

2021-2022 WCPSS Virtual Academy

Updates

WCPSS Board of Education Work Session

April 20, 2021

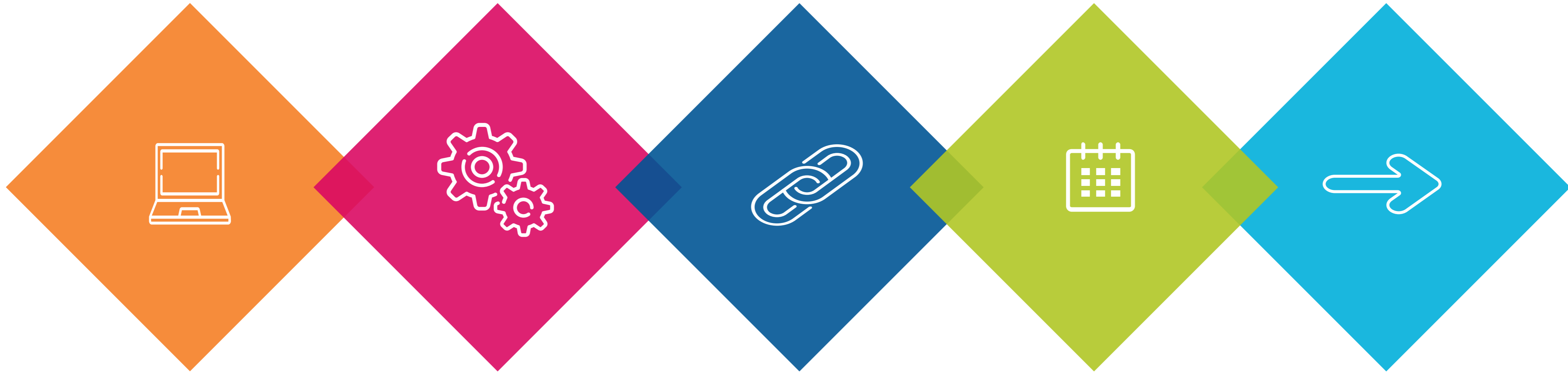
Dr. Edward McFarland, Chief Academic Advancement Officer

Drew Cook, Assistant Superintendent for Academics

Alicia Miller, Director for Curriculum and Instruction



Agenda



Vision,
Purpose, & Goals

Program
Structure &
Instructional
Design

Student,
Family, &
Teacher
Responsibilities

Registration
Process

Future
Action Steps





Vision, Purpose, Goals

WCPSS Vision

All Wake County Public School System students will be prepared to reach their full potential and lead productive lives in a complex and changing world.

2021-2022 Virtual Academy Purpose

The purpose is to offer a virtual learning option for WCPSS students and families.

2021-2022 Virtual Academy Goals & Objectives

- Provide students with access to all required core curriculum classes as well as select elective courses.
- Integrate digital resources with evidence-based instructional practices to meet students' individual needs.
- Establish an equitable and inclusive learning environment that focuses on the success of each student.
- Provide opportunities to connect students to the school and community.
- Support the social, emotional, and physical well-being of all students.

