



2020 - 2021 Program Guide

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Welcome

Welcome to the 2020 - 2021 school year at the River Valley Virtual Academy (RVVA). We are excited that you have chosen to join us on this journey! We believe the opportunities we offer at RVVA will prepare you for success in your future educational career as well as provide you with valuable skills for learning throughout your life.

Mission

The River Valley Virtual Academy will offer personalized learning for students, blending a virtual curriculum with service opportunities and real world experiences. Partnering with families and communities, the River Valley Virtual Academy will provide K-12 students flexible learning choices which offer support and acceleration to promote college, career, and citizenship readiness.

Contacting Connections for Support

- Connexus Technology Support 1- 844- 597-3224
- WebMail assigned teachers in Connexus
- River Valley Virtual Academy 479-471-3165
- River Valley Virtual Academy Cell 479-434-7055

Remind 101 Text Message Service

- Send a text to the following number 81010
- Enter in the message line @64ag29

Follow Us on Social Media

- Facebook- River Valley Virtual Academy
- Twitter- @RVVirtualAcad

Emergency Closures

- Go to www.vbsd.us
- Click on Mobile Text Alerts

Car Drop Off and Pick-Up

Students are dropped off and picked up at the entrance to RVVA. Students will sign-in and out when attending the virtual academy.

Academic Support Session

To schedule an Academic Support Session at the RVVA, please call 479-471-3165. Academic Support Sessions are a great way for students enrolled in the RVVA to get extra assistance throughout the week.

Enrollment

- Students currently enrolled or referred to the IZARD Center for Learning must be dismissed prior to enrollment at RRVA.
- Enrollment Process:
 - Students complete a two-week orientation prior to enrollment.



- After completing the two-week orientation, families meet with the RVVA Coordinator for enrollment.
- RVVA students must take a minimum of 7 courses unless approved by RVVA Coordinator.

State Testing and Other Services

- Students enrolled at the River Valley Virtual Academy will participate in the statewide assessments. Testing requirements are mandated by Arkansas law.
- Attendance is required on-site in the Van Buren School District for all state assessments.
- Students enrolled in K-2 are required to attend a minimum of 5 days on-site. During this time, students will be assessed. Time spent on campus will be determined by the RVVA support teacher.
- Students who qualify for Gifted and Talented will receive services on-site in the Van Buren School District. The GT Coordinator will arrange for GT services on-site.
- Students who qualify for Special Education services will receive services on-site in the Van Buren School District. The Special Education Director will arrange for services on-site.

Tips for a Successful Virtual Learning Experience

- Check WebMail in Connexus at least daily.
- Maintain regular communication with assigned teachers as well as staff at the River Valley Virtual Academy.
- Attend weekly academic support sessions at the River Valley Virtual Academy.
- Stay on track with daily lessons scheduled within the Planner.
- After you watch a video or read a section, take notes about the key points. Be involved in the lesson.
- Write down questions, pretest questions, quick checks. Work out the problem on paper and then answer on the computer.
- Write down all vocabulary. The vocabulary is used throughout the lessons and assessments.
- Take notes as you work through the lessons.

Process for Attendance Monitoring

- Student attendance is monitored through time spent in Connexus and lesson completion.
- The RVVA Coordinator or teacher will contact parents when students are not progressing in the curriculum.
- All lessons scheduled during the week need to be finished by Sunday at midnight. On Monday morning, attendance will be determined based on lessons not completed the following week.
- This procedure will allow flexibility within the week, but also help encourage students to complete lessons in a timely manner.
- Please remember that students who are inactive for 10 consecutive days will be dropped from the program. In addition, let us know if you will not be able to complete work due to vacations, illnesses, etc. so we can make note in regards to attendance.
- Students not making progress within a course may be required to come on campus the River Valley Virtual Academy to complete coursework.
- Students who are inactive for 11 days will be reported to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.
- *Students please refer to Board Policy 4.2, 4.2.3, 4.2.4, 4.2.5*

Grading Scale and Grade Reports

- A 90% - 100%
- B 80% - 89%
- C 70% - 79%
- D 60% - 69%
- F 59% or below

Students receive 4 ½ week progress reports online through Connexus. Report cards are available online.

