



# Handbook for Students and Parents

## East Lycoming School District

[MYspartanacademy.com](http://MYspartanacademy.com)

**Mrs. Michele Beck**  
**Program Coordinator**  
**[mbeck@elsd.org](mailto:mbeck@elsd.org)**  
**570-584-2161**

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## Spartan Academy

Spartan Academy is a K-12 online learning option for families who reside in the East Lycoming School District. Unlike other cyber options, Spartan Academy allows your student to maintain all the benefits of being a Spartan and the flexibility of taking courses online.

For elementary school students and middle school students, courses in Spartan Academy align with the in-school curriculum. Once students enter grade 9 however, students select one of two pathway options.

The **Academic Pathway** provides Spartan Academy students with a rigorous academic experience aligned with their in-person learning options. This pathway requires 25 credits for graduation and will ensure students are prepared for their next educational journey after high school.

The **Workforce Readiness Pathway** is a streamlined learning program that provides essential workplace and life readiness skills to students who plan to enter the workforce directly after high school. Like other cyber schools, this program requires 21 credits for graduation.

## Before Enrollment

The process of enrollment in Spartan Academy begins at home between a student and their parents/guardians. Moving from in-person to online learning is a significant educational decision that will require different skills from the student like increased self-discipline to keep pace with assignments and from families to provide a learning space at home. It is important for families to discuss the reasons behind this choice, the student's ability, and the impact on the family.

Although online learning offers many opportunities, it is not intended to be a means to escape school-based problems. If your student is experiencing a school-based problem, please work directly with your school counselor on possible solutions.

We want all students to find success and we believe that the best option begins in school with teachers and peers. However, for some students in certain situations or with certain goals, online learning makes more sense. Talk it over and then schedule a meeting with your student's school counselor and/or Spartan Academy Coordinator Mrs. Michele Beck at [mbeck@elsd.org](mailto:mbeck@elsd.org) or phone 570-584-2161.

## Initial Enrollment

Spartan Academy is offered to students when it aligns with their educational goals. Initial enrollment in Spartan Academy requires all of the following items below to initiate a four (4) week trial enrollment.

1. The student must be an East Lycoming School District resident.
2. Participate in a Spartan Academy orientation prior to the beginning of the cyber option courses.
3. For students receiving Special Education Services, an IEP team meeting will be held for students prior to enrollment to determine if modification to the IEP is needed to align with a cyber-based education program<sup>1</sup>.
4. Sign the Spartan Academy Handbook.
5. Able to participate in virtual meetings such as Google Meet when individual support is needed.

## Continuation of Enrollment

### Student Expectations

After the four (4) week trial period, continuation of enrollment is evaluated each marking period based on the criteria below:

1. Meeting established course deadlines
2. Actively participate in coursework by meeting the minimum number of assignments per week (varies by student). Athletic eligibility will be determined as outlined in the Hughesville Jr/Sr High School Handbook every Friday at 2PM.
3. Make a good faith effort in all academic areas
4. Satisfy Pennsylvania attendance laws which apply to all students
5. Maintain regular contact with course teachers and Spartan Academy Coordinator.
6. Take the PSSA or Keystone Exam at the appropriate grade levels

If progress is not being made, student will be required to check in weekly with the Spartan Academy Coordinator, either in person or virtually

### Parent/Guardian(s) Expectations

1. Assure compliance with East Lycoming School District policies
2. Provide an appropriate work environment for the student at home
3. Make a commitment to assist and monitor your student throughout their learning time
4. Monitor student progress using the provided login information
5. Ensure that student is checking-in, if required, with the Spartan Academy Coordinator.

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<sup>1</sup> As a student with an IEP attending Spartan Academy, it is required that students MUST participate in weekly IEP goal progress monitoring sessions. Goal progress will be assessed every 2 weeks. Progress monitoring sessions can be arranged with a Special Education teacher. Students can come to school to work with that teacher at a designated time or via Google Meet.

## District Expectations

1. Provide a rigorous and relevant online learning program that meets student needs and aligns with the district grade-level curriculum sequence
2. Monitor student progress and communicate with the student and family as needed
3. Provide students with guidance in regards to credit and course selection
4. Track credits towards graduation
5. Provide health, counseling, and other district services for the student to remove barriers to learning

## Finding Success in Spartan Academy

The goal of Spartan Academy is for students seeking this option to achieve success. Success is measured by:

- maintaining course progress along the timeline prescribed for the student
- completion of coursework materials within the marking period dates
- passing of courses
- acquisition of grade level credits towards graduation (9-12)
- appropriate and regular communication with the Spartan Academy Coordinator and course instructors

If a student is struggling to meet the indicators of success within the four (4) week trial period, at the conclusion of the marking period, or at any time during the school term, the Spartan Academy Coordinator is here to help. Not only will the distinct monitor progress and connect with the student if needed, but students and parents can also ask for assistance if needed. Use any of the options below to ask for assistance:

- Technology Assistance - [MYspartanacademy.com](http://MYspartanacademy.com)
- General Assistance - [mbeck@elsd.org](mailto:mbeck@elsd.org) - 570 584 2161

## Academic Calendar

Spartan Academy students' attendance and course completion will follow the regular school year calendar including vacation, inclement weather, or other school closures. For example, if school is closed on Friday, Spartan Academy students may, but are not required to complete courses. However, if the district schools transition to remote learning due to a winter storm, Spartan Academy students are also required to continue with course work as normal.