Program Structure

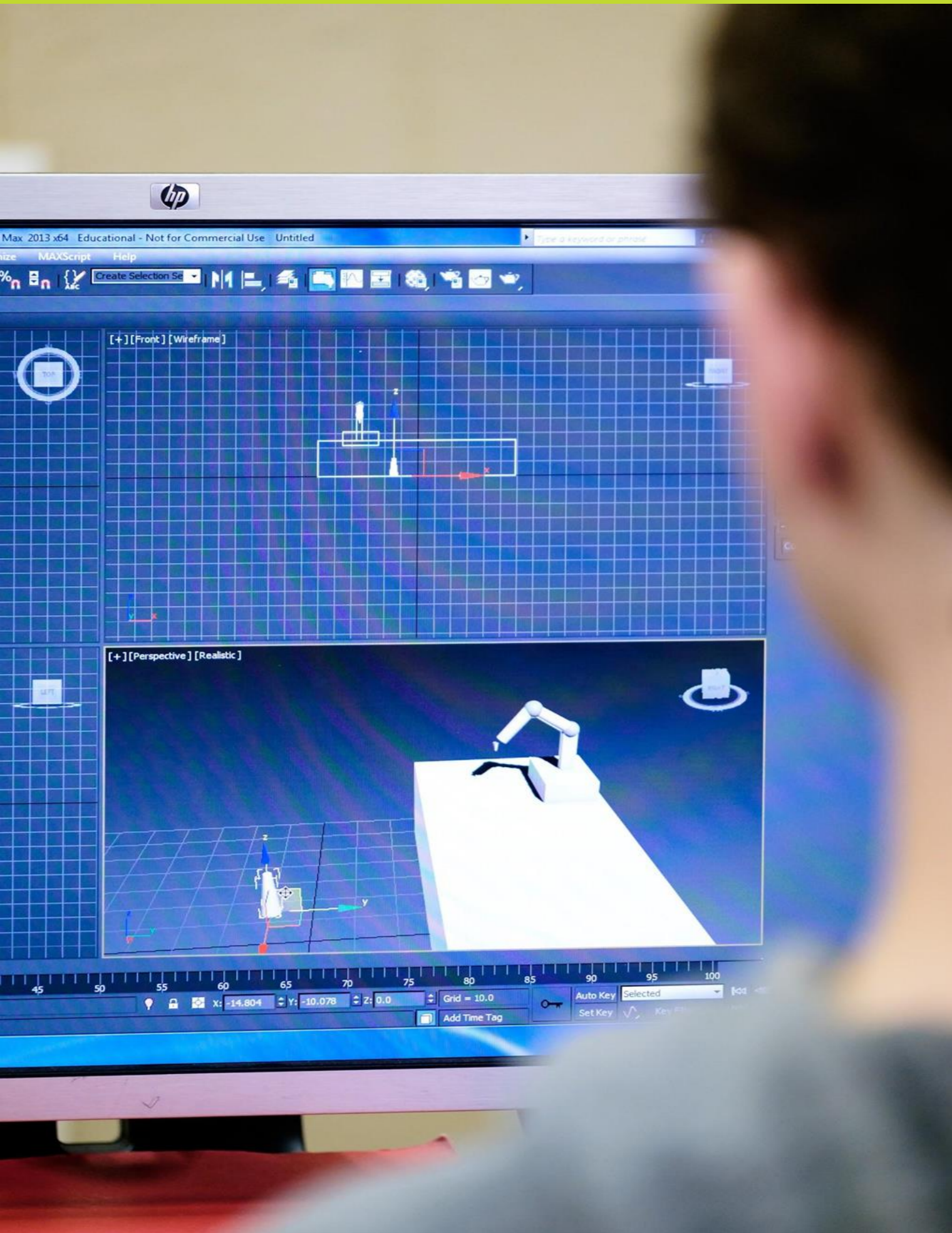


- The Virtual Academy will remain as a program within a school for next year with additional centralized curricular and structural supports to enhance consistency of instructional delivery and student experience.
- The Virtual Academy will be provided for students in grades K-12, with a virtual option in PreK.
- K-12 students & families who participate in the Virtual Academy will be permitted to participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities including athletics through their current school. Transportation will not be provided.

Program Structure

The Virtual Academy will be offered at all schools except for the Early Colleges, Leadership Academies, Alternative Schools, and Crossroads Flex High School and some intensive Special Education Programs.

