



# Pampa Academic Virtual Experience (PAVE) Parent Guide 2020-2021

## PAVE Vision

Our district's Profile of a Graduate provides an inspiring look at who our students are striving to become. We believe that to truly produce students with these future-ready skills, we must rethink the work we design and the processes we ask them to use--from pre-k through graduation. PISD strives to help our students become:

- Self-directed
- Communicators
- Collaborators
- Ethical Decision Makers
- Solution Seekers
- Creative and Critical Thinkers
- Contributing Citizens



Pampa ISD is committed to providing an outstanding learning environment for all students. Teachers take pride in meeting the needs of every student to empower them to reach their potential. This year's Virtual Learning will be different from the PISD Home Learning that everyone experienced last Spring.

Virtual Learning courses will be taught by certified PISD teachers utilizing Canvas, an online learning management system used to streamline our digital resources and content for a more connected learning experience. **Pampa ISD believes that if a student cannot read and write fluently on grade level, it is in their best interest to attend school in person.**

*Please note, this document may be periodically updated in order to ensure the most current information is communicated. Updates to this document will be notated by an “updated icon”.*

## **PLEASE READ THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMMITTING YOUR STUDENT TO VIRTUAL LEARNING.**

### Virtual Learning at a Glance

- A parent must sign a commitment form that the student will complete the entire six-weeks grading period virtually and from home.
  - Switching between Virtual and In-Person instruction will be allowed at the beginning of a 6 week grading period. *The parent/guardian must initiate the process two weeks prior to the beginning of the grading period.*
  - An exception to this is students who must stay home due to illness, or quarantine according to the district’s health screening guidelines.
- Students and families can manage their own schedule to include core courses and a number of electives
  - Elective Courses will be selected by Virtual Learners just as they would for In-Person Learning. The availability of electives and other hands-on courses will be subject to availability just like for all In-Person students. Some courses will NOT be offered virtually due to the hands-on criteria for those courses. Other course options will be available for virtual students through the master schedule.
  - Pampa ISD will provide sample schedules that parents can use to meet the daily time requirements for virtual learning.
    - *Check back for links to example schedules*

- This will not be live (real-time) instruction. This option is entirely virtual and requires students to have a consistent online presence to complete their assignments. Students who enroll in the PAVE option will be required to log in daily and complete assignments online.
  - Some courses may not be available virtually (as stated above).
  - The expectation will be a full day of instruction via asynchronous learning activities collected through teacher assigned lessons that include classroom discussions, online lessons, and the completion of assignments. Asynchronous learning just means that the student works on their own through the module without a live teacher while they work. Students will, however, have access to live tutorials and virtual support sessions daily.
- Daily attendance will be collected through student engagement in these methods of lesson delivery. Students will be expected to complete and turn in daily work within the 24 hour period to receive credit for the day.
  - Example - If a student only turns in assignments on a Friday, the student is only counted present for that Friday. If the student is not engaged on Monday-Thursday, the student will be counted absent each day.
- Teachers will provide frequent feedback in the Canvas learning management system.
- Virtual Learners will still be able to participate in extracurricular activities. However, most of these activities will require that the student come to campus for portions of the day. Expectations for each activity will be provided by the coach/director/sponsor of that activity.
- Core (required) courses, including Honors, Pre-Advanced Placement (Pre-AP), Gifted and Talented (GT), and Dual Credit will be available to Virtual Learning students.
- Students who require support (special education, 504, English language learners) will have opportunities to participate in regularly scheduled virtual support sessions as well as additional supports via video conferencing following teacher recommendations.
- iPads or Chromebooks will be distributed to Virtual Learners who need them. Virtual Learners will indicate their need for devices during the registration process. Devices will be distributed through students' home campuses. There is a small usage fee for the use of a Pampa ISD device. We highly recommend using the Pampa ISD device. We learned that many home devices were not as effective and had issues connecting to the Pampa ISD network. Our network has cyber security systems embedded to protect the students from online hazards.

- Strong and consistent internet access is required at home. If you are unable to provide home wifi, there may be options for assistance. Please contact your campus counselor for more information if you need assistance obtaining wifi for your home.

## Virtual Learning Courses & Grading

All students will follow the PISD grading guidelines. Regardless of which learning option you choose for your child, the expectations for coursework and the grading system will be the same for both In-Person and Virtual Learning. PISD believes this is the most fair and equitable solution for all our students. Applicable courses in 9-12 grade will be included in calculating GPA and class rank for both In-Person and Virtual Learners.

Final grades will be posted in the official gradebook, Ascender Portal. Although there is a gradebook feature in Canvas, its use is for tracking purposes only and numerical grades in that system may not be accurate. Teachers will update grades in Ascender at least weekly. Therefore, grades reflected in the Canvas gradebook can be expected to be different from the official gradebook (Ascender). We encourage all parents and students to download the gradebook application (Ascender Parent Portal or Ascender Student Portal) so you have access to the most up to date and accurate grades.

Ascender Parent Portal *User Guide* can be found [HERE](#).

