

# **POLICY IHBHE**

## **Board of Education Las Cruces Public Schools**

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**Related Entries:** IHBHE-R; IHBHD, IGBHD-R

**Responsible Office:** Associate Superintendent for Learning, Teaching and Research

### **VIRTUAL / ONLINE LEARNING**

#### **I. PURPOSE**

To provide virtual, online, distance and/or blended learning environments within the District.

#### **II. BACKGROUND**

The Board of Education values the role of technology as part of the learning process. The Board further asserts that in order to realize its vision of engaging students in 21<sup>st</sup> century learning, current ways of thinking must transcend to take full advantage of technologies and new research on student learning.

#### **III. DEFINITIONS**

1. *“Blended learning” means* a combination of face-to-face instruction in which the student learns, in part, at a supervised brick and mortar location and, in part, through online delivery, with some element of student control over time, place, and/or pace.
2. *“Online classes” means* individual, teacher-led courses that take place over the Internet, with the teacher and student separated geographically.
3. *“Distance learning” means* education in which instruction and content are delivered primarily over the Internet with opportunities to interact with staff and other students.
4. *“Virtual Learning Academy (VLA)” means* a program designed to provide all courses, teaching, and other student support through a virtual education model during traditional school hours and outside these hours.

#### **IV. PROCESS**

- A. All distance education programs and courses will be consistent with instructional goals of the district, ensuring both the rigor of the course and the quality of instruction.
- B. The district may integrate distance or online education as part of the regular instruction provided by a certified teacher.

- C. The Superintendent shall provide an LCPS school environment where students enrolled in virtual learning courses will have integration with staff and other students, and where they may access the appropriate technology necessary to complete their course of studies.
- D. The district shall determine how many academic credits and which online courses may be applied toward graduation requirements. It shall also determine the grade levels of students (elementary, middle or high school) who may enroll in online courses.
- E. Students applying for online courses, or for enrollment in the LCPS Virtual Learning Academy, shall meet criteria set by the Division of Instruction in order to enroll, including, but not limited to, completion of prerequisites, adherence to attendance requirements and principal/counselor approvals.
- F. Students enrolled in distance and online courses must abide by all policies and/or regulations that outline Internet and use of technology responsibilities (see EJA and EJA-R, Acceptable Use of Technology Resources, and EJA-E1, Non-Employee Acceptable Use Policy).
- G. The Superintendent of Schools shall promulgate a regulation for the enforcement of this policy.

**V. REVIEW**

This policy shall be reviewed on an ongoing basis in accordance with the Board of Education policy review process.



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*Board of Education, President*

Feb. 26, 2013

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*Date Approved*

**History:** New Policy, February 26, 2012

**Legal Reference:**