- Mount Vernon Middle School
- River Oaks Middle School
- SCORE Academy
- Connections Academy
- Wake Young Women's Academy
- Wake Young Men's Academy
- North Wake College and Career Academy
- Wake STEM Early College High School
- Vernon Malone High School
- Wake Early College of Health and Sciences
- Mary Phillips High School
- Longview High School
- Crossroads FLEX High School
- Bridges Program
- Extended Content Regional Programs
- Occupational Course of Study Programs



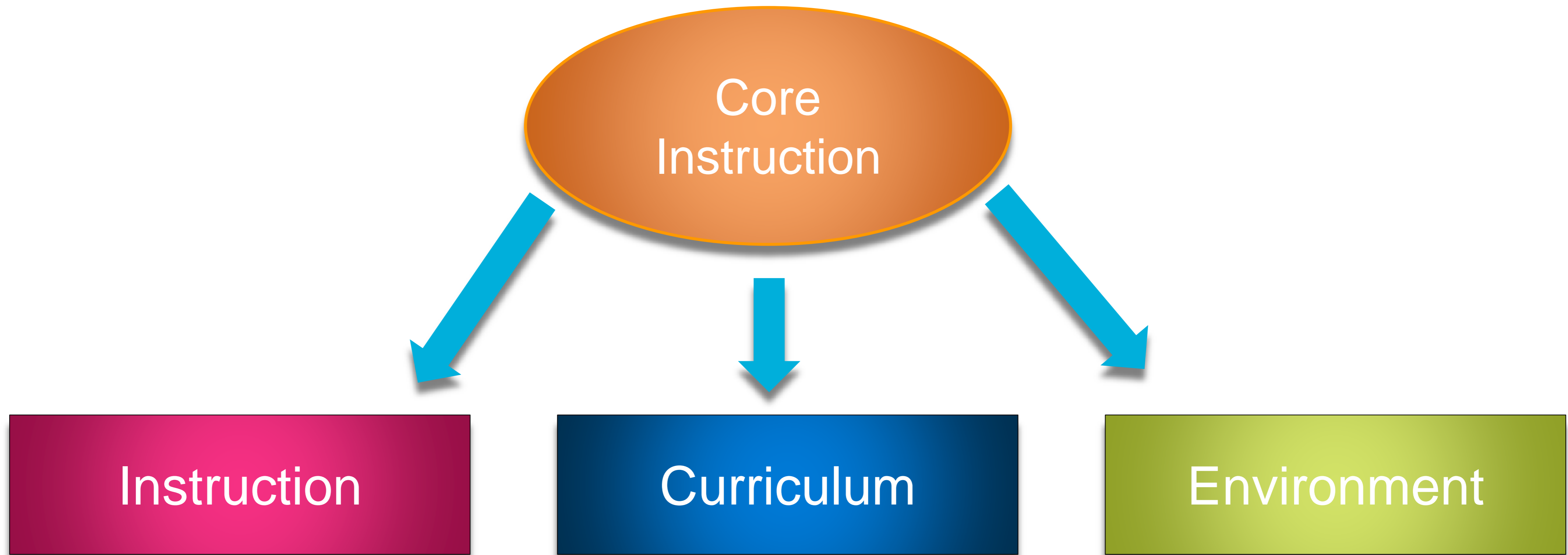


Virtual Academy Calendars

The WCPSS Virtual Academy calendar will align with each school's calendar:

- For traditional calendar schools, the WCPSS Virtual Academy program students will follow the traditional calendar.
- For modified calendar schools, the WCPSS Virtual Academy program students will follow the modified calendar.
- For single track year-round calendar schools, the WCPSS Virtual Academy program students will follow the single-track year-round calendar.
- For multi-track year-round calendar schools, the WCPSS Virtual Academy program students will follow the Track 4 calendar.

Instructional Design





Instructional Design

- Grading structures will be consistent with [Board Policy 3400](#).
- Classes and course options in 2021-2022 will include standards aligned instructional content and social/emotional support across all K-12 grade levels.
- Students will experience an intentional effort on the part of their school's staff to make meaningful connections and to create a true classroom community.
- Supports and services for AIG, ESL, Intervention, 504 Plans, IEPs, etc. will be provided by the student's assigned school.



