GENERAL QUESTIONS

1. Which option other than Face-to-Face should students who take specialized programs/courses choose?

The following program options have been specifically identified. Please refer to question 7 for important information about required state and national assessments that may be associated with these programs.

- **IB Courses, Grades 11 & 12:** IB classes for students not on campus will be taught through Seminole Connect. IB courses are not available through Seminole County Virtual School.

- **Pre-IB Courses, Grades 09 & 10:** Pre-IB students who will not be on campus may select Seminole Connect and, to the extent practical, may be able to take some or all of their pre-IB classes with teachers from their school. Alternatively, pre-IB students may select SCVS and take equivalent Honors and Advanced Placement courses.

- **SCPS Pre-IB, Grades 06-08:** SCPS Pre-IB middle school courses for students who will not be on campus will be available through Seminole Connect, to the extent practical.

- **Dual Enrollment:** Students who wish to take Dual Enrollment courses may do so in combination with any of the available options.

- **Advanced Placement:** Students in AP classes who will not be on campus may select Seminole Connect and, to the extent practical, may be able to take some or all of their AP classes. Alternatively, AP students may select SCVS, which offers most AP courses; notable exceptions include AP Chemistry, AP Physics, AP Seminar, and AP Research.

- **Program of Emphasis:** Students in Program of Emphasis courses who will not be on campus may select Seminole Connect and, to the extent practical, may be able to take some or all of their Program of Emphasis classes with teachers from their school. Alternatively, Program of Emphasis students may select SCVS and take equivalent Honors and Advanced Placement courses.

***This document is current as of July 20, 2020. Information presented here is subject to change based on COVID-19 conditions and guidance from federal/state/local health and education authorities.***
extent practical, may be able to take some or all of their PoE classes with teachers from their school.

**Gifted Courses:**
Students who are gifted may choose any learning option and will receive services in accordance with the Education Plan. To the extent practical, students who are gifted can take classes with gifted-endorsed teachers at their schools through Seminole Connect. Students who are gifted taking SCVS courses have an Education Plan (EP) that will be supported by gifted endorsed teachers who will work to provide enrichment and guided inquiry activities to deepen gifted students’ knowledge and understanding of content. EPs will be monitored by a gifted endorsed teacher.

**Honors Courses:**
Honors classes may be accessed via Seminole Connect or SCVS.

**CTE Courses:**
CTE classes may be accessed via Seminole Connect. Some CTE courses are available through SCVS but may not contain an industry certification opportunity.

**MS Advanced Courses:**
Middle school advanced courses may be accessed via Seminole Connect or SCVS.

**Elementary PRIMES:**
Elementary students in grades 4 and 5 accelerating in Math may take these courses via Seminole Connect. This option can also be pursued in SCVS; grade 4 students take Grade 5 Math and grade 5 students take Grade 6 Math.

2. Will students be offered extracurricular options such as dance, chorus, guard?
Yes! Seminole Connect, SCVS, and Hybrid students may participate in any available extracurricular activity, including clubs and athletics, at their 2020-21 zoned/choice school.

3. Will band/chorus be offered?
Band, Chorus, and other arts electives will be offered through both Face-to-Face and Seminole Connect.

4. Are all options open to VPK Students?
VPK is a state-funded, state-regulated program with different requirements than elementary and secondary education. Currently, the VPK program is only available as a Face-to-Face option.
5. If a PRIMES or GEMS students chooses SCVS courses for semester 1 and then chooses Face-to-Face in semester 2, will there be learning gaps?

Courses in all options are aligned to state standards. However, the curriculum may be sequenced differently in SCVS. Classroom teachers will work to bridge any gaps between the courses using the same strategies that support students who change school districts or schools during the year.

6. How will transportation be handled?

In Face-to-Face, students who are eligible for transportation will have regular drop-off and pick-up services. In Hybrid, students who are eligible for transportation will have a morning pick-up or afternoon drop-off service; there is no transportation during the school day, so parents are responsible for student late arrival to, or early departure from, campus for at-home coursework through Seminole Connect or SCVS.

