Virtual Class Guidelines   Spring 2024

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MAXIMUM of 2 Virtual Classes per student only if each is in a different category.
Virtual classes count toward the maximum of 4 total number of classes a student may have on his or her schedule.

Virtual classes are a great way to round out your student's education. Although all are educational, many elementary choices are entertaining as well, and many parents use time spent on their class as a reward for completing their regular core school work. Our middle school and high school Michigan Virtual classes have excellent, rigorous content which, when completed, can be added to the student's homeschool transcript. Foreign language exposure is advantageous for all ages, so we have several choices from which to choose. **Explore each class under the Virtual Classes tab for more information!**

All virtual classes are designed to be done from home or anywhere, please be sure to note if your class is accessible from the devices you plan to use.

If you choose a virtual class, it is expected that the content of the course AND Final Project will be completed by the end of the semester according to the virtual class guidelines.

Expect instructions and communication through email. If the student does not begin or sufficiently progress in a course by the drop deadline, the course may be dropped by our staff. Failure to make sufficient progress during the semester or submit the project may result in a 'fail' and discontinuation from the Partnership.

Final Project: All Partnership classes, including all virtual classes, are Project-Based Learning courses. Every student taking a virtual class needs to complete a **Final Project** of his or her choosing that correlates to the Learning Goal (why are you taking this class?). The project could be in the form of a written essay, video presentation, poster depicting what was learned, community experience using the subject matter learned, etc. If the class is in a foreign language, and if the Final Project is spoken in a foreign language, it must include a translation in English of material submitted. The Final Project must be completed and submitted to the Mentor Teacher by the end of the semester.

Ambitious students who complete an entire virtual course and project will have the option of adding any another course from our list during the semester (including core subjects).

Access to Virtuals: Access to virtual classes will begin as soon as you receive your usernames and passwords shortly after the semester begins. Access information comes in an email from Tina Kohler, usually during the first week of school. Classes, except for Michigan Virtual, are available during Christmas break and some may continue through the summer.

All classes are semester-based. Classes vary in the length of time they take to complete. All are designed to take approximately 1 - 1.5 hours per week to complete, but the pace is up to the student as long as adequate progress is shown throughout the semester. Longer, more intense classes have been divided in order to facilitate completion within a semester while averaging 1.5 hours of work per week.

Please note: All Partnership classes, including virtual classes, are Project-Based Learning courses. All students must complete a project for these classes. It is important to make as informed a decision as possible when choosing your student's Virtual classes. You will receive an info letter for your Virtual class with your registration confirmation which will include the date deadline to drop your virtual class. The school cannot pay for classes that students do not complete, so choose wisely; **if you do not take the class off of your student's schedule by the deadline, you may be asked to pay for the class.**

Virtual Class Requirements:
Students must start their virtual class prior to Count Day or they risk being removed from the class without warning. Students must also show sufficient and consistent progress on their virtual class throughout the semester. Students must meet the minimum number of hours or assignments outlined below in their non-core virtual classes by the end of the semester for the course requirement. The registration form checkbox states that students will **complete or attend 80% of each class for which they are registered.**

Letter grades are not assigned, but progress will be monitored by our staff to address issues as they arise and help students resume activity. If a family has login or computer or internet issues, please notify us immediately so we can help. Students who do not meet the minimum virtual requirements by consistent progress and have poor semester-end results will be given a 'no credit' grade in PowerSchool and disqualified from taking another virtual course in the Partnership in the future. Students with completed classes

but missing the final project may be placed on probationary status for the following semester and will receive a 'no credit' grade in PowerSchool. A student on probationary status needs to complete the missing work from the previous semester plus the requirements of the current semester's work in order to return to good standing. **If the student still demonstrates poor compliance during the probationary period, the student receives a "no credit" as the grade and will not be able to continue in the Partnership thereafter.**

The following goals need to be achieved in order to receive a "pass" for the class:

> Middlebury World Languages: At least 80% completion of 6 Units for K-2 group or 8 Units for 3-5 group, and completion of Final Project.
> Michigan Virtual: At least 80% completion of the chosen class, and competition of the Michigan Virtual Final Exam and Final Project.
> The Animation Course: At least 80% completion of the class, and completion of Final Project.

Computer Requirements:
All virtual classes work best with a high speed internet connection. Some dial up connections and air cards will not permit the programs to function properly. If you have a slow connection, you may want to plan on using a high speed connection at your local library for your virtual classes. A loaner laptop may be checked out at the Virtual Lab upon request if available.