

# Pendleton Virtual Learning Academy



## K-8 Handbook 2020-2021



Pendleton  
School District

# Pendleton School District

*Every Student, Every Day*

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## Pendleton Virtual Learning Academy (PVLA)

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Online Registration

Grades K-6: <https://forms.gle/BqMMiemHdepVYcCk7>

Grades 7-8: <https://forms.gle/4qpwQkzVG33moirK9>

Grades 9-12: <https://forms.gle/VDe6RkLXB7AJQVF88>

# Introduction

## PVLA Philosophy

The Pendleton Virtual Learning Academy is a full-time online K-12 school experience outside the traditional classroom. Our program has all the typical classes your child would have if attending school in person. It is a comprehensive program for K-12 students with licensed certified teachers, learning labs and tiered curriculum.

## Academic Engagement

It is important for parents and students to understand that failure to meet attendance requirements or meet weekly progress goals may result in a change of placement. We rely on parents and students to work with us to make learning a priority and to cultivate an environment where learning is successful.

## Attendance

As per Oregon Department of Education guidance, attendance will be taken once per day for students in K-6 and taken daily for each scheduled class for grades 7-8. Research shows that attendance is an important factor in student achievement.

## What counts as attendance

- Signing in and completing work in Acellus or Google Classroom
- Attending a live video meeting
- Turning in completed assignments
- Taking an assessment
- Contacting the teacher via chat, text message, email, or communication app

## Absence

A student absence at PVLA is defined as any time a student fails to meet adequate academic progress as defined on the Academic Calendar AND fails to communicate twice in one week either online, face to face, or on the phone, with their teacher.

## Adequate Academic Progress

Adequate academic progress is defined as completing the percentage of a course equal to or greater than the minimum percentage outlined on the Academic Calendar to ensure the course is completed by the semester deadlines.

# Student Behavior Expectations

The PVLA rules include all those listed in this handbook and any changes posted on the school website or distributed to students and their parents and any other roles clearly communicated to students by the PVLA staff. Following the PVLA rules is necessary to help create a supportive environment for student success.

## Student to Teacher Communication

With any and all communication between the student and teacher it is expected that a student will abstain from any form of vulgarity, slang or jargon, or inappropriate subjects. This includes all methods of communication such as electronic, verbal, or written. Students may not use inappropriate language, discuss inappropriate topics or make disrespectful comments based on ethnicity, gender, creed, sexual orientation, race, disability, national origin, language spoken or marital status toward any Pendleton School District student or in the presence of Pendleton School District staff. Threats and intimidation are in violation of Pendleton School District expectations and will not be tolerated. Please immediately alert your teacher if you become aware of inappropriate behavior by a PVLA student toward another student or a staff member. Violation of this expectation is grounds for disciplinary action.

## Plagiarism

PVLA students are expected to do their own work and cite the work of others as appropriate. Plagiarism is the willful presentation of some else's previously written, published, or copyrighted material as one's own. Such material may include work that appears in print, on-line, or in audio or video formats. Copying work from another student may be regarded as plagiarism if done without consent and if credit is not given to the original writer. Penalties for plagiarism may include failing the assignment in question, failing the course or project, failing the trimester, or being subject to a dismissal hearing. PVLA may choose at its discretion, to employ plagiarism-detection software.

## Cheating

PVLA expects any student's individual work to be solely the result of his/her own effort. The penalty for cheating may include failing the assignment, project or exam in question, failing the course, or doing alternative assignments to earn credit for that assignment.

# Courses

## Elementary Program (Grades K-6)

| English Language Arts                                                                                 | Instructors                                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Grade-level or based on individualized plan<br>-iReady Diagnostics<br>-Ready Core - Reading & Writing | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• K-1 Kristen Simpson</li> <li>• 2 Megan Tochtermann and Trina Butler</li> <li>• 3-4 Rachel Olsen</li> <li>• 5-6 Annetta Evans</li> </ul> |
| Math                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Grade-level or based on individualized plan<br>-iReady Diagnostics<br>-Ready Core                     |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Science                                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Carolina Biological online resources<br>STEM Hub coordination                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Other                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Social Studies, Physical Education, Health, and Music                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                  |