7. In Seminole Connect and SCVS, will students be required to come to campus for assessments?

Seminole Connect students in middle or high school will be required to take nine-weeks exams on the school campus. These tests may be administered at times outside of the traditional school day in order to optimize social distancing. All public school students are required to participate in state assessments such as FSA and EOC, and currently these assessments may only be administered at a school site. National assessments (SAT, ACT, PSAT, AP, IB, industry certification, etc.) are generally taken at a school site in accordance with the testing regulations provided by the administering agency. Although College Board authorized 2020 AP exams to be taken at home, it is not known whether that option will be available in 2020-21.

8. Do we have any more information about the options for magnet students whose courses are not available on virtual?

At middle and high school, specialized magnet courses that are not offered by SCVS may be available through Seminole Connect, which would make the student’s schedule Hybrid.

9. How will students who are gifted be served in any course that does not meet Face-to-Face?

Students who are gifted taking Seminole Connect courses will receive services similar to those in a Face-to-Face environment. Students who are gifted taking SCVS courses have an Education Plan (EP) that will be supported by gifted endorsed teachers who will work to provide enrichment and guided inquiry activities to deepen gifted students’ knowledge and understanding of content. EPs will be monitored by a gifted endorsed teacher.

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10. Will Face-to-Face students who must isolate be able to attend all classes with Seminole Connect and/or SCVS?

The SCPS Student Progression Plan is currently under a proposed revision to reflect that, “In the event of an individual, classroom, school-wide, or district crisis need, Seminole Connect becomes the default instructional platform.” Following this guidance, a student who must isolate would participate in their Face-to-Face classes via Seminole Connect for the duration of the isolation period.

11. Will students who attend a choice school (including magnets, high school PoEs, region school assignment, or another type of transfer) lose their seat for 2020-21 if they select Seminole Connect, SCVS, or Hybrid?

Because students remain enrolled in their choice school by participating in Seminole Connect, SCVS Save My Seat, and/or Hybrid, they are deemed to have used the seat in 2020-21 and are therefore eligible to return to that seat in 2021-22 as long as all other expectations are met. The only known exception to this guideline is that students in IB programs in grades 11 and 12 must choose Seminole Connect for all IB courses because these classes are not available in SCVS.

CHANGE REQUESTS

12. Can families make changes to a student’s learning option after July 24?

A change may be accommodated if there is space and course availability. Change requests should be submitted to the student’s school.

13. Will changes be accommodated during the 1st week of school?

A change may be accommodated if there is space and course availability. Change requests should be submitted to the student’s school.

14. What is the minimum time commitment for each learning option?

The minimum commitment to Seminole Connect is 9 weeks; students can move back to Face-to-Face instruction after each grading period. The minimum commitment to SCVS is 18 weeks; students can move back to Face-to-Face instruction for Semester 2 (January, 2021) if all 1st semester courses have been completed.
15. When can a family choose to move from Face-to-Face to Seminole Connect? Can this be done at the end of a grading period, or can this choice be made at any time?

A change request into Seminole Connect may be submitted at the end of each grading period. A change may be accommodated if there is space and course availability. Change requests should be submitted to the student’s school.

16. Can a family choose, at any time, to move from Face-to-Face or Seminole Connect to SCVS courses?

No. Although individual SCVS courses may be started anytime throughout the school year, a student cannot start a course in SCVS if he/she is already concurrently enrolled in that course elsewhere. Since students cannot “drop” Face-to-Face classes, and because there is a minimum enrollment period of one quarter for Seminole Connect, it is not possible to move all classes from Face-to-Face or Seminole Connect into SCVS.

17. What happens if a student isn’t doing well in Seminole Connect or SCVS and they want to return at a point other than end of quarter for Connect or end of semester for SCVS?

Schools will use their normal problem-solving/MTSS process to support students who are struggling in their courses until the appropriate time for changes (end of grading period for Seminole Connect, end of semester for SCVS).

18. At the end of semester 1, can an SCVS student only return to Face-to-Face, or can they select Seminole Connect or Hybrid as well?

Multiple options may be available at the end of semester 1. A change may be accommodated if there is space and course availability. Change requests should be submitted to the student’s school.