Instructional Schedules

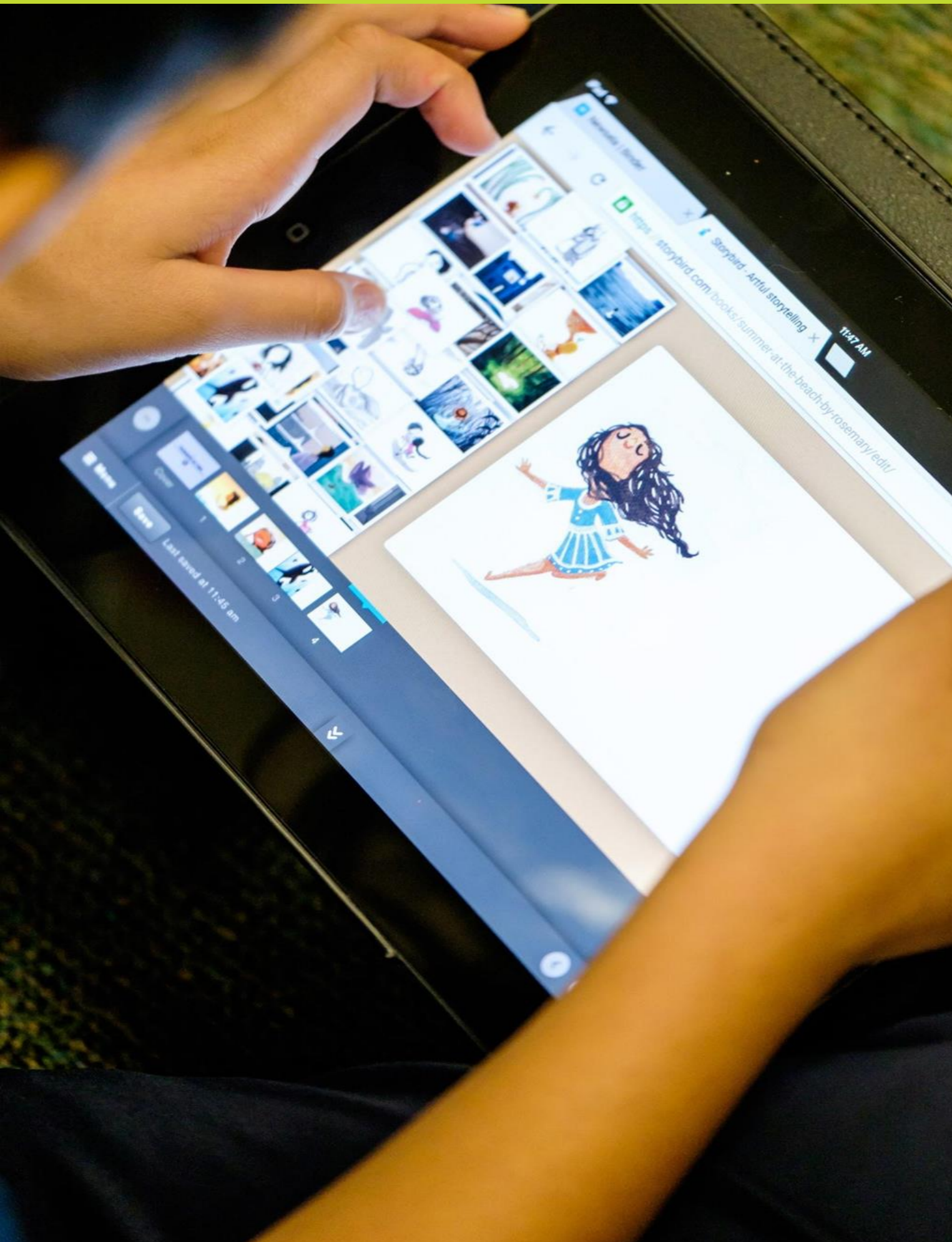
- Students / families should expect instruction to occur Monday - Friday.
- Students will receive approximately 6 hours of instruction, which will include a combination of live, real-time instruction and/or completion of assignments.
- Of the 6 hours, a minimum of 3 hours of live instruction per day is to be expected.
Note: Time may increase beyond the baseline based on teacher discretion and/or grade level.
- Schools will establish the instructional schedule.



