

# DECATUR COUNTY SCHOOLS

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## Decatur County Schools Guidelines for Georgia Virtual School Classes

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### **Purpose of Georgia Virtual Opportunity for Decatur County Students**

Decatur County Schools recognizes the importance of putting technology into the hands of students, and one aspect of this goal is allowing students to work through classes in the online forum of Georgia Virtual School. Recognizing that our students are technological learners with a growing need for flexibility, and that the business community, colleges, and universities seek graduates whose high level digital skills match their ongoing professional and learning needs, the school system offers Georgia Virtual classes as an option for students who desire this technological platform for learning. The rigor of the Georgia Virtual School courses mirrors high level of expectation and quality that students are held to within Decatur County Schools. In compliance with Senate Bill 289, online Decatur County courses can be accessed through Georgia Virtual School. Interested parents or students should see a guidance counselor for more information.

### **Procedures**

Recognizing the need for students to be ready for this type of learning students interested in taking a course through Georgia Virtual or Edgenuity should adhere to these procedures:

- ❖ To facilitate the process of registration, we will accept applications beginning August 19-30, 2019 for Fall Semester 2019; November 1-November 15, 2019 for Spring Semester 2020; and April 1, 2020-June 1, 2020 for the 2020-2021 school year.
- ❖ The school system reserves the right to substitute courses available via our district's online learning platforms, Edgenuity when they meet the same requirements of a course offered via Georgia Virtual.
- ❖ Read the information on the Georgia Virtual website, <http://www.gavirtualschool.org>. Pay close attention to deadlines on the Georgia Virtual process as well as the list of courses offered. Check this website often, as the information may change as the semester progresses.
- ❖ Make an appointment for a meeting with the school counselor. Parent attendance at this meeting is encouraged.
- ❖ If all parties agree to the Georgia Virtual or Edgenuity setting, the Enrollment Agreement is signed, and the student then registers for the class.

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### **Other Important Details**

- ❖ Any courses taken during the regular school day must be taken on campus.
- ❖ Availability of online courses during the school day is subject to the availability of personnel to supervise online students and the capacity of the school to accommodate online learners on computers. Check with your school counselor for details regarding availability.
- ❖ Georgia Virtual economics and civics courses are .5 credit courses that do not currently meet local system graduation requirements.
- ❖ Decatur County Schools stresses the importance of communication with the student's counselor, since not all courses offered through Georgia Virtual would meet an individual student's graduation plan.
- ❖ High school students must enroll in a full course load each semester, which may include one or more GAVS or Edgenuity course(s). Students must remain enrolled in all classes throughout the duration of the semester.
- ❖ Once a student has selected, been approved, and enrolled in an online course, the student must complete the online course.
- ❖ In the event of an extenuating circumstance where a student might be given special permission to drop a Georgia Virtual class, the parent must contact the school counselor to make notification of the situation and determine the procedures to follow.
- ❖ If the Georgia Virtual School online course is taken in lieu of any of the regular school day instructional periods, then the school will pay for the course. If a Georgia Virtual School online course chosen in addition to the regular school day instructional periods the parent will pay for the course.
- ❖ Requests for courses through other online vendors must be evaluated on an individual basis. See your guidance counselor prior to registering for consideration of credit. Courses taken through vendors other than Georgia Virtual School will not be funded by Decatur County. Students may take a course via Edgenuity at no cost if approved during the application process.

## Decatur County Schools Georgia Virtual School Enrollment Agreement

### Student Information

Student Name:		Date:	
School:		Grade Level:	
Parent/Guardian Name			
Parent's Phone Numbers	Home:	Cell:	Work:

### Student Agreement

\_\_\_\_\_ (student) is requesting enrollment in at least one course through Georgia Virtual School and/or Edgenuity. Each semester, students are required to be enrolled in a minimum of four courses (the equivalent to four credits at the end of a semester), which can be taken through a combination of traditional high school courses, Edgenuity/Odysseyware and/or Georgia Virtual classes.

### Course Request Information

Course Title	Units	Semester/Year Beginning & Ending Dates	Rationale for the Course Through GAVS/Edgenuity	Graduation Requirement Being Met (Academic Elective, Core Credit, etc.)

### Awarding Credit:

- All courses will be posted to the high school transcript and will reflect the grade reported by Georgia Virtual School or Edgenuity.
- Advanced and AP courses through Georgia Virtual will be weighted according to the Decatur County policy for weighting of advanced and AP courses.
- EOCs will be administrated and weighted according to the state policy for EOCs.

For further clarification, consult with your guidance counselor. Signatures below indicate that student/parent has read the Georgia Virtual information, and the counselor approves the student to enroll himself/herself in the Georgia Virtual School/Edgenuity course(s) above.

***In order to ensure accurate information about eligibility and requirements for high school sports and NCAA with regard to Georgia Virtual/Edgenuity classes, it is highly recommended that the student and parent be in close contact with Georgia Virtual School, the NCAA, and the school's athletic director.***

Student Signature	Administrator Signature
Parent Signature	Date