Ascender Parent Portal Login Page can be found [HERE](#).

Canvas LMS also offers Parent access through an iOS and Android App. *More information about the App will be available soon.*

## Parent Checklist for Enrolling in Virtual Learning:

1. It is strongly recommended that you read through the documents and FAQs on this page before committing to Virtual Learning.
2. If your child is in a primary grade (PreK, Kinder, First) and is still learning how to read and write on-level, we encourage you to consider sending them to face to face instruction. This is not required, but highly recommended.
3. After you have read all the information, you MUST complete the Virtual Learning commitment form by August 9, 2020
4. Regardless of the instructional method you choose for your student(s), ALL parents MUST complete the “Annual Forms Packet” for each of your students. It is linked in the enrollment form

## Student Roles and Responsibilities:

- Establish daily routines for engaging in the learning process.
- Identify a space in home where you can learn and study comfortably.
- Utilize Canvas LMS in order to engage in daily lessons and assignments.
- Complete assignments with integrity and academic honesty.
- Communicate with your teachers when you need assistance. We are here to help.
- Submit assignments daily using the Canvas LMS.
  - All assignments cannot be completed all in one day (remember daily engagement is required). They must be completed and turned in each day for attendance and credit for the day.

## Parent/Learning Coach Roles and Responsibilities:

- Establish partnership with classroom teachers to ensure a smooth transition with on-campus and remote learning.
- Establish routines and expectations.
- Assist your student in locating a space in the home that is ideal for learning.
- Monitor communication from teachers and school.
- Monitor completion and submission of class assignments daily.
- Take an active role in helping your child process their learning.
- Attend campus trainings for implementation supports.
- Use teacher office hours to help strengthen asynchronous learning.
- Contact teacher, administrators, and counselor for additional needs and supports for student learning.

## **Contact Us/Who to Contact**

- For assistance regarding a course, assignment, or resource:
  - The relevant teacher for your student
- For assistance regarding a technology-related problem or issue:
  - The PISD technology department at 669-4700
- For a personal, academic or social emotional concern:
  - Your school counselor at the campus
- For other issues related to distance learning:
  - Your campus principal or
  - Email: [pampaisdinfo@pampaisd.net](mailto:pampaisdinfo@pampaisd.net)

## **What happens after making a commitment to participate in Virtual Learning?**

During the week of August 17-21, all campuses will be hosting both in-person and virtual parent/student orientation sessions. Please follow your campus Facebook and website for details on these orientation dates/times. We encourage all parents to sign up for REMIND notices to receive important information and updates from your child's teacher and the campus via text/email through the REMIND app. Codes for the REMIND links will be communicated during the orientation sessions.

## **What is asynchronous learning?**

Instruction that does not require having the instructor and student engaged at the same time. In this method, students learn from instruction that is not necessarily being delivered in-person or in real time. This type of instruction may include various forms of digital and online learning, such as prerecorded video lessons or game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own, and pre-assigned work and formative assessments made available to students through Canvas.

## **Will students participating in Virtual Learning receive live, teacher-led instruction for the full length of a school day?**

No. A structured schedule will be provided to students indicating required times for participation. It will also include breaks and lunch. The schedule may vary by grade, course, or student. A caregiver will need to be available to support younger students in navigating the daily schedule and providing assistance with the learning as needed. Students, teachers, and parents should maintain frequent communication regarding daily schedules and assignments to ensure that students are progressing towards mastery of the learning outcomes.

## **How will Virtual Learning be different from the instruction provided during the school closure last Spring?**

Virtual Learning this year will be a full course load of instruction and assignments that is comparable to courses and instruction that students who are attending school in-person will be required to complete.

## **Will there be attendance requirements for Virtual Learning students?**

Yes, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) will require daily attendance and participation in Virtual Learning. Students will be required to participate in online classes daily and traditional attendance rules will be enforced. A student will be considered absent if the student does not engage in the designated instruction and/or independent learning activities each day.

**Will technology devices be made available to students who need them?**

Yes, iPads or Chromebooks will be distributed to Virtual Learners who need them. Virtual Learners will indicate their need for devices during the registration process. Devices will be distributed through students' home campuses. We highly recommend using the Pampa ISD device. We learned that many home devices were not as effective and had issues connecting to the Pampa ISD network. Our network has cyber security systems embedded to protect the students from online hazards.

- “While there is no usage/insurance fee due at the time of device distribution; students are responsible for repairs and replacement of the device if damages/loss occurs.”

**Will students enrolled in PAVE have access to instructional materials, (such as consumable textbooks for reading or math) or other classroom resources?**

Students may be provided with instructional materials that will vary based on the grade level and coursework of the student. Resources that can be provided digitally will be provided in Canvas. The workbooks are optional and can be used for practice and reinforcement at home. However, all assignments will still be submitted online through Canvas.

**How will student progress be reported?**

Overall progress on learning outcomes will be communicated in a “traditional” format using numeric grades. Assignments and grades will be entered into TxEIS Ascender Gradebook. The expectations for coursework and guidelines for grading will be the same for In-Person and PAVE students. Some grades will also appear in the Canvas LMS; however, these grades are not final until entered into the official gradebook in Ascender.

