
**KEEPING YOUR CHILD
CONNECTED TO THE
AVONWORTH SCHOOL
COMMUNITY!**

2020-2021
School Year

Avonworth Virtual Academy



**AVONWORTH TEACHERS + AVONWORTH
CURRICULUM + AVONWORTH STUDENTS =
ACADEMIC SUCCESS!**



Welcome to the Avonworth Virtual Academy!
We are thrilled that you have chosen our virtual option for the 2020-2021 school year. We acknowledge that in-person instruction in the traditional model of school is best. However, given the current challenges we are all facing with this pandemic, we have designed the Avonworth Virtual Academy to provide our families and students with a fully virtual option. Why do we feel the Avonworth Virtual Academy is the best virtual option for your child? That is simple! There are no better teachers than our Avonworth teachers and no better curriculum than the Avonworth School District curriculum.



Avonworth Virtual Academy Points of Contact



K-6 Avonworth Virtual Academy
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What to Expect



Engaging Curriculum
Personalized Learning



Flexible Schedule



Emotionally and Physically Safe
Learning Environment



Self-Paced



Table of Contents

[Avonworth Virtual Academy Important Terminology](#)

[Student Services Information](#)

[Avonworth Primary & Elementary Virtual Academy Information](#)

[Avonworth Primary & Elementary Virtual Learning Time Expectations](#)

[Avonworth Primary & Elementary Sample Virtual Schedule](#)

[Avonworth Middle & High School Virtual Academy Information](#)

[Avonworth Middle & High School Virtual Learning Time Expectations](#)

[Avonworth Middle School Sample Virtual Schedule](#)

[Avonworth High School Sample Virtual Schedule](#)





Avonworth Virtual Academy Important Terminology



Asynchronous Learning – learning that the student engages in on his/her own by accessing assignments and activities posted by the teacher. These assignments or activities may come in the form of recorded video lessons, recorded examples, recorded texts read-aloud, discussion boards/apps, projects, etc.

Synchronous Learning – learning that occurs by joining a live session with the teacher and his/her classmates. Students will join a synchronous session using Google Meet. During a synchronous session, the teacher may engage students in a variety of activities such as, live review of content or concepts, question & answer, Socratic seminar, topic discussions or review, presentation of student work, direct instruction of misconceptions, and also focus on social interactions between students.

Students are expected to attend synchronous lessons as this will be the time that critical information and instruction occurs directly from the teacher. Synchronous time is also critical as this is the opportunity for students to interact directly with the teacher.

Independent learning – learning that occurs as an extension of the activities the teacher has engaged the student in during asynchronous or synchronous learning time. This time may be spent in a variety of ways, such as reading, writing, researching, completing an assignment, etc.

Session – the term “session” in this document is used to describe a prescribed time set aside for some form of learning. These learning sessions may occur asynchronously, synchronously, or independently.

Office Hours – a scheduled time during a school day that the teacher has set aside so that his/her students can contact them for support. A student may contact his/her teacher to ask questions or to get assistance with an assignment/concept, request the teacher provide a review of previous instruction, or to get feedback on his/her work. The student and teacher can connect during the teacher’s scheduled office hours using email, Google Meet, or via the Learning Management System (Seesaw K-2; Google Classroom 3-6 & 9-12; Echo 7-8).



Student Services Information

Avonworth Virtual Academy students that receive services through the Avonworth School District Student Services Department will continue to have access to all services he/she should receive as part of a 504 Plan, IEP, or GIEP. The student services team is a coordinated group of professionals providing specialized services such as psychological counseling, school counseling, health/wellness, student assistance, and social work to students within the Avonworth School District. The student services staff will work with students/families on a case-by-case basis to ensure students' needs are being met in the virtual environment. Staffing decisions are being made prior to the start of the school year to ensure proper staffing is in place to support students in the virtual environment. Our Virtual Academy Coordinators will be sharing schedules reflecting support opportunities at their respective levels (K-6 and 7-12) once staffing is complete.