## General Supplies

As with in-person learning, families are required to provide many general supplies students need for classes. For example, items such as glue sticks, paper, pencils, scissors, and calculators are not supplied by the school.

## Transportation

Transportation to and from the home to school building for educational opportunities, co-curricular, athletic, and social opportunities is the responsibility of the parent/guardian, unless during a regularly scheduled pick-up/drop-off time. Students must be rostered on a bus to ride it at any point to and from school.

## Attendance

In Pennsylvania, parents/legal guardians are responsible for ensuring that their student(s) attends school. It is the responsibility of the family to ensure the student logs onto the courses to maintain appropriate pacing requirements.

Online students are East Lycoming School District students who are expected to comply with state, district, and school policies and guidelines. As online students, they assume a special responsibility to actively participate in the courses because of the unique independence that is offered to them. Time spent daily on coursework is similar to the time spent in school. The district and its partner will monitor a student's active engagement in courses with the expectation that the course will be successfully completed within the time prescribed by the district.

Students who are not meeting the required academic progress will be supported with an attendance improvement plan. If necessary, students may be required to return to the building for additional support.

As in-school, parents/guardians are required to submit an excuse to the school for every day that their online student is absent from instruction. Excused absences for online, as with in-person learning, follow normal district policy and state law. Excuses shall be emailed to Spartan Academy personnel. Truancy charges are applicable when regular attendance requirements and work production deadlines are not met.

Lack of connectivity is not an excused absence. Students are expected to have a secondary plan for internet access to maintain course completion schedules. If your student's alternate plan is not feasible due to extreme circumstances, it is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to notify the school within 24 hours.

## Regular Contact

In addition to maintaining regular course work and pacing, it is essential for students and families to maintain regular contact with Spartan Academy personnel. For students, this communication is via school issued email. For parents, email and/or messaging apps will be used.

## Graduation Requirements

Online students must meet board approved requirements for graduation as posted in the Jr/Sr High School Student Handbook at [www.elsd.org](http://www.elsd.org).

## Drop/Add/Withdraw

Students who decide to withdraw from a class, must decide within five (5) days of the start of the course.

## Course Completion

Online students must be finished with all course assignments by the last day of the marking period as set on the district academic calendar. See academic quarter end dates listed previously.

## Acknowledgement of Understanding

Initial adjacent to each topic indicating that you have read, discussed, and will commit to the expectations and responsibilities of participation in Spartan Academy as an East Lycoming School District student.

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Student Name (print)

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Student Signature

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Parent Name (print)

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Parent Signature

## Course Sequencing – Elementary

Elementary Program Grades K-5	
Kindergarten	Elementary Language Arts K
	Elementary Math K
	Elementary Science K
	Elementary Social Studies K
Grade 1	Elementary Language Arts 1
	Elementary Math 1
	Elementary Science 1
	Elementary Social Studies 1
	Elementary Physical Education
Grade 2	Elementary Language Arts 2
	Elementary Math 2
	Elementary Science 2
	Elementary Social Studies 2
	Elementary Art Development
Grade 3	Elementary Language Arts 3
	Elementary Math 3
	Elementary Science 3
	Elementary Social Studies 3
	Elementary Health
Grade 4	Elementary Language Arts 4
	Elementary Math 4
	Elementary Science 4
	Elementary Social Studies 4
	Elementary Music
	Elementary Keyboarding
Grade 5	Elementary Language Arts 5
	Elementary Math 5
	Elementary Science 5
	Elementary Social Studies 5
	Elementary Physical Education
	Elementary Keyboarding
Grade 6	Elementary Language Arts 6
	Elementary Math 6
	Elementary Science 6
	Elementary Social Studies 6
	Elementary Physical Education



# Core Course Sequence (by Grade Level) and Educational Requirements

Grade 7	Grade 8
English	
Language Arts 7th	Language Arts 8th
Mathematics	
Mathematics 7th	Mathematics 8th
	Middle School Algebra 1
Social Studies	
Social Studies 7th	Social Studies 8th
Science	
Science 7th	Science 8th
Electives	
Physical Education	Physical Education
Internet Safety	Study Skills
Music Theory and Appreciation	Health and Fitness

