



# WCPSS Virtual Academy

March 15, 2022

Board of Education Work Session

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# Today's Agenda & Outcomes

- 1 Current State
- 2 Senate Bill 654 & implications for virtual instruction
- 3 Pre-Pandemic Instructional Services
- 4 Evaluation & Planning Considerations

# Current State: WCPSS Virtual Academy Spring Enrollment

**Spring 2022**  
Enrollment Data: Grades  
K-12

Virtual Academy	
Elementary (K-5)	4,363
Middle	2,061
High	2,134
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,559</b>

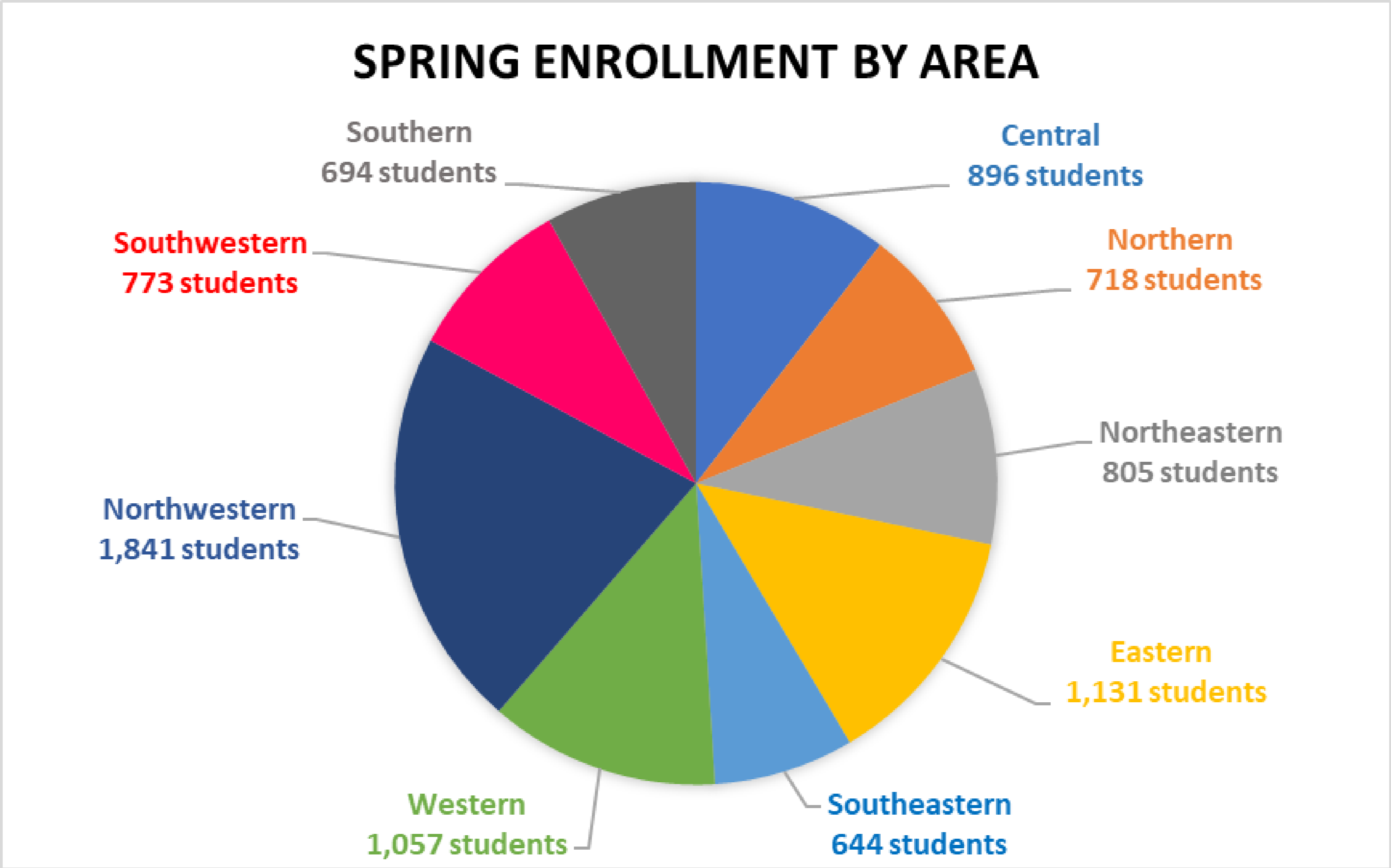
# Current State: WCPSS Virtual Academy Registration by Grade Level