English Language Learners

English as a Second Language staff will work with families to assist in making choices for their selection of options and to assist with any student needs while attending school in the Avonworth Virtual Academy.

504 Plans

The Avonworth School District will ensure student support through Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. When appropriate, the District will reach out to families to address individual student needs based on attending school in the Avonworth Virtual Academy.

Special Education

Avonworth School District has strived to maintain compliance according to state (Chapter 14 of 22 PA Code) and federal (IDEA) regulations. While your child is attending school in the Avonworth Virtual Academy, the Avonworth School District will remain committed to working with the parents/guardians of Students with Disabilities to provide individualized instruction based on each student's needs. Upon returning to school, case managers will address student-specific needs arising from the transition back into school buildings while considering whether or not a student has experienced a regression of skills and/or lack of progress. If regression and/or a lack of progress is present, the IEP team will identify opportunities for recovery, including additional, new, or different services and accommodations. If the District is required to transition from one instructional model to another or the family decides to transition their child from the Avonworth Virtual Academy to an in-person model, case managers will schedule a parent/teacher conference to discuss the contents of the IEP and create this individualized continuity of learning plan. When working with students through alternative delivery models, the school or District should make a good faith effort to determine how a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) will be provided and should consider the following:



- Appropriate resources
- Equal access to learning and required materials
- Ability to provide the services and supports in the IEP
- Parents/guardians, students, and staff training
- Communication processes
- Related Services
- Instructional Assistants
- Assistive Technology

Gifted Programming

The Avonworth School District GATE program provides enrichment and a broad spectrum of educational opportunities while encouraging individual learners to develop personal responsibility, task commitment, self-discipline, independent learning skills, respectful conduct, and social/emotional balance. Enrichment and educational opportunities will be made available to students while attending school in the Avonworth Virtual Academy.





Avonworth Primary Center & Avonworth Elementary School

The Avonworth Virtual Academy for our K-6 students will provide a comprehensive educational program consistent with the educational program provided if attending Avonworth Primary or Avonworth Elementary. There will be no difference between the academic goals for students attending school in-person or our K-6 students attending school via the Avonworth Virtual Academy. Teachers will address all academic content areas and critical foundational skills through their virtual instruction. Students will engage in a balance of synchronous, asynchronous, and independent learning in core content areas. Synchronous math and reading lessons will occur daily. Students will also participate in a daily synchronous lesson conducted by a special area teacher (maker/computer science, art, music, physical education, or library). The goal of the Avonworth Virtual Academy is to create a consistent routine for learning that will provide a meaningful and engaging learning experience for our students.

K-6 Weekly Learning Time Expectations:

Note: Teachers will create the final virtual schedule based on what is age and grade-level appropriate with regard to the length of synchronous sessions using the times below as a guide.

Subject	Synchronous Learning	Asynchronous Learning	Independent Learning	Teacher Office Hours
English Language Arts	90-200 Minutes/Week Multiple Sessions	60-100 Minutes/Week Multiple Sessions	10-20 Minutes Daily	30-Minutes Daily
Math	90-200 Minutes/Week Multiple Sessions	60-100 Minutes/Week Multiple Sessions	10-20 Minutes Daily	30-Minutes Daily
Social Studies & Science	60-100 Minutes/Week Multiple Sessions	60-100 Minutes/Week Multiple Sessions	10-20 Minutes 2x Per Week	30-Minutes 2x Per Week
Art	One 45-Minute Session Per Week			
Music	One 45-Minute Session Per Week			
Library	One 45-Minute Session Per Week			
Maker/Comp. Sci.	One 45-Minute Session Per Week			
Physical Ed.	One 45-Minute Session Per Week			
School Counselor	One 45-Minute Session Per Week	*Counselor Lessons May be Asynchronous		
Intervention / WIN	Scheduled as Needed			





Accessing Learning for Students in Grades K-2:

Students in grades K-2 will utilize their District-issued iPad to access learning via [Seesaw](#). Seesaw is an extremely student-friendly application that works wonderfully on the iPad. Students will access lessons and submit assignments using Seesaw. Teachers are also able to provide feedback to students directly through Seesaw. Parents/guardians also have easy access to viewing their child's work and teacher feedback which helps to keep the child, parent, and teacher connected and working together as a team for the best interest of the child.

