

CONGRESSIONAL SCHOOL

Bi-Modal Teaching Model



Bi-Modal Teaching

What is it?

- Instruction at school (in-person) with simultaneous virtual teaching (some students at home)
- Instructional option for students in K-8
 - Families who must remain out of school temporarily due to COVID related concerns
 - Medical
 - Personal
- Ensures that those students who are unable to attend school are able to continue to receive a Congressional education.
 - maintain connection and community amongst students
 - students learn alongside their peers in the classroom, albeit digitally
- Not designed to fully replicate on-campus experience, but ensures a well-balanced and robust academic experience



Why Bi-Modal Teaching Option?

State of Virginia - Phase 3 Guidelines

Programmatic Recommendations

- In-person instruction may be offered for all students, however physical distancing measures should be implemented.
- Remote learning exceptions and teleworking should be options for students and staff who are at a higher risk of severe illness (as defined by the CDC).
- Mitigation strategies may impact operations and capacity limits. A multi-faceted instructional approach may need to be planned for Phase III.

How do families register their student for bi-modal learning?

- Families must complete a form and submit it to school
- Letter to go out to families on **July 1**.
- Requests for currently enrolled families must be received by **July 15th**.
- A team including the Head of School Division Directors, and School Nurse will review the request and determine if bi-modal is appropriate given the circumstances
- New families who enroll after this date will have an option to choose bi-modal learning.



Can families opt-in and out? What are guidelines?

- Students who select this option will remain in bi-modal learning until the end of the trimester (November 24, 2020)
- Depending on the timing, events and information related to COVID-19, families may continue to choose bi-modal or choose to return to school.
 - In order for a family to return, discussion has to be had with the internal team to determine if the reason for choosing bi-modal learning remains in place or is no longer a concern.
- Families can not go back and forth between bi-modal and being in school. Everyone needs consistency and routine.

Are there special requirements for families who choose bi-modal to follow/have?

- The family will sign a special bi-modal agreement between them and the school
 - The agreement will contain some of the following
 - understanding of parent support needed
 - expectations for successful student learning
 - managing assignments and due dates
 - materials family is required to have at home (printer and scanner)
 - school to provide “Learning from Home Kit”
 - scissors, notebooks, glue, manipulatives, etc.

Getting Materials to Families and From Families

- Identify one day of the week that families must come to school to pick-up supplies for the following week and drop-off projects or assignments that can't be submitted electronically



My child is enrolled in on-campus learning and they are home sick, can they do bi-modal learning?

- No, only those enrolled in bi-modal learning will have access to this.
- *If a class were to have a confirmed case of COVID-19, the entire class and/or grade would shift to virtual learning for the 14 day quarantine. (teachers will be provided 2 working days prep time to prepare for this shift)

Cameras in the classroom- that's new...

- All those at Congressional- employees, parents, students, will be provided an updated agreement with this understanding
- Parents need to sign the updated agreement before children return to campus

How will we accomplish Bi-Modal Instruction when students are simultaneously in the classroom and at home?

- Each classroom will have a camera and microphone. We expect:
 - a still camera will be present; the teacher will have the discretion to turn it on and off as well as set its view.
 - a microphone will be present; the teacher will have the discretion to turn it on and off
- Each class will establish a Google Meet as needed. Students at home will log in to the Google Meet.



What does Bi-Modal look like in Kindergarten-Grade 2?

Materials:

- Webcams & microphones for classrooms to teach those virtually that are at home.

Daily Synchronous Learning:

- Morning Meeting (Google Meet - homeroom teacher)
- Language Arts (Google Met - Bi-modal Learning Coordinator for Language Arts -30 minutes)
- Math (Google Meet - Bi-modal Learning Coordinator for Math - 30 minutes)

Asynchronous Learning:

- Science/Social Studies
- Specials Classes
 - Choice Boards



What does Bi-Modal look like in Lower School?

- Lower School students will engage in synchronous and asynchronous learning throughout the school day.
- Students will login to the Google Meet at the start of the day and then follow the instructions of the classroom teachers throughout the day. Students will join one or more Google Meet(s) depending upon the planned instruction for the day.
- Following the instructions, students will then work independently or with classmates to engage in the classroom activities as well as complete the work or assignments provided by the classroom teacher.
- Opportunities will exist for students at home to engage in small group work with other peers who are in the classroom via GoogleMeets..
- Students at home will be expected to complete all homework and classwork on the assigned dates as if the student were in class.
- Teachers will determine and establish limited Office Hours which allows students at home to check in with teachers.

What does Bi-Modal look like in Middle School?

- Middle School students will engage in synchronous and asynchronous learning throughout the school day.
- Students will login to the Advisory Google Meet at the start of the day
- After Advisory, students will either continue the GoogleMeet, or log in to a new Meet depending on schedule and class. Students will join several Google Meets through the day.
- Students will engage in classes via GoogleMeets. They will work independently or with classmates as well as complete the work or assignments provided by the classroom teachers.
- Opportunities will exist for students at home to engage in small group work with other peers who are in the classroom via GoogleMeets..
- Students at home will be expected to complete all homework and classwork on the assigned dates as if the student were in class.
- Teachers will determine and establish Office Hours which allows students at home to check in with teachers

What do Specials classes look like with Bi-Modal Instruction?

- Students in Primary School will receive much of their bimodal specialist class instruction through a Choice Board.
 - Suggested activities for students to complete asynchronously
 - Work will need to be turned in to the teacher via Google Classroom/Email
- In Lower and Middle School, specialist classes will be taught as part of the regular schedule
 - Needed supplies and equipment for Art and Music will be shared in advance so that students can be prepared.
- Physical Education
 - For 3rd - 8th grade, bi-modal learners will receive asynchronous activities which will focus on individual fitness activities.



What are some other special considerations across the grades?

Special Middle School Activities:

- Groups such as Student Council and LEAD will continue and students at home can join via Google Meet
- Chorale and Community Ensemble are shifting due to Covid concerns. Chorale may be virtual after school.
- Bi-modal students can't participate in Athletics; sports and sports practices are being modified in order to follow physical distancing guidelines