelled due to COVID or required face to face participation.
- Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy teachers will attend professional development that is specifically tailored to our virtual campus needs.
- Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy students will be part of a virtual school community.
- Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy students will have the option to return to their Face to Face campus at the end of the semester if needed. We would prefer a commitment for the entire school year.

How to enroll?

1. Complete the Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy Commitment form.
2. Complete [the online registration process](#). Registration snapcodes will be sent over the summer.
 - a. After the online registration has been completed for your student(s), you will be sent an email with a link to digitally upload the following enrollment documents:

Returning to Denton ISD Documents Needed:

- Proof of address
- Parent ID
- Updated Immunizations

New to Denton ISD Documents Needed:

- Birth Certificate
- SSN-if available
- Proof of address
- Parent ID
- Immunization records

Next steps

Step 1. Complete the commitment form

Step 2. Stay informed and read all communication from the Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy

Step 3. Complete Denton ISD student registration this summer

Step 4. Attend parent orientation in August prior to the first day of instruction

Step 5. Have a wonderful school year

Contact Information

Principal: Caleb Leath

Denton ISD K-8 Virtual Academy Website: <https://www.dentonisd.org/k8virtualacademy>

Email: k8virtualacademy@dentonisd.org

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/DentonISDk8VA>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/DentonISDk8virtualacademy>

Have a great day and we look forward to connecting with you in the future!