Accessing Learning for Students in Grades 3-6:

Students will utilize their District-issued iPad in grade 3 or Chromebook in grades 4-6 to access learning via Google Classroom. If you would like a basic overview of Google Classroom, please click [HERE](#). Google Classroom is our learning management system for students in grades 3-6. Students will have separate classrooms for each content area, as well as each special area. Teachers will post weekly schedules/agendas, assignments, resources, and lesson videos/information in Google Classroom. Students will easily be able to access their learning through Google Classroom, turn in assignments, and get feedback through communication with their teaching using Google Classroom.

Grading:

Feedback and grading will be similar to what students would experience in the traditional model of school. Teachers will set grade level and age-appropriate expectations for students. Teachers will engage students in a variety of learning activities that will be utilized to gauge student learning and progress. Teachers will provide feedback to students to assist both the student and parent with monitoring academic progress. Virtual teachers will use the same grading and assessment system used in the traditional model of school. Students in the Avonworth Virtual Academy will receive a report card the same way they would if attending school in-person.

Attendance:

Regular school attendance is critical for a student to maintain his/her academic progress. Students in the Avonworth Virtual Academy are expected to attend daily (synchronous and asynchronous sessions) and to complete all assigned work. The student/parent will be responsible for recording attendance for the student on a daily basis. Attendance will be recorded using our new student information system, Alma. Specific directions on how to record attendance will be provided.





K-6 Daily/Weekly Schedule in the Avonworth Virtual Academy:

Students engaged in the Avonworth Virtual Academy will have a daily and weekly schedule designed by their virtual teacher. Our K-6 teachers will use the learning time expectations outlined above to create a balanced, age-appropriate daily and weekly schedule for their virtual classroom students. We believe our teachers know their students best and therefore, the final schedule will come from the teacher. However, we will provide you with a sample schedule below to provide you with an idea of what a virtual day/week may look like in the K-6 Avonworth Virtual Academy.

Sample K-6 Virtual Student Schedule:

NOTE: Please contact your child's teacher for accommodations if a scheduled synchronous session cannot be attended.

Content Focus	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
English Language Arts Block	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours
Science & Social Studies Block	Asynchronous Learning Independent Science/Soc. St. Work	Synchronous Learning Independent Science/Soc. St. Work	Counselor Check-In or Lesson	Synchronous Learning Independent Science/Soc. St. Work	Asynchronous Learning Independent Science/Soc. St. Work
Special Areas	Art Synchronous Lesson	Music Synchronous Lesson	Physical Education Synchronous Lesson	Maker/CS Synchronous Lesson	Library Synchronous Lesson
Break	Brain Break	Brain Break	Brain Break	Brain Break	Brain Break
Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
Math Block	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours	Synchronous/Asynchronous Learning Independent Work Office Hours
Misc.	WIN/ Intervention GATE/Inclusion (as needed)		WIN/ Intervention GATE/Inclusion (as needed)		WIN/ Intervention GATE/Inclusion (as needed)





Avonworth Middle School and Avonworth High School

The Avonworth Virtual Academy for students in grades 7-12 will provide a comprehensive educational program consistent with the programming students experience at Avonworth Middle or High School. There will be no difference between the academic goals for students attending school in-person or our students in grades 7-12. The teachers that Avonworth students would have for a course/class if attending in-person will be the same teachers they will have for a course/class in the Avonworth Virtual Academy. Teachers will provide students with a combination of synchronous, asynchronous, and independent learning. Students will also have access to teachers during daily scheduled office hours should they have a question, need support, or need to review a concept/content with the teacher. The goal of the Avonworth Virtual Academy is to create a consistent routine for learning that will provide a meaningful and engaging learning experience for our students.