Course Offerings

- K-8 and high school core courses, including accelerated courses, required for graduation will be offered.
- Select elective courses will be offered.
- Due to the uniqueness of each individual magnet program/theme, students who elect to participate in the Virtual Academy in the 2021-22 school year may not be guaranteed the full magnet program offered for the theme of their assigned magnet school.
- To the degree possible, students will be assigned teachers from their current school. However, in some cases, students may be assigned to teachers from different schools within the district to form classes courses.

Technology Devices and Supports



- Devices will be provided.
- Families who need assistance with internet access should contact the school social worker.
- Guides to Technology for Parents and Students will continue to be provided.

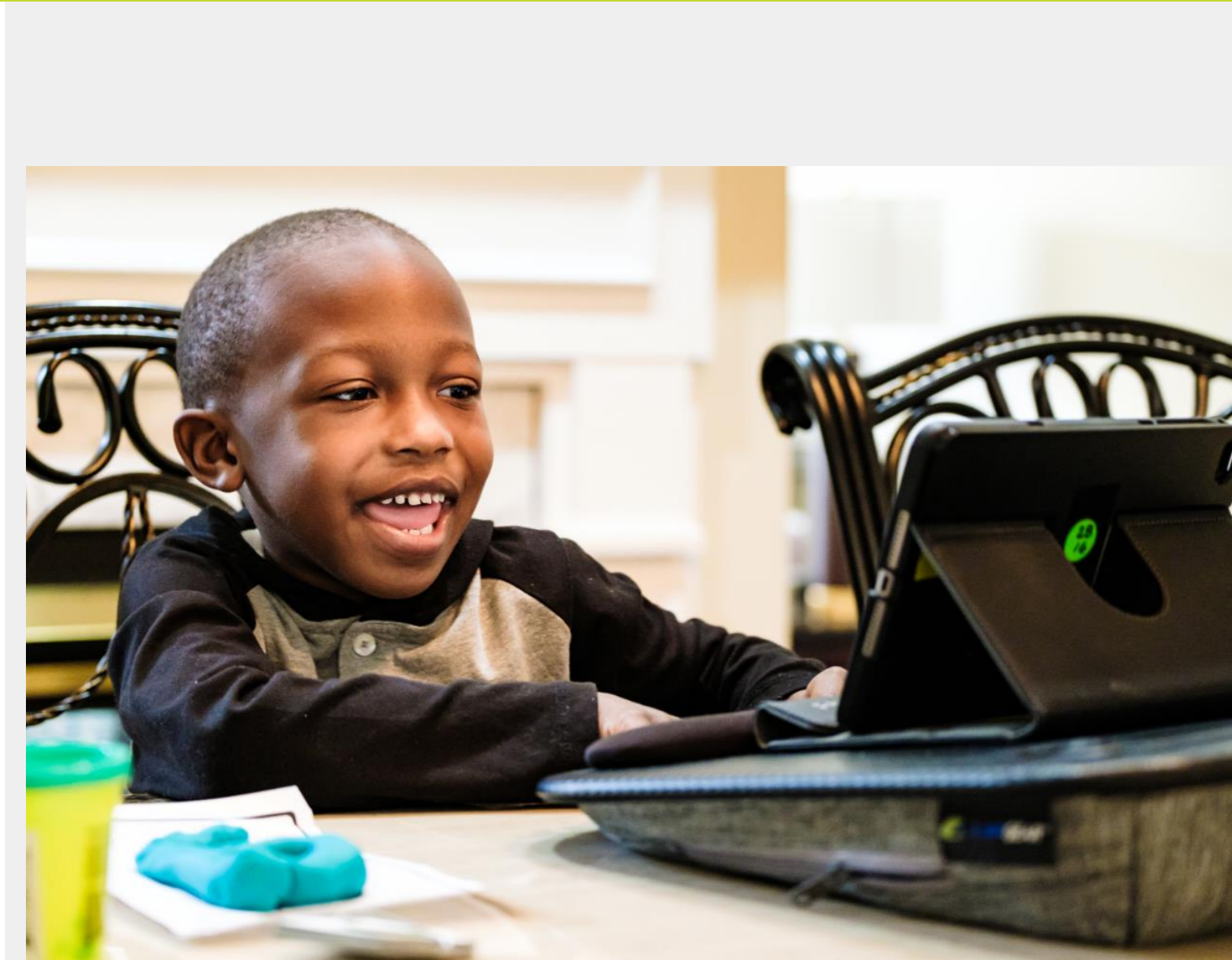


Attendance

In alignment with WCPSS attendance [policy code 4400](#):

- To be counted present a student must be in attendance at least one-half of the student school day.
- If a student must miss school, a parent or guardian must communicate with the student's teacher or attendance office within two days of the student's return after an absence. Failure to communicate will result in the absence being coded unexcused.
- In the event of an excused absence, the opportunity to make-up missing work will be provided. The student or parent is responsible for finding out what assignments are due and completing them within the specified time period.

Pre-K Virtual Option



- In-person instruction is best for our youngest learners
- If families have health or safety concerns, they may request the virtual option
- Daily schedule is a combination of live instructional time and family asynchronous time
- Students will be provided with an iPad
- Registration to align with our pre-k student placement timeline

Dialogue and Questions

WHAT   
STARTS
 HERE
CHANGES
 EVERYTHING.



Teacher Responsibilities

Virtual Academy teachers will be available for the entire school day and work from their school building in order to carry out their daily operational and instructional responsibilities.

Responsibilities will include:

- District provided curriculum and digital resources.
