

District-Provided Virtual Instruction: Attendance Tracking and Other Requirements

When providing students with virtual instruction, the District shall take the following measures to comply with Idaho Code and to ensure this instruction is of high quality. The District shall:

1. Ensure the District's virtual instruction upholds the same academic quality and rigor as in-person instruction.
2. Use academic measures determined by the Board of Trustees in consultation with the Superintendent to ensure students are consistently meeting established learning goals.
3. Obtain accreditation for any stand-alone virtual school that provides instruction to students in grades 9-12 as required by law and by Policy 2800.
4. Use a learning management system to deliver courses. This system may be used to track student attendance through such measures as login data and participation data.
5. Ensure that all content and curriculum is aligned with Idaho Content Standards and District's approved curriculum.
6. Ensure that teachers are consistently available to:
 - a. Communicate with students about the academic and other class requirements;
 - b. Guide students through course material;
 - c. Provide individualized learning methods and assistance as needed; and
 - d. Assess student work, including the work of students with special learning needs;
7. Clearly define the roles, responsibilities, and performance expectation for educators delivering virtual or hybrid instruction. Educators must understand that existing District policy is applicable as well as requirements of state and federal laws and regulations including but not limited to, Child Find, FERPA, mandatory reporting, the Code of Ethics for Idaho Professional Educators, and the Parental Rights Act.
8. Plan in detail and provide professional development tailored to the virtual school environment. The Board directs the Superintendent or their designee to create this plan and ensure it is implemented.
9. Ensure that virtual school students receive appropriate teacher-to-student interaction, including timely and frequent feedback on student progress by checking in via electronic communication.
10. Verify student attendance by tracking each student's actual hours of attendance of virtual instruction in accordance with a procedure to be promulgated by the Superintendent.
11. Create a plan to provide technical support for online course delivery. The Board directs the Superintendent or their designee to create this plan.
12. Create opportunities for virtual students to interact with each other.
13. Formally and systematically evaluate the effectiveness of virtual instruction.

These requirements shall apply regardless of whether the virtual instruction is:

1. Provided as part of hybrid instruction model or through a program of virtual-only education; or

2. Provided at a District building, at the student’s home or in another location, or at a combination of these.

The Board directs the Superintendent to ensure each of the above is completed and to promulgate procedures when required to implement the practices listed above.

The District shall document or direct its schools to document that all requirements outlined in this policy have been met and shall provide such documentation to the State Department of Education upon request.

Legal Reference: I.C. § 33-1612 Thorough System of Public Schools
 I.C. 33-1619 Virtual Education Programs
 I.C. 33-5202A Definitions
 IDAPA 08.02.01.250 Pupil Accounting and Required Instructional Time

Policy History:

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