



## *What Is The La Grande Virtual Learning Academy?*

### **Program Types**

*What type of online or virtual learning options are available to students and families?*

**La Grande Virtual Learning Academy:** This is a long-term educational program for students and families that want an online experience outside the traditional classroom. Provides a comprehensive program for K-12 students with licensed teachers, learning lab, and tiered curriculum.

**Virtual Access to Traditional Classroom:** This is an emergent, short-term or long-term option provided when students are absent or when the classroom, school, or district is required to engage in distance learning because of increased cases or outbreak. Content is developed by the student teacher(s) and posted daily in Google Classroom to provide seamless options for families between learning in the classroom or at home. [For more information see reference entitle \*What Does Virtual Learning Look Like For Students and Staff?\*](#)

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*The following information applies specifically to **La Grande Virtual Learning Academy** for students who attend school through our K-12 comprehensive full-time online program.*

### **History of the Program**

*How well-established is La Grande School District's online program?*

La Grande School District has spent the last four years fine-tuning our online program. Unlike other online programs, we have not actively recruited students from other districts and have quietly served students in full-time or blended schedules to meet their needs. La Grande School District helps support students and families in online learning by providing a comprehensive digital curriculum, local teachers (not someone in Colorado) that are easily accessed, a full-time online coordinator/outreach specialist, individualized schedules, student learning technology, and a learning lab that is open daily to provide focused learning time. Students in our program have full access to district clubs, sports, and activities for their grade-level. In the 2019/20 school year, we served over 75 students in our online program within our district. In 2020/21, we have partnered with IMESD to provide an even more supported and rich elementary experience and more course options for secondary students on their path to graduation. We are a leader in online in our region and excited to support your student in having a quality online experience.

### **Attendance**

*What are attendance requirements for students attending school online?*

Students engaging in online learning are required to have two-way communication with their teacher(s) twice per week as a minimum standard to avoid truancy. These attendance communications can happen through Google Classroom, through school-assigned Gmail accounts, by phone, or in-person/virtual class time.

### **Grading**

*Will students access normal grades or only access ODE mandated grade scales they experienced in Spring 2020?*

In all grade levels (K-12), standard grade scales will resume for the 2020/21 school year. Student proficiency on grade-level standards will be provided in the standards 1-4 at the elementary level and A,B,C,D and F grades at the middle and high school level. Teachers will establish due dates for all graded coursework and assessments in determining a student's grade and proficiency on grade-level standards. At the middle school and high school level, failure to complete assigned coursework would result in failing the class, loss of credit, and not maintaining on-track status or athletic eligibility. To avoid these negative outcomes, we communicate regularly (weekly) with students and parents regarding whether they are on-track to complete classes on-time and be successful in the program.

## Accessing the Online Classroom

### *When can my student access online classrooms?*

One of the benefits of online learning is that students can access their classes when they are ready to learn or families have scheduled time to support their learning. Online classes can be accessed 24/7 and provide a flexible solution to learning. Students and parents can plan to focus on one or more classes per day. However, students and parents should be aware that online learning does take focused time (about 30 minutes per class per day on average), and they should have well-established routines to be successful. Online learning is hard and requires significant time, attention, and commitment – it is not for everyone. While flexible, all students are required to complete assigned coursework within each semester to avoid negative impacts to grades and credit particularly at the middle school and high school level. See Grading for more information.

## Online Learning Platform

### *What curriculum will be used to provide online learning?*

**Grades K-6:** English Language Arts and Math – Ready/iReady Curriculum with access to diagnostics, instruction, and individualized interventions based on students strengths and weaknesses. Science, Social Studies, PE, and Specials (Art, Music, Coding, etc.) will be offered through Acellus that provides students the ability to self-pace. All instruction will be taught and supported by a certified teacher that will maintain regular communication and progress reports.

**Middle and High School:** Students will have access to two tiers of courses either through Acellus (Tier I) which is a video-based, self-paced platform or through Google Classroom (Tier II) where students access traditional classrooms across the IMESD region through established Google Classrooms. This regional approach may expand student electives choices to what districts provide across the region to engage student interest. All classes (Tier I and II) are taught by regional teachers through IMESD who maintain regular contact and support to students.

## Online Student Expectations

### *What are the expectations for my student in online learning?*

**Attend:** Students must check-in with their teacher(s) twice per week to maintain eligibility in the program and not be truant.

**Daily Class Time:** Plan on at least 30 minutes a day per class or topic. Online is more flexible but not easier.

**Communicate:** Communicate with staff when you need help. Do not procrastinate or avoid hard things. You have lots of support!

**Meet Deadlines:** Our goal is to help students move towards grade-level proficiency and graduation. All work has to be completed by the end of each semester to earn grades, credits, maintain eligibility, and maintain on-track status.

## Accessing Teachers and Support

### *How can students or parents communicate with teachers and access support?*

Students and parents can access teachers through Google Classroom, email, by phone, or through in-person or virtual meetings. There is great flexibility in the way you want to communicate with your student(s) teacher. Additionally, students and parents have access to a full-time coordinator and learning lab to support their learning. Our coordinator, Kelly Richards, is a certified teacher with multiple endorsements to help students across K-12. Student services can also be accessed through administration and assigned case managers to support students in Special Education, EL, 504, or other with other individualized needs.

## Accessing Technology

### *What if our family cannot provide technology or Internet?*

LGSD recognizes that not all students have access to stable technology or the Internet. LGSD will provide a Chromebook and/or Internet hotspot as needed so all students can access learning. Parents will be required to complete the *Technology Use Agreement* and financial liability forms to access technology. Replacement Chromebooks or Internet hotspots will not be provided until families resolve fees from lost, stolen, or damaged technology.

## Registering My Student

### *How can I register my student?*

Please contact Scott Carpenter (Director of Education Programs) at [scott.carpenter@lagrandesd.org](mailto:scott.carpenter@lagrandesd.org) or 541-663-3203 or Kelly Richards (LGVLA Program Coordinator) at [kelly.richards@lagrandesd.org](mailto:kelly.richards@lagrandesd.org) or (541) 663-3243. More information can be found at our website at: [lla.lagrandesd.org](http://lla.lagrandesd.org)