Elementary School		
	Virtual Academy	In-Person
Grade K	414	11,343
Grade 1	614	10,840
Grade 2	803	11,097
Grade 3	847	10,735
Grade 4	811	11,120
Grade 5	874	11,475
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,363</b>	<b>55,490</b>

Middle School		
	Virtual Academy	In-Person
Grade 6	633	11,652
Grade 7	708	12,027
Grade 8	720	12,760
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,061</b>	<b>36,439</b>

High School		
	Virtual Academy	In-Person
Grade 9	530	14,666
Grade 10	571	12,797
Grade 11	562	11,986
Grade 12	471	10,340
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,134</b>	<b>49,789</b>

# Current State: WCPSS Virtual Academy Registration by Area



\*\*Registration Data as of March 8, 2022

# 2020-2021 vs. 2021-2022 Virtual Academy Enrollment Data

## Spring 2021

Elementary (K-5)	33,826
Middle	19,338
High	23,686
<b>Total</b>	<b>77,322</b>

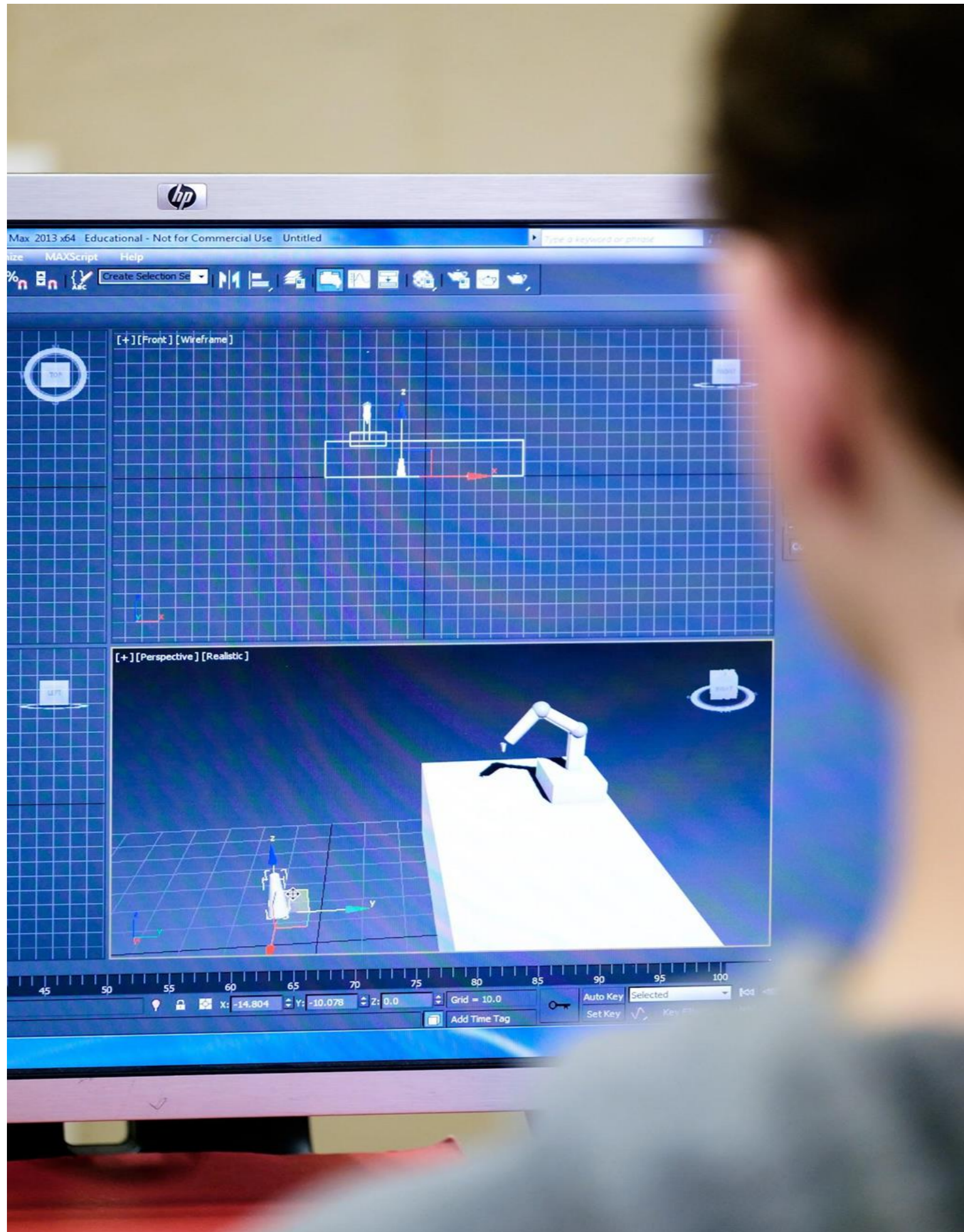
## Fall 2021

Elementary (K-5)	5,313
Middle	2,937
High	3,274
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,566</b>

## Spring 2022

Elementary (K-5)	4,363
Middle	2,061
High	2,134
<b>Total</b>	<b>8,559</b>

# 2021-2022 Program Structure and Instructional Design



- The Virtual Academy was provided for students in grades K-12, with a virtual option in PreK.
- The Virtual Academy remained as a program within a school with additional centralized curricular and structural supports for the 2021-2022 school year.
- Classes and course options in 2021-2022 included standards aligned instructional content and social/emotional support across all K-12 grade levels.
- K-12 students & families who participated in the Virtual Academy were able to participate in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities including athletics through their base school.



## Senate Bill 654

**SECTION 3B.(c)** No public school unit shall use virtual instruction to satisfy the minimum required number of instructional days or hours after June 30, 2022, without express authorization from the General Assembly, except for local school administrative units that were assigned a school code to operate a school with virtual instruction as the primary means of instruction as of May 1, 2021.



## Key Factors for Opening a Separate School

- High Quality Instruction
- Impact on current schools
  - Staffing and funding allocations
  - Student Average Daily Membership (ADM)
