

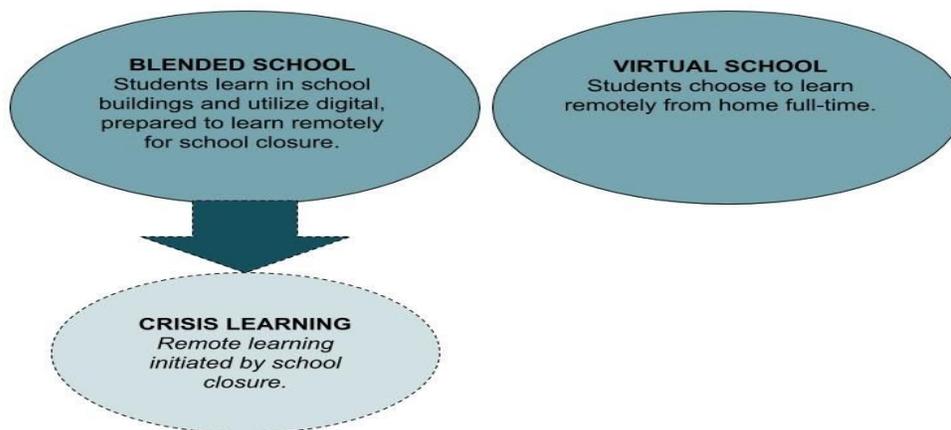


## BENTONVILLE SCHOOLS VIRTUAL

Bentonville Schools, like other school districts around the world, must consider multiple learning options for students for the 2020-2021 school year. Returning to traditional school, as we have previously experienced it, seems unlikely due to the restrictions required to provide a safe environment during the COVID-19 pandemic. The goal of Bentonville Schools is to continue learning excellence while keeping the safety of all families a priority. Learning may look very different based upon the modality chosen, but the standard of education remains the same. Nothing less than excellence will be provided.

## LEARNING DELIVERY MODELS

What families see as traditional learning will evolve to **Blended Learning** which is primarily face to face instruction but established in a digital format that allows for rapid transition to virtual learning if needed. The Blended Learning plan looks much like traditional school in that students report to school for a full day of instruction on each school day. In the event of inclement weather or pandemic restrictions, students would transition to learning from home one or more days. **Virtual Learning** is remote learning with rare instances on the school campus. **Crisis Learning** is when all students, in one school or the entire district, move to remote learning.



## **BENTONVILLE SCHOOLS VIRTUAL**

K-12 Virtual School will be available for all students within Bentonville Schools. This learning modality is not successful for all students. Families must consider the characteristics that lead to a successful virtual experience for students:

- Self-motivated
- Independent Learner
- Computer Literate
- Good Time Management
- Effective Communicator
- Personal Commitment
- Academic Readiness
- Technologically Prepared

Families who select Bentonville Schools Virtual will provide the home support needed to shepherd their children through the education process with more and sometimes significant support for younger school age students. Early elementary students focus deeply on learning foundational skills like reading and critical mathematical skills. As students mature, less direct parent guidance should be required to be successful if the student possesses independent study skills and strong time management skills.

Students who are not on grade level, need professional intervention, or special services may elect to participate in virtual but are best served by a Blended school environment. However, students who have severe underlying medical conditions, including heart or lung disease or diabetes or are at risk for severe illness may be advised to participate in virtual learning for that student's safety. Students who choose the Blended Learning model will be required to follow all safety regulations shared by the District that are established by the Arkansas Department of Health, Division of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and Arkansas Governor Asa Hutchinson.

Bentonville Schools Virtual is a form of digital learning where content is delivered via the internet. BSV is a form of asynchronous learning which allows families to learn on a schedule that best fits their personal needs. Examples include email, online discussion forums, message boards, pre-recorded video lessons, etc. Teachers will schedule frequent synchronous opportunities to communicate through google hangouts or phone calls to maintain social and emotional connections.

## **TECHNOLOGY REQUIREMENTS**

Efficient home internet is necessary for your child to have a successful virtual education.

## CURRICULUM

Unlike the 2019-20 Crisis Virtual program which focused on essential skills, Bentonville Schools Virtual will provide a much more in-depth and comprehensive curriculum comparable to content taught in the traditional school environment. Students can expect to dedicate approximately four hours per day to instruction to include some digital, interactive, and product development components.

## ASSESSMENT

All students including virtual and blended will participate in Bentonville's assessment system so student growth can be closely monitored. Some of these tests will occur at a student's school; others may be taken virtually. The following assessments are required of Bentonville students:

- MAP (K-10) Fall, Winter, Spring (At school administration)
- ACT Aspire (3-10) (At school administration)
- ACT 11th (At school administration)
- PSAT 10th (At school administration)
- APAST (K-4) Virtual
- AQPA (K-4) Virtual
- Math - Fact Fluency Assessment (K-4) Virtual
- Acadience (5-8 literacy) (At school administration)
- Gloss & CBA (5-8 math as needed) (At school administration)

**What are my educational options in Bentonville Schools for 2020-2021?** All students living within the Bentonville Schools Zone have the opportunity to attend blended in-person or virtual school. If conditions require, the District may call Crisis Virtual learning for all students in one school or the entire District where students would continue to learn remotely.

### **When I choose an option, how long is my child committed to that learning modality?**

When families choose virtual or blended, the student must complete the semester with the option of changing upon one semester's completion. If a child returns to blended learning at semester, he/she will be placed where a class seat is available which may not be the zoned school.

**Do I have to provide my own computer?** No, all students in Bentonville Schools are provided a Chromebook for use that remains the property of the school district. Families are required to purchase Chromebook insurance, which is available through the District for \$20. Payment may be made at [mypaymentsplus.com](http://mypaymentsplus.com).

**Can my student mix and match virtual and traditional?** No, students must select Blended (in-person) or virtual. Virtual students may participate in AAA activities in person at the school beginning in 6th grade. This includes, orchestra, band, choir, athletics. Students must attend at least one class in person on the campus to participate in a AAA activity. The activity can be the one class on campus if provided during the school day.