## Middle School Program (Grade 7-8) *See descriptions below*

| English Language Arts                                                                                           | Physical Education & Health                                                                                                                                                   |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| English Language Arts 7 (AC & GC)<br>English Language Arts 8 (AC & GC)                                          | Health/PE - Intro to SEL (AC only)                                                                                                                                            |
| Math                                                                                                            | Electives                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Math 7 (AC & GC)<br>Math 8 - Pre - Algebra (AC & GC)                                                            | Intro to Foods (GC only) semester class offered semester 1 and semester 2<br>Coding 1 (GC only) semester 1<br>Coding 2 (GC only) semester 2<br>Investigating Career (AC only) |
| Science                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Science 7 - Earth Science (AC & GC)<br>Science 8 - Physical Science (AC & GC)                                   |                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Social Studies                                                                                                  |                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Social Studies 7 - World History/Early Civilizations (AC & GC)<br>Social Studies 8 - Early US History (AC & GC) |                                                                                                                                                                               |

# 7th-8th Grade Course Descriptions

## English Language Arts

### GRADE 7

#### English 7 - Google Classroom

Taught by Ayla Olson - North Powder School District

7th grade English Language Arts courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Beyond emphasizing different uses for language, these courses may also include using language (particularly written text) to construct meaning and connections.

### GRADE 8

#### English 8 - Google Classroom

Taught by Ayla Olson - North Powder School District

8th grade English Language Arts courses build upon students' prior knowledge of grammar, vocabulary, word usage, and the mechanics of writing, and include the four aspects of language use: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. This course will use various genres of literature to improve reading skills, and will link writing exercises for different purposes to those reading selections.

# Math

## GRADE 7

### Math 7 - Grade 7 Math - Common Core - Acellus

Teacher of Record Elizabeth Shane - Morrow County School District

In the Acellus Grade 7 Math course, after a thorough review of basic operations, Mr. Mark Rogers demonstrates how to solve real-world problems by applying basic concepts of Algebra and Geometry and by using proportional relationships. Students are also shown how to use statistical data to make inferences and how to use and evaluate probability models.

### Math 7 - Google Classroom

Taught by Kyle Sipe - Umatilla School District

7th grade math will emphasize proficiency in skills involving numbers and operations; measurement; patterns; functions; algebraic formulas; geometry; and concepts of data analysis; including statistics and probability.

## GRADE 8

### Math 8 - Grade 8 Math - Pre-Algebra - Common Core - Acellus

Teacher of Record Elizabeth Shane - Morrow County School District

The 8th Grade Math course is designed to help students become High School ready by ensuring they have a firm understanding of middle school mathematical concepts. Course topics include:

- Algebraic Expressions with Integers
- Rational Numbers and Exponents
- Applying Irrational Numbers to Pythagorean Theorem
- Transformations
- Angles and Pairs of Lines
- Volume of Circular Solids
- Linear Functions
- Systems of Linear Functions
- Scatter Plots

### Math 8 - Google Classroom

Taught by Kyle Sipe - Umatilla School District

8th grade math emphasizes skills involving numbers and operations, measurement, patterns, simple functions, algebra, geometry, statistics, and probability.

# Science

## GRADE 7

### Science 7 - Earth Science - Acellus

Teacher of Record Kelly Balnicky - La Grande School District

The Acellus Earth Science course provides an opportunity to study the earth on which we live. The course investigates the earth's structure and composition, its changing surface and the role that energy plays in earth systems. It explores the earth's ecological resources and atmosphere, its water cycle and weather. It further discusses the earth's landmasses and its relationships with its neighbors in space. Along the way, students are shown how to use scientific thinking, investigations, tools and technologies. Course topics include:

- Minerals
- Rocks
- Weathering and Soil
- Erosion and Deposition
- Plate Tectonics
- Earthquakes
- Mountains and Volcanoes
- Earth's Past
- Natural Resources
- Earth's Fresh Waters
- Ocean Systems
- Earth's Atmosphere
- Weather Factors
- Weather Patterns
- Weather Predictions
- Earth's Movement and its Effects
- Earth's Moon
- Space Exploration
- The Solar System
- Exploring the Universe

### Science 7 - Google Classroom

Taught by Kelly Balnicky - La Grande School District

Seventh grade science is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards which were adopted by the Oregon Department of Education. We will cover Physical, Life, and Earth Science as well as Engineering Design. More specifically, we will explore matter and its interactions, chemical reactions, natural resources, ecosystems, Earth's systems, as well as human impact on natural resources over time and our ability to forecast future catastrophic events. Finally, no science class would be complete without practicing scientific inquiry, collecting and analyzing data, developing scientific explanations, building models, constructing displays, and designing projects. So, we will be doing all those fun things too!