- Instructional strategies for active learning, application, participation, and collaboration in the virtual environment
- Daily live instruction.
- Positive and safe virtual learning environment.
- Virtual behavior expectations, routines and procedures.
- Regular communication and posted office hours.



Student Responsibilities

- [WCPSS Student Code of Conduct](#)
- Academic Integrity
- Virtual, Self-Paced, Orientation
- Attendance and Engagement
- Daily Live Instruction and Completion of Assignments
- [WCPSS Technology and Student Responsible Use Policies](#)
- District and State-Mandated Assessments
- Communication and Collaboration



Family Responsibilities

- Virtual, self-paced, orientation.
- Partnership with student and teacher(s) to promote a positive learning experience.
- Environment conducive to student learning.
- Communication with teacher(s) as needed.
- Availability to meet with school staff.

Virtual Academy Registration



- The registration window: **April 22 - May 2.**
- Families will be asked to commit to the entire 21-22 school year.
 - The district will reassess the required one year commitment at the semester break if vaccines for children are widely available. The district will also re-evaluate registration in Virtual Academy if the COVID-19 pandemic surges again.
- Families will receive confirmation letters by May 12.
- Remain assigned to their current school.
- Any current WCPSS family who wants to register after the window closes on May 2 needs to contact their child's school. Principals will determine admission to the WCPSS Virtual Academy based on availability in courses/classes. Admission will not be guaranteed.

Virtual Academy Registration



Statement of Understanding:

The WCPSS Virtual Academy provides students an opportunity to participate in virtual learning. Assignment to the Virtual Academy requires a special commitment of time and effort from the students and their parents/guardians. All instruction and services will be delivered virtually. This commitment requires that, upon assignment to the WCPSS Virtual Academy, you agree to keep your child in the program for at least one full school year. If at any time during the year, your child is not meeting the stated responsibilities for the WCPSS Virtual Academy, your child may be required to be returned to in-person instruction at the assigned school.

