

Virtual School Information

Insight School of Kansas

Kansas Virtual Academy

12.1.21

Cassandra Barton – Head of School



Overview of our virtual schools:



- Spring Hill School District – USD 230 authorizes:
 - Insight School of Kansas
 - Serves grades 7th – 12th and adult students
 - Began in 2008
 - Enrollment: 964
 - Kansas Virtual Academy
 - Serves grades K-6th
 - Began in 2013
 - Enrollment: 701

Demographics:

- Insight School of Kansas
 - Free or Reduced Lunch: 49%
 - Special Education: 17%
 - Students with 504 plan: 3%
 - English Learners: 1%
- Kansas Virtual Academy
 - Free or Reduced Lunch: 54%
 - Special Education: 15%
 - Students with 504 plan: 1%
 - English Learners: 3%

Why do families choose virtual school?

- Allow parents a bigger role in education
- Flexibility
- Remove distractions
- Mental health
- Bullying
- Health concerns
- Parenting students
- Working students
- Lack of success/support in other settings
- Student has dropped out
- COVID concerns or mitigation concerns

Our model:

- **Kindergarten – 5th grade = elementary school**
 - Students have a grade-level teacher for their courses
 - Standards-based report cards are used
- **6th - 8th grade = middle school**
 - Students have a teacher per course, this forms a grade level “team” of teachers who work together to support the students
 - Courses are a semester in length
 - Report cards follow the traditional grading scale
- **9th – 12th grade = high school**
 - Students have a teacher per course
 - Courses are a semester in length
 - Report cards follow the traditional grading scale
 - Students are working to earn a true high school diploma – 21 or 24 credits
- **Students past their graduation cohort = adult high school**
 - Students have a teacher per course
 - Block scheduling
 - Report cards follow the traditional grading scale
 - Students are working to earn a true high school diploma – 21 credits

Our model:



Daily live sessions with
licensed teachers



Common learning
management system across
grade levels



Common platform for online
sessions across grade levels



Curriculum built for the virtual
setting that has been aligned to
the Kansas College and Career
Ready Standards by our licensed
teaching staff

COVID's impact to our schools:

- Increased enrollment (per Principal's Building Report)
 - Insight headcount
 - 2019 - 894
 - 2020 - 1259
 - 2021 – 995
 - KSVA
 - 2019 - 253
 - 2020 - 1202
 - 2021 - 718
- Increased staffing

Challenge: Funding

- Students at Insight and KSVA must complete the Count Day process
- Students need a minimum of 360 minutes schooling on one date in each of two windows of time
- If students do not have 360 minutes online on one date in each window, an academic activity log can be used to allow the legal guardian to add offline time for the date(s) and sign
- A virtual student is fully funded at \$5000
- Virtual students are not eligible for any weightings.

Challenge: Graduation Rate

- Implementation of district-wide accreditation put our district's overall accreditation at risk due to Insight's graduation rate
- Students who enroll credit deficient fall on Insight's graduation rate if they are not able to catch up on credits by their 4-year graduation cohort date
- Prior to enrollment for the 2019-2020 school year, Insight had no credit criteria to enroll
- Enrollment season 2019, we:
 - Implemented credit criteria
 - Ceased enrolling any expelled students outside of our own district
 - Ceased enrolling high school students after the fall enrollment period
- We have improved our graduation rate 37.6% since 2017

	Insight Graduation rate	Change in rate year-over- year	SHHS Graduation Rate	District Graduation Rate
2021	63.30%	18.20%	95.40%	78.30%
2020	45.10%	7.50%	95.70%	67.00%
2019	37.60%	7.70%	96.10%	61.20%
2018	29.90%	4.20%	95.50%	55.90%

Class of 2020

- 45.10% graduation rate
- 117 non-graduates, of which:
 - 97% were not at Insight their entire HS career
 - 62% were enrolled at Insight for less than a year
 - 68% came to Insight already credit deficient
 - 18% were special education students
 - 56% qualified for free- or reduced-lunch
 - 3 students were from our own district

Class of 2021

- 63.30% graduation rate
- 91 non-graduates, of which:
 - 85.71% were not at Insight their entire HS career
 - 45.15% were enrolled at Insight for less than a year
 - 64.84% came to Insight already credit deficient
 - 21% were special education students
 - 54% qualified for free- or reduced-lunch
 - 3 students were from our own district



Questions?