# Science Cont.

## GRADE 8

### Science 8 - Physical Science - Acellus

Teacher of Record Kelly Balnicky - La Grande School District

Matter can be defined as anything that takes up space and has mass. Energy can be defined as the ability to cause change in matter. Physical Science is the study of matter and energy. Students in the Acellus Physical Science course study the basic components that matter is made of, as well as different forms of energy that make things move and change. Enlightening, on-screen demonstrations of the concepts being taught bring the science to life and enhance student understanding. Course topics include:

- Matter
- Elements
- Energy
- Magnetism
- Electricity, Circuits, and Resistance
- Waves
- Sound
- Electromagnetic Energy
- Light, Color, and Lenses
- Force
- Motion
- Machines
- Resources

### Science 8 - Google Classroom

Taught by Kelly Balnicky - La Grande School District

Eighth grade science is aligned with the Next Generation Science Standards which were adopted by the Oregon Department of Education. We will cover Physical, Life, and Earth Science as well as Engineering Design. More specifically, we will explore motion, forces, energy, waves, heredity, fossils, natural selection, as well as Earth's place in the universe and human impact on Earth's systems. Finally, no science class would be complete without practicing scientific inquiry, collecting and analyzing data, developing scientific explanations, building models, constructing displays, and designing projects. So, we will be doing all those fun things too!

# Social Studies

## GRADE 7

### **Social Studies 7 - 7th Grade Social Studies - Acellus**

Teacher of Record Chris Demianew - Pendleton School District

The Acellus Grade 7 Social Studies course focuses on World History and Geography across Medieval and Early Modern Times, beginning with the social, cultural, and technological changes that occurred in Europe, Asia, and Africa. The course goes on to cover the history and geography of great civilizations that were developing throughout the world. Finally, it delves into the Renaissance, the Scientific Revolution, the Enlightenment, and the roots of democracy, and focuses on the political impact of the Enlightenment and its influence on the world today. This course addresses various national and state standards including those of California and is taught by Acellus Instructors including Rhonda Ireland.

### **Social Studies 7 - World History/ Early Civilizations - Google Classroom**

Taught by Brice Gundlach - Pendleton School District

7th grade social studies will provide continued development of understanding and skills in the social studies discipline including history, geography, civics and government, and economics.

## GRADE 8

### **Social Studies 8 - Middle School American History - Acellus**

Teacher of Record Ashley Beard - Morrow County School District

Acellus Middle School American History is a thorough course covering early people in the Americas through the period of reconstruction following the civil war. Course topics include:

- Early People of the Americas
- Age of Exploration
- Colonization
- French and Indian War
- Causes of the American Revolution
- The American Revolutionary War
- The Constitutional Convention
- The United States Constitution
- The Federal Period
- Age of Jackson and Reform Movements
- Westward Expansion
- Industrial Revolution
- The Civil War
- Reconstruction

### **Social Studies 8 - Early US History - Google Classroom**

Taught by Ashley Beard - Morrow County School District

This course will provide a basic history of the United States' social, political, and economic development from the pre-colonial period through Reconstruction.

# PE & Health

## Health - Middle School Health - Acellus - Semester 1

Teacher of Record Samantha Sanders - Pendleton School District

This five-star Acellus course was developed in association with Children's Mercy Hospital and is aligned with the National Health Education Standards. Course topics include:

- Fundamentals of Good Health
- Physical Fitness
- Basics of Nutrition
- Mental and Emotional Well-Being
- Personal Hygiene and Consumer Choice
- Communicable Diseases
- Non-Communicable Diseases
- Personal Safety
- First Aid
- Health and the World Around You

## PE - Introduction to Social Emotional Learning - Middle School - Acellus - Semester 2

Teacher of Record Samantha Sanders - Pendleton School District

In the PE - Intro to Social Emotional Learning - Middle School course, students are guided through an exploration of skills they will find useful as they navigate the social and emotional aspects of their lives. They are shown how, by making wise choices, they gain the power to cultivate healthy and positive attitudes, relationships, and habits that will improve their overall physical and emotional health. With focus on social and emotional learning (SEL) as well as physical fitness, the Intro to Social Emotional Learning -- Middle School course equips students to handle day-to-day, real-world challenges throughout their lives.