High School

- **Smart Core**
 - Students please refer to Board Policy 4.45 and 4.45.1
- **High School Diploma**
 - Students please refer to Board Policy 4.45.2
- **Graduation Requirements**
 - Students please refer to Board Policy 5.14
 - RVVA students will participate in graduation ceremonies with the Van Buren High School and IZARD Center for Learning.
- **GPA**
 - Students please refer to Board Policy 5.21
 - GPA is calculated with RVVA students only.
- **Course Catalog and Offered Courses**
 - RVVA students can enroll in courses at VBHS if the course is not offered at RVVA. A course catalog can be located on the Van Buren High School website.

Field and Volunteer Experiences

- Field trips and volunteer experiences are scheduled four times a year. Students are required to participate in field trips and volunteer experiences. If a student chooses not to participate in field and volunteer experiences, families will need to make-up the experience and report volunteer or field experience to RVVA.

Personalized Learning Plans

- Students in grades K-12 will create Personalized Learning Plans. Students can create the plans on-site at RVVA or with the assistance of their learning coach.

Van Buren School District Student Policies

- Students enrolled in the River Valley Virtual Academy will follow Van Buren School District board policies.
- Policies can be found at www.vbsd.us.
- Students at RVVA are expected to obey all rules and policies established by the Van Buren School District, RVVA, and individual teachers.

Building Procedures for Appearance Code

Students please refer to Board Policy 4.3.4—Appearance Code

Computer Check-Out

Students who check-out an RVVA computer must return the computer twice per month.

Library Services

The Van Buren Public Library is available to all River Valley Virtual Academy students. Students are encouraged to check out books at the public library. If you are interested in accessing library books through the Van Buren School District, please contact the RVVA at (479)471-3165.

Health Screenings

The following health screenings are offered to students attending the River Valley Virtual Academy:

- Vision and Hearing Screenings: Grade Levels PK, K, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8
- Scoliosis (curvature of the spine): Grade Levels 6 and 8
- BMI (Body Mass Index): Grade Levels K, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10

To schedule a health screening please contact the RVVA Coordinator at 479-471-3165.

Counseling Opportunities

School counselors are available to all River Valley Virtual Academy students. Please contact the RVVA if you would like to schedule an appointment.

Video Surveillance and Other Student Monitoring

Video/recording devices may be in use in school buildings, on school grounds, and in school vehicles as determined by the VBSD. Refer to policy 4.48 for more information.

Bullying

RVVA will follow all VBSD policies regarding student conduct and bullying. Refer to policy 4.3.6-Student Conduct-Bullying.

Frequently Used Terminology

- Caretaker- Users in Connexus are assigned the Caretaker role and may be responsible for such tasks as; marking student attendance, tracking progress on student assessments, making changes to the student's Planner and Scheduler, and making changes to the student's account, which affects enrollment and withdrawal.
- Connexus- The registered term that describes Connections Education's online education management system that connects us. It is the virtual system that contains all resources necessary for its various types of uses to complete their daily task and responsibilities.
- Course Tree- The outline that appears adjacent to the lesson viewer. It lists all unit and lesson titles in each course and links to the associated content and assessments.
- Drop Box- The tool students and Learning Coaches use to submit portfolios electronically.
- Learning Coach- The Connections Education term used to describe the role that a parent/guardian plays in the student's educational experience. The only difference between the Learning Coach and Caretaker role is the Caretaker's authority to make decisions regarding enrollment and withdrawal.
- Live Lesson Session- Connections Education's virtual meeting space that allows teachers to create and lead interactive, real-time classes.
- Planner- The Connexus tool that is similar to an electronic date book, showing and providing access directly to a student's scheduled lessons.
- Scheduler- The Connexus tool that Learning Coaches and teachers use to customize how lessons are distributed on a student's Planner. The scheduler is the heart of the Individual Learning Plan.
- WebMail- This secure, internal electronic mail system within Connexus is used by school-based staff to communicate with students and Learning Coaches.
- Academic Support Session- Weekly work session with Support Teacher at the River Valley Virtual Academy.