  - Calendars
  - Infrastructure
  - Instructional programming
- Legislative requirements
- NCDPI Virtual Academy task force



## Pre-Pandemic Instructional Structures

- **North Carolina Virtual Public School**
  - A student, with the principal's prior approval, may enroll in a district-approved online course with assistance from the school's online learning advisor.
  - The online learning advisor is responsible for coordinating the enrollment of students in online courses, monitoring students' progress in those courses, and supervising any required testing.
- **Crossroads FLEX**
  - Partners with NC Virtual to provide a blended learning environment for students in grades 9-12.
  - A blended learning environment provides students with a combination of virtual and in-person instruction.
  - Students work independently on online courses, projects, and assignments at home or school and meet with teachers to review learning progress and receive assistance when needed.
- **SCORE Academy**
  - Provides a long-distance blended learning opportunity for students who have been reassigned from their base school.
  - Operates out of three locations in Wake County: Crossroads Flex, Garner Station, and River Oaks.



## Pre-Pandemic Instructional Services

- Homebound Instruction

- K-5 students receive instruction from a homebound teacher.
- 6-8 students receive virtual instruction in ELA and Math. Assignments in Science & Social Studies are distributed by the base school.
- 9-12 students receive virtual instruction in their courses.

- Home Hospital

- HH services are determined by the student's IEP Team.
- IEP Team discusses documentation from the student's physician regarding the medical condition and recommendations.
- HH services are provided to address specially designed instruction and access to the general curriculum.



## Evaluation & Planning Considerations for Virtual Programming

- Identifying research and best practices for planning and implementing effective virtual learning.
- Analyzing data and reviewing lessons learned from the WCPSS Virtual Academy.
- Considering key factors and dependencies for future programming.
- Exploring potential models.
- Collecting feedback from key stakeholders.
- Fiscal obligations for expansion of programming



# Questions and Dialogue

WHAT     
STARTS  
 HERE  
CHANGES  
 EVERYTHING.