WCPSS Virtual Academy Communication

WCPSS Virtual Academy Website

Community Open House & Messages



Virtual Academy 2021-22

- Overview
- Program Structure
- Instructional Design
- Student, Family and Teacher Responsibilities
- Registration Information
- Community Open House
- Frequently Asked Questions

Home > Programs > Virtual Academy 2021-22

Virtual Academy 2021-22



Relationships among students, teachers and families are the foundation for a successful learning experience. That is why we eagerly await the time when we can once again see all students in person each and every day.

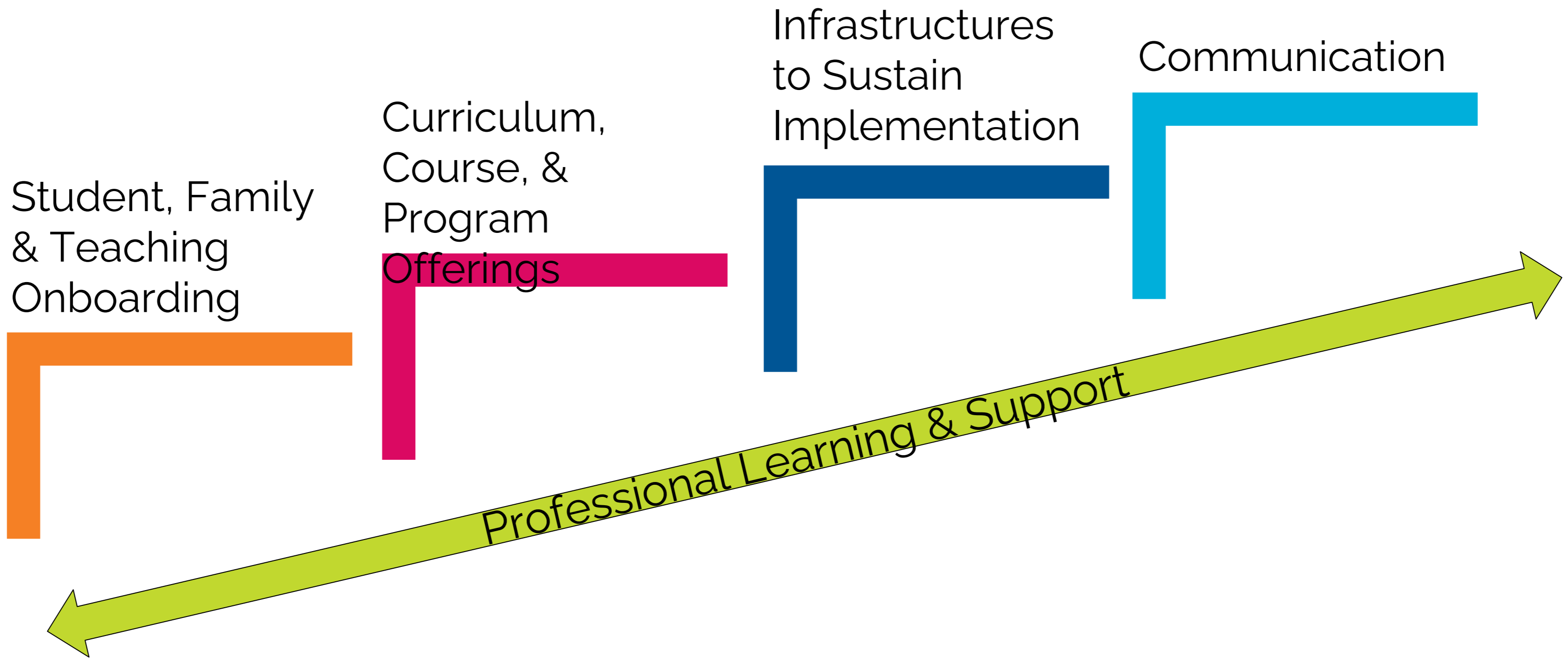
→ Registration

The WCPSS Virtual Academy for the 2021-22 registration window will open no sooner than April 22, 2021. Once it's open, parents will find a link to register here.

→ Is Your Child Enrolled?

Parents of students not currently enrolled in

Planned Action Steps



Dialogue
and
Questions

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