July						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

August						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

September						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

Grading Periods

Grading Period 1: Aug. 24 – Oct. 20 (40 days)
 Grading Period 2: Oct. 21 – Dec. 18 (40 days)
1st Semester – 80 days

Grading Period 3: Jan 4 – Mar 12 (49 days)
 Grading Period 4: Mar 15 – May 28 (49 days)
2nd Semester – 98 days

TOTAL: 178 Student Interaction Days

January						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

February						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

Significant Dates

August 24	1 st Day of School
September 07	Labor Day
October 13	Parent Conf. 3:30 – 6:30
October 15	Parent Conf. 3:30 – 6:30
October 16	No School
November 23-24	Virtual Learning Days
November 25-27	Fall Break
Dec 21-Jan. 1	Semester Break

March						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

January 04	Second Sem. Begins
January 18	No School
February 15	Virtual Learning Day
March 16	Parent Conf. 3:30 – 6:30
March 18	Parent Conf. 3:30 – 6:30
March 19	No School
March 22-26	Spring Break
April 02	Virtual Learning Day
May 28	Last Day of School
May 31	Memorial Day


April						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Virtual learning days are designated in orange on the calendar. On virtual learning days school buildings will be closed. Students and staff will be working remotely.

May						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29


June 1-7, 2021 are designated as additional school days in the event of inclement weather or other emergency circumstances.

June						
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



2020-2021

Student Calendar



River Valley Virtual Academy Parent Involvement Plan Summary 2020 - 2021

We believe that a partnership must exist between our parents and our school. We promote positive communication between the school and our students' homes. The school provides a variety of opportunities for parents to be involved in activities supporting our school. We believe teachers have a responsibility to provide the needed framework for parents to nurture their child's formal instruction at home. We will provide materials that can successfully be used at home to reinforce the academic success of children. The district will reserve a minimum of 1% of the Title I, Part A allocation for parental involvement. It is our goal to provide an atmosphere where parents are able to express their views and to assist in problem solving. We want parents to understand that we view them as joint policy and decision makers and plan to emphasize their roles as advocates.

Our goals for this school year are as follows:

School staff will use a variety of communication strategies to provide additional information to parents and to increase parental involvement in supporting classroom instruction.

Annual report to the public, informational packets for each parent, survey for parent regarding his/her interests in volunteering, school program guide, parent workshops, newsletters, Remind 101, school's social media sites, report cards, and orientation for new students.

The school will hold parent meetings, conferences, and activities regularly throughout the year to increase parental involvement and build staff and parent capacity to engage in these types of efforts.

The school will hold regular meetings to keep parents informed about their child's learning. The school will provide instruction to parents to help with learning activities in the home that will help enhance their child's learning. The school will hold two conferences with parents.

The school will provide information to parents about volunteer opportunities.

The school will provide a list of volunteer opportunities and solicit ideas for other types of volunteer efforts for parents/guardians. The school will provide parents and community members with information to make the experience pleasant and successful.

The school will provide an opportunity for parents to engage in decision-making processes in regarding the school's program.

The school will involve parents/guardians on school improvement committees and curricular and instructional review committees.

The school will provide a parent resource center for parents.

The school will engage parents in an evaluation of parental involvement efforts.

**4.13 F--OBJECTION TO PUBLICATION OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION
(Not to be filed if the parent/student has no objection)**

I, the undersigned, being a parent of a student, or a student eighteen (18) years of age or older, hereby note my objection to the disclosure or publication by the Van Buren School District of directory information, as defined in Policy No. 4.13 (Privacy of Students' Records), concerning the student named below. The district is required to continue to honor any signed opt-out form for any student no longer in attendance at the district.