Grading:

Feedback and grading will be similar to what students would experience in the traditional model of school. Teachers will set grade level and age-appropriate expectations for students. Teachers will engage students in a variety of learning activities that will be utilized to gauge student learning and progress. Teachers will provide feedback to students to assist both the student and parent with monitoring academic progress. Virtual teachers will use the same grading and assessment system used in the traditional model of school (Echo in the Middle School and Alma in the High School). Students in the Avonworth Virtual Academy will receive a report card the same way they would if attending school in-person.

Attendance:

Regular school attendance is critical for a student to maintain his/her academic progress. Students in the Avonworth Virtual Academy are expected to attend daily (synchronous and asynchronous sessions) and to complete all assigned work. The student/parent will be responsible for recording attendance for the student on a daily basis. Attendance will be recorded using our new student information system, Alma. Specific directions on how to record attendance will be provided.

7-12 Weekly Learning Time Expectations:

Subject	Synchronous Learning	Asynchronous Learning	Independent Learning	Teacher Office Hours
Course/Class	Two 30-Minute Sessions Per Week	Three 30-Minute Sessions Per Week	15-20 Minutes Daily	Teacher Available 60-Minutes Daily





7-12 Daily/Weekly Schedule in the Avonworth Virtual Academy

Students engaged in the Avonworth Virtual Academy will have a daily and weekly schedule designed by their virtual teacher. Middle and high school teachers will use the learning time expectations outlined above to create a balanced daily and weekly schedule for their virtual students. Coordination of schedules will need to take place between teachers to create a final virtual schedule. However, sample schedules are provided below to give you an idea of what a virtual day/week may look like in the middle and high school Avonworth Virtual Academy.

Sample 7-8 Virtual Student Schedule:

NOTE: Please contact your child's teacher for accommodations if a scheduled synchronous session cannot be attended.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Synchronous Science (30 min)	Synchronous ELA/World or ELA/Civics (30 min)	Synchronous Reading (30 min)	Synchronous Science (30 min)	Synchronous ELA/World or ELA/Civics (30 min)
Synchronous Math (30 min)	Synchronous ELA/World or ELA/Civics (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)	Synchronous Math (30 min)	Synchronous ELA/World or ELA/Civics (30 min)
Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)
Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)
Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)
Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)
Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)
Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)
Synchronous Reading (30 min)	Synchronous Special 1 (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)	Synchronous Special 1 (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)
Synchronous Band/Chorus (30 min)	Synchronous Special 2 (30 min)	Synchronous Band/Chorus (30 min)	Synchronous Special 2 (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)





Sample 9-12 Virtual Student Schedule:

NOTE: Please contact your child's teacher for accommodations if a scheduled synchronous session cannot be attended.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Synchronous Science (30 min)	Synchronous English (30 min)	Synchronous Band/Chorus (30 min)	Synchronous Science (30 min)	Synchronous English (30 min)
Synchronous Math (30 min)	Synchronous Social Studies (30 min)	Synchronous Foreign Language (30 min)	Synchronous Math (30 min)	Synchronous Social Studies (30 min)
Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)
Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)
Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)	Asynchronous Learning (60 min)
Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)	Lunch (60 min)
Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)	Independent Learning (60 min-as needed)
Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)	Break (30 min)
Synchronous Foreign Language (30 min)	Synchronous Elective 1 (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)	Synchronous Elective 1 (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)
Synchronous Band/Chorus (30 min)	Synchronous Elective 2 (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)	Synchronous Elective 2 (30 min)	Asynchronous Learning (30 min)