**Will courses taken in Virtual Learning be included in GPA calculations and class rank for high school students?**

Yes, courses taken by students participating in Virtual Learning will be included in calculating GPA and class rank in accordance with local policy.

**Will STAAR/EOC be administered in 2020-2021?**

Yes. The Texas Education Agency (TEA) has indicated that STAAR testing will still occur during the 2020-2021 school year, in compliance with state and federal legislation. We will provide updated details on state testing as we receive guidance from the state.

**Will dual credit courses follow PISD guidelines and schedules for Fall 2020?**

All students enrolled in Dual Credit courses through Clarendon College will take those courses on the college learning management system. For information on Dual Credit, contact the PHS Counselor's office at 669-4800.

**Will students in grades 6-12 who select Virtual Learning be able to participate in extracurricular activities or school-sponsored activities like athletics, band, choir, theatre, etc.?**

Virtual Learners will still be able to participate in many extracurricular activities. However, most of these activities will require that the student come to campus for portions of the day. Expectations for each activity will be provided by the coach/director/sponsor of that activity.

**Will meals be provided for students who select Virtual Learning?**

For the Fall Semester of the 2020-2021 school year, the Texas Department of Agriculture (TDA) guidelines allow students who are enrolled in PAVE to order meals from PISD. This information will be provided as soon as possible.

**Will students participating in Virtual Learning remain enrolled and still be associated with their home campus?**

Yes, students will continue to be connected to their home campus, regardless of teacher assignment. Parents will continue to receive communication from the home campus.

**Will students identified as English Learners and/or Gifted and Talented receive services during Virtual Learning?**

- ELs will receive linguistic supports provided through Canvas LMS and the opportunity to attend live office hours with their teachers.
- GT students will be able to progress through independent projects while attending live virtual sessions hosted by a GT certified teacher.



# Special Education Learning FAQs

**Will students receiving services from Special Education or 504 be eligible for Virtual Learning?**

Yes, all students in PISD will have the opportunity to choose In-Person Learning or Virtual Learning.

**Will an ARD/504 meeting be required if Virtual Learning is chosen?**

ARD and 504 meetings will be scheduled on a case-by-case basis. For students served in special education, the schedule of instructional and related services should be accurately documented in the ARD/IEP to reflect the supports and services the student requires for FAPE. A parent/guardian may request an ARD or 504 meeting at any time.

**What if my student does not currently receive 504 or special education services but I am concerned he/she might have a disability?**

Please contact your home campus to discuss your concerns.

**I have chosen Virtual Learning for my student, but he/she requires an evaluation for 504 or special education this school year. Will the evaluation also take place via virtual methods?**

If your student requires an initial or re-evaluation, the parent/guardian will be contacted to discuss the evaluation and determine components that can be completed virtually versus those components that require In-Person interaction. Appointments with evaluation staff will be scheduled at the campus to complete In-Person components.

<h1 style="text-align: center;">Virtual <span style="color: green;">or</span> In-Person</h1> <h2 style="text-align: center; background-color: yellow;">What are the differences?</h2>	In-Person	Virtual
<b>Teacher/Student Interaction</b>		
Immediate teacher interaction during <i>the school day</i> .	✓	
Delayed teacher access during <i>the day</i> .		✓
Need for supervised oversight by a "Learning Coach" at home.		✓
<b>Student Schedule</b>		
Student scheduled by period/hourly.	✓	
Student scheduled by day with intermittent scheduled activities.		✓
Student scheduled in all courses needed for promotion/graduation.	✓	✓
<b>Course(s) and Instruction(s)</b>		
Student must be engaged daily in all coursework.	✓	✓
Student predominantly receives instruction and directions in "real-time" from teacher.	✓	
Student predominantly receives instruction and directions "remotely" from teacher.		✓
All core classes are available.	✓	✓
Limited elective courses are available.		✓
<b>Instruction</b>		
Consistently scheduled access to teacher	✓	✓
Daily teacher contact/communication	✓	✓
Daily schedule provided	✓	
Primarily a self-paced daily schedule.		✓
Daily course engagement required.	✓	✓
Clear, concise directions on accessing instruction.	✓	✓
Access to appropriate instructional materials.	✓	✓
Rigorous instruction in all state standards.	✓	✓
<b>Assessment</b>		
Student progress measured by regular assessments including campus/district/state.	✓	✓
Parent access to grades.	✓	✓
Consistent grading practices. (Numerical Grades)	✓	✓
<b>Additional Supports</b>		
Access to technology devices.	✓	✓
Access to daily nutrition. (via remote pick-up locations)	✓	✓
Daily attendance/engagement required.	✓	✓
Access to UIL/extracurricular activities.	✓	✓
Special Education services provided for eligible students.	✓	✓
504 accommodations provided to eligible students.	✓	✓
ESL/Bilingual services provided to eligible students.	✓	✓
Gifted and Talented services provided to eligible students.	✓	✓
Access to tutorials.	✓	✓