



21st Century eSchool Frequently Asked Questions:

Q: May I enroll my non-high school student in just one or two online classes?

A: No, at this time our district does not have that option. Students in grades K-8 must take at least four online courses. That option is available at the high school level.

Q: What is the difference between virtual school and home school?

A: Virtual schools have an established curriculum, the student has an assigned teacher and, at the high school level, the courses count toward a high school diploma. It is important to realize, though, that online school is not necessarily easier for the parent. Since the student may never see their teacher face-to-face, the parent (or learning coach) plays an essential role in keeping the student on track, helping the student navigate the assignments and providing the first line of support.

Q: Does my student have to enroll at the beginning of the school year?

A: District residents may switch to the eSchool at any time. Non-district residents must apply through the open enrollment process in February and, per the terms of the open enrollment policies, be enrolled by the 3rd Friday of the school year.

Q: What does it cost to attend the eSchool?

A: Because the eSchool is a public virtual school, there is no tuition for District residents and non-residents approved through open enrollment. Like in our traditional schools, students will be responsible for providing materials such as printer ink and paper.

Q: How much time do students spend on the computer?

A: Generally, children in grades K-5 do about 20-30 percent of the work online. They do much of the work offline -- reading books, solving math problems on paper, drawing, and conducting science experiments. Middle and high school students have more refined reading skills, so instruction and activities involve increased computer use, according to educational standards. However, offline work will always be essential.

Q: Who do I contact with further questions or to enroll my student in the program?

A: You can contact Kim Gauen at kgauen@mcpasd.k12.wi.us or by phone at 608-829-9027. She will get you any necessary enrollment forms and information.