I understand that the participation by the below-named student in any interscholastic activity, including athletics and school clubs, may make the publication of some directory information unavoidable, and the publication of such information in other forms, such as telephone directories, church directories, etc., is not within the control of the District.

I understand that this form must be filed with the office of the appropriate building principal within ten (10) school days from the beginning of the current school year or the date the student is enrolled for school in order for the District to be bound by this objection. Failure to file this form within that time is a specific grant of permission to publish such information.

I object and wish to deny the disclosure or publication of directory information as follows:

Deny disclosure to military recruiters _____

Deny disclosure to Institutions of postsecondary education _____

Deny disclosure to Potential employers _____

Deny disclosure to all public and school sources _____

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), **AND** result in the student's directory information **not** being included in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

Deny disclosure to all public sources _____

Selecting this option will prohibit the release of directory information to the first three categories listed above along with all other public sources (such as newspapers), but permit the student's directory information **to be included** in the school's yearbook and other school publications.

Name of student (Printed)

Signature of parent (or student, if 18 or older)

Date form was filed (To be filled in by office personnel)

Approved by the Board of Education 05/08/18

4.13 F– OBJECCIÓN A LA PUBLICACIÓN DE INFORMACIÓN DEL DIRECTORIO (No debe ser archivado si el padre / estudiante no tiene objeción)

Yo, el abajo firmante, siendo padre de un estudiante o un estudiante de dieciocho (18) años de edad o más, por la presente notifico mi objeción a la divulgación o publicación por parte del Distrito Escolar de Van Buren de la información del directorio, como se define en la Política No. 4.13 (Privacidad de los registros de los estudiantes) , relacionado con el estudiante mencionado a continuación. Se requiere que el distrito continúe cumpliendo con cualquier formulario de exclusión firmado para cualquier estudiante que ya no asista al distrito.

Entiendo que la participación del estudiante mencionado más abajo en cualquier actividad interescolar, incluidos atletismo y clubes escolares, puede hacer que la publicación de alguna información de directorio sea inevitable, y la publicación de dicha información en otras formas, tales como directorios telefónicos, directorios de iglesias, etc. , no está bajo el control del Distrito.

Entiendo que este formulario debe presentarse en la oficina del director de la escuela correspondiente dentro de los diez (10) días escolares desde el comienzo del año escolar actual o la fecha en que el estudiante se inscribió en la escuela para que el Distrito quede sujeto a este objeción. No presentar este formulario dentro de ese tiempo es una concesión específica de permiso para publicar dicha información.

Me opongo y deseo negar la divulgación o publicación de la información del directorio de la siguiente manera:

Negar la revelación a los reclutadores militares _____

Negar la divulgación a las instituciones de educación postsecundaria _____

Denegar la divulgación a los empleadores potenciales _____

Negar la divulgación a todas las fuentes públicas y escolares _____

Al seleccionar esta opción, se prohibirá la publicación de información de directorio a las tres categorías mencionadas anteriormente junto con todas las demás fuentes públicas (como periódicos), **Y se obtendrá información del directorio del alumno que **no** se incluirá en el anuario escolar y otras publicaciones escolares.**

Negar la divulgación a todas las fuentes públicas _____

Al seleccionar esta opción, se prohibirá la publicación de la información del directorio en las tres primeras categorías mencionadas anteriormente junto con todas las demás fuentes públicas (como periódicos), pero se permitirá que la información del directorio del alumno **se incluya** en el anuario escolar y otras publicaciones escolares.

Nombre del alumno (Impreso)

Firma del padre (o estudiante, si tiene 18 años o más)

El formulario de fecha fue archivado (debe ser completado por el personal de la oficina)

Aprobado por la Junta de Educación 08/05/18