# Electives

## **Introduction to Foods - Google Classroom - Offered Semester 1 and Semester 2**

Taught by Melissa Smith - Pendleton School District

Students will get an introduction to nutrition and food preparation including My Plate, Safety and Sanitation, Basic Skills and Equipment, Using Recipes, and learning how to cook eggs, quick breads, pasta, and meats. Basic knife skills will also be addressed.

## **Coding 1 - Introduction to Coding - Google Classroom - Semester 1**

Taught by Ali Kretschmer - La Grande School District

Course description coming

## **Coding 2 - Advanced Coding - Google Classroom - Semester 1**

Taught by Ali Kretschmer - La Grande School District

Course description coming

## **Investigating Careers - Acellus**

Teacher of Record Elizabeth Shane - Morrow County School District

Investigating Careers gives students an overview of many career options and the education, training, and skills required for each. Career Paths include:

- Agriculture and Natural Resources
- Architecture and Construction
- Arts and Communication
- Business and Administration
- Education and Training
- Finance and Insurance
- Government and Public Administration
- Health Science
- Hospitality, Tourism, and Recreation
- Human Service
- Information Technology
- Law and Public Safety
- Manufacturing
- Retail and Wholesale Sales and Service
- Scientific Research, Engineering, and Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics

# Technology Use

## Student Responsibilities for School Technology

Students in the Pendleton School District can be issued a Chromebook for use at home. Students and their parents/guardians are reminded that the use of TECHNOLOGY is a privilege and not a right, and that everything done on any device, network or electronic communication may be monitored by school authorities. Inappropriate use of TECHNOLOGY can result in limited or banned computer use, disciplinary consequences, removal from courses, loss of credit, receiving a failing grade, and/or legal action.

## Responsibility for the Chromebook

Students are solely responsible for the Chromebooks issued to them and must adhere to the following: **Students**

- must comply with the Chromebook Agreement, PSD Acceptable Use Policy, and all policies of the school district when using their Chromebooks.
- must treat their device with care and never leave it in an unsecured location.
- must promptly report any problems with their Chromebook to tech support.
- may NOT remove or interfere with the serial number and other identification.
- may not attempt to remove or change the physical structure of the Chromebook, including the keys, screen cover or plastic casing.
- may not attempt to install or run any operating system on the Chromebook other than the ChromeOS operating system supported by the school.
- must keep their device clean and must not touch the screen with anything (e.g., your finger, pen, pencil, etc..) other than approved computer screen cleaners.

## Wi-Fi Access

Each PSD building will be wired for external wi-fi boosters which should give great access to free wii-fi in the parking lots of each school. This network will be turned off and not available from 10pm until 6am each day. There is no password needed and it will still filter and block inappropriate sites.

Pendleton School District 16R  
Computer Technology  
Student Acceptable Use Policy for PSD Net

Computers and access to the internet are used to support learning and to enhance instruction. With parental permission, your student will have an email account and internet access through the Pendleton School District's computer system (PSDnet).

While utilizing the internet it is possible to gain access to information which may not be appropriate. It is a general policy that all computers used through PSDnet are to be used in a responsible, appropriate, efficient, ethical and legal manner. Failure to adhere to the policy and the guidelines for the use of PSDnet, as described below, will result in the immediate revocation of access privileges as well as possible disciplinary action, and/or referral to law enforcement. Reinstatement will be at the discretion of the school administration.

**GENERAL USE PROHIBITIONS**

**1. Prohibitions**

- a. Attempts to degrade, disrupt or vandalize the district equipment, software, materials or data or those of any other system or user
- b. Attempts to send, intentionally access or download any text file or image or engage in communication that includes material which may be interpreted as :
  - i. Harmful to minors
  - ii. Obscene, indecent, profane or lewd as determined by the district
  - iii. A product or service not permitted to minors by law
  - iv. Harassment, bullying, intimidation, menacing, threatening or insulting and/or inflammatory language
  - v. A likelihood that, either because of its content or the manner of distribution, it will cause a material or substantial disruption of the school operation
- c. Attempts to use another individual's account, failure to provide the district with individual passwords or to access restricted information, resources or networks to which the user has not been given access.