# Academic Preparation Pathway

## Core Course Sequence (by Grade Level) and Educational Requirements

Grade 9 (6 Credits)	Grade 10 (6 Credits)	Grade 11 (6 Credits)	Grade 12 (7 Credits)
<b>English (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
English 1	English 2 <i>(Keystone Exam Required)</i>	English 3	English 4
<b>Mathematics (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
Algebra 1 <i>(Keystone Exam Required)</i>	Geometry	Algebra 2	OR
			Transition to College Math <span style="float: right;">OR</span>
			Statistics/Probability <span style="float: right;">OR</span>
			Trigonometry <span style="float: right;">OR</span>
Calculus			
<b>Social Studies (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
US Government	American History	World History	Economics with Financial Literacy (½ cr) <span style="float: right;">AND</span>
		World Geography	----- Social Studies Elective (½ cr) <span style="float: right;">OR</span>
			Economics
<b>Science (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
Life Science (½ cr)  ----- AND ----- Environmental Science (½ cr)	Biology <i>(Keystone Exam Required)</i>	Earth Science	Foundations of Engineering
		OR	OR
		Chemistry (Prerequisite: Algebra I)	Anatomy and Physiology (Prerequisite: Biology)
		OR	OR
		Physical Science	Physics (Prerequisite: Algebra 2)
<b>Other Courses Required</b>			
<b>(2 Credit)</b>	<b>(2 Credit)</b>	<b>(2 Credit)</b>	<b>(3 Credit)</b>
Physical Education <span style="float: right;">AND</span> ----- Computer Skills for Academic Success (½ cr) <span style="float: right;">AND</span> ----- Personal Finance (¼ cr) <span style="float: right;">AND</span> ----- Career Explorations (¼ cr)	Health and Wellness   <span style="float: right;">AND</span>   Your Career and Money	Life Skills (½ cr) <span style="float: right;">AND</span> ----- Internet Safety (½ cr) <span style="float: right;">AND</span> ----- Electives for 1 cr (see electives chart)	Electives for 3 cr (see electives chart)

## Workforce Preparation Pathway

### Core Course Sequence (by Grade Level) and Educational Requirements

Grade 9 (6 Credits)	Grade 10 (6 Credits)	Grade 11 (6 Credits)	Grade 12 (3 Credits)
<b>English (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
English 1	English 2 <i>(Keystone Exam Required)</i>	English 3	English 4
<b>Mathematics (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
Pre-Algebra	Algebra 1 <i>(Keystone Exam Required)</i>	General Math	Statistics/Probability
<b>Social Studies (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
US Government <small>AND</small>	American History	World History	Optional
<b>Science (1 Credit Each Year)</b>			
Life Science (½ cr) ----- Environmental Science (½ cr)	Biology <i>(Keystone Exam Required)</i>	Earth Science	Optional
<b>Other Courses Required <small>AND</small> Credit)</b>	<b>Other Courses Required (2 Credit)</b>	<b>Other Courses Required (2 <small>AND</small> it)</b>	<b>Other Courses Required (1 Credit)</b>
Physical Education ----- <small>AND</small> Computer Skills for Academic Success (½ cr) ----- Personal Finance (¼ cr) ----- Career Explorations (¼ cr)	<small>AND</small> Health and Wellness ----- Your Career and Money	Life Skills (½ cr) ----- <small>AND</small> Internet Safety (½ cr) ----- Electives for 1 cr (see electives chart)	Electives for 1 cr (see electives chart)

**Available Elective Offerings by Discipline**

**STEM Electives**

**½ Credit STEM Electives**

- Application of Genetics
- Sports Science and Medicine
- Technologies in Medicine

**¼ Credit STEM Electives**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Intro to Technological Sciences</li> <li>• Science of Computing</li> <li>• Computer Engineering</li> <li>• Mechanical Engineering</li> <li>• Chemical Engineering</li> <li>• Electrical Engineering</li> <li>• Natural Disasters</li> <li>• Superstars of Science</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports Science</li> <li>• Sports Medicine</li> <li>• Genetics</li> <li>• Biotechnology</li> <li>• Epidemiology</li> <li>• Forensics</li> <li>• Stem Cells</li> <li>• Astronomy</li> </ul> |
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**Social Studies Electives**

**½ Credit**

- Psychology
- Sociology
- Macroeconomics
- Microeconomics

**¼ Credit**

- Early American History
- Early World History

**English Electives**

**¼ Credit**

- Informational and Persuasive Writing Critical Concepts
- SAT Critical Reading and Writing

**Mathematics Electives**

**¼ Credit Mathematics Electives**

- Algebra I Critical Concepts
- Probability
- Statistics
- SAT Math

**Arts Electives**

**½ Credit Arts Electives**

- Music and Theory Appreciation
- Advanced Music Theory
- Art History & Appreciation

**Language Electives**

**1 Credit Languages**

- French 1, 2, 3 & 4
- German 1 & 2
- Spanish 1, 2, 3 & 4