**2. Violations/Consequences**

- a. Students who violate general system user prohibitions shall be subject to discipline up to and including expulsion and/or revocation of district system access up to and including permanent loss of privileges
- b. Violations of law will be reported to law enforcement immediately

I have read the district's acceptable use policy pertaining to student internet usage. I give permission for my student to participate and utilize the Pendleton School District's computer system.

Student Name \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Parent/Guardian \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# PSD Student/Parent Chromebook Use Agreement

## Student Information:

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name \_\_\_\_\_

Chromebook S/N: \_\_\_\_\_

In this agreement, "Chromebook" means Chromebook and all its components, software, battery, and charger.

Please initial each section showing your agreement to the terms:

### TERMS:

You will comply at all times with the Pendleton School District Chromebook Policy Handbook and its guidelines. TITLE:

Legal title to the Chromebook is owned by the Pendleton School District and it shall remain the possession of the Pendleton School District.

### LOSS OR DAMAGE:

If the property is accidentally damaged or incurs loss due to an act of nature, the Pendleton School District will assess the Chromebook damage and repair or replace the device under the accidental loss or damage policy. If the property is stolen, a police report must be filed by the student or student's parents/guardian involved in the loss of property. Loss or theft of the property must be reported to the Pendleton School District within 48 hours after the occurrence. Fraudulent reporting of theft will be turned over to the police for prosecution.

### REPOSSESSION:

Students not complying with all terms of this Agreement and the Chromebook Policy Handbook, including the timely return of the property, will be declared to be in default and must return the Chromebook immediately.

### TERM OF AGREEMENT:

Your right to use and possession of the property terminates no later than the last day of classes during the school year or upon student withdrawal from Pendleton School District.

### APPROPRIATION:

Your failure to timely return the property and the continued use of it for non-school purposes without the school's consent will be considered unlawful appropriation of school property

### Parent/Guardian Agreement:

In consideration of the privileges and opportunities afforded by the use of the Pendleton School District technology and computer resources, I hereby release the Pendleton School District and its agents from any and all claims of any nature arising from my student's use or inability to use the Pendleton School District technology and computer resources. I have read and agree to all of the terms listed above.

Parent Name Printed: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature:

Date:

# Student/Parent Contract PVLA

The intent of this contract is to outline the standards and behaviors that are expected of students who choose to participate in the Pendleton Virtual Learning Academy. This contract also provides details as to how parents can support the online learning experience and what the student and parents can expect from the school district.

## Student Expectations

- Adhere to the code of conduct of your school and behave with integrity and honesty while participating in an online class.
- Read and acknowledge the district Acceptable Use Policy regarding technology and the internet.
- Participate in each online course to maintain pace.
- Complete coursework on time.
- Communicate with your online instructor in a professional and respectful manner.
- Ensure that you have the means to access the online courses on your own at all times.
- Acknowledge that the school district has full and complete access to the work submitted or the comments posted within the online course.
- Seek help from the online instructor or course provider as needed.

## Parent Expectations

Parents, because you have formally offered your support of this online experience, we would like you to help us and your student by doing the following:

- Ensure that your student has the necessary equipment and internet access to participate in the online course.
- Provide your student with a safe and appropriate place to work while at home.
- Ensure that your student has sufficient time in his/her schedule to work each day on the courses.
- Become familiar with the means by which you can receive progress reports and regularly check his/her course work and progress.
- Encourage your student to seek help when stuck or frustrated.
- Monitor that all tests and work is done by your student without the aid of others.
- Be aware of all course deadlines and pacing guides and monitor adherence.
- Communicate academic concerns with online instructors as needed.

## District Expectations

Parents and students can expect the following from their district and its employees:

- A district coordinator will meet and/or discuss with each parent and student with regard to their decision.
- If the student has an active 504 Plan or IEP, the district will help determine if the accommodations and support can be delivered virtually or would have to be modified. The school will provide support to facilitate success during this online experience.
- Supply Chromebook if needed



Students and parents fully acknowledge that success is largely dependent upon the work and effort put forth by the students. Student who are not successful may fall off pace and may have to pursue other means to make up credits.

## **ACKNOWLEDGMENT AND UNDERSTANDING**

I have read, understand, and acknowledge the expectations and policies set forth in the contract.

Student Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Coordinator Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_