**SEMINOLE CONNECT**

19. Will the school times be the same as the current high school/ middle school schedule?

Yes, the Seminole Connect classes will be scheduled at the same time as Face-to-Face classes. A student taking all classes through Seminole Connect will essentially follow the school day bell schedule from home.
**SEMINOLE COUNTY VIRTUAL SCHOOL**

20. Will electives be offered by SCVS?

SCVS offers a variety of elective courses. Secondary students taking a specialized or advanced elective that is not offered through SCVS can select the Hybrid option that mixes Seminole Connect and SCVS courses.

21. When a parent selects SCVS in the Learning Options app, there are 2 choices: Save My Seat and Transfer. What’s the difference?

The difference between the two choices is the student’s school of enrollment.

**Save My Seat:** The student remains enrolled at their zoned/choice school. The zoned/choice school is responsible for scheduling the student, monitoring their progress, and all special services.

**Transfer:** The student is withdrawing from their zoned/choice school and enrolling at SCVS as a full-time virtual student. Monitoring of student progress and provision of special services is the responsibility of SCVS.

**HYBRID**

22. Who decides the student's in-class schedule for the Hybrid option? The family? The teachers? Do we submit our schedule and need to get it approved? Are there limited schedule options that we choose from (for example, MWF or T/Th only?) Or can we just take it day-by-day and do whatever we want?

Students schedules are decided collaboratively between the administration and the parent based on the school’s master schedule. The school will set their master schedule to meet the needs of Face-to-Face students. If that schedule works for the parent to create their hybrid option of choice, then the parent can proceed and have a Hybrid of Face-to-Face and SCVS courses. It is not possible to change the master schedule to accommodate individual requests. Allowing a parent in Seminole Connect to come to school on only certain days (MWF or TT) is not one of our models. Generally, Hybrid students are participating on campus every day for perhaps a morning or afternoon instructional block, then doing their SCVS courses at home.

23. Is the Hybrid option restricted to only core classes, or only elective classes?

There are no restrictions on the combination of courses that may be taken via Hybrid, except that elementary students may only combine Face-to-Face and SCVS, while secondary students may combine any of the 3 options.
24. Does Hybrid also include utilizing on-campus labs for virtual school classes?

This is a school-based decision depending on availability of labs and physical spacing as well as health/safety guidelines.

25. Is the parent/guardian of a student participating in Hybrid required to pick up the student, or is the school required to supervise the student on campus while taking online learning classes?

Parents are required to provide transportation for schedules that are outside of Face-to-Face courses. For example, a student could ride a school bus in the morning and take Face-to-Face classes, then the parent would pick up the student for all courses taught through Seminole Connect or by SCVS.

26. How will travel time be accounted for when choosing a hybrid high school or middle school schedule with Seminole Connect and in person classes?

Each student’s scheduling needs will depend on several factors. For some students and families, it may be helpful to take one or two classes at Seminole County Virtual School in place of some face-to-face and Seminole Connect courses since SCVS courses can be completed on a flexible schedule. To the extent practical, Face-to-Face and Connect classes may be grouped and separated by a lunch period that can be used for transition time.

27. If a parent choices Hybrid at the elementary level, will the parent pick the days the students comes for Face-to-Face or will the school choose for them and how many days of the week?

It is anticipated that Hybrid elementary students will have classes on the school campus daily.

28. Why can’t elementary students mix Face-to-Face and Seminole Connect courses?

When developing Seminole Connect, we worked with principals at each level. Having elementary students come on and off of campus numerous times per day due to instructional blocks and intervention/enrichment periods, elementary special area scheduling, considerations for students who need special services, etc. was determined to be problematic for supervision, teachers planning for instruction and health and safety measures. Secondary students’ schedules are more consistently timed due to being in “periods”.
29. For secondary students, if a family wants to do core courses through Seminole Connect and electives through face to face, will those courses be grouped together on the student’s schedule, or will students have to travel back and forth to school/home?

To the extent practical, face-to-face classes can be grouped together to provide for one visit to the school campus each day. This arrangement may not be possible if the student is enrolled in specialized academic or elective courses, or if a large number of requests constrain the school’s master schedule.

30. Can secondary students take an arts class in-person at their school and take all core classes through Seminole Connect or SCVS?

Yes, this is a permissible combination within the Hybrid option.

31. What is the maximum number of SCVS classes a student may take in the Hybrid option?

A secondary student may take up to six (6) SCVS courses as part of the Hybrid option; only 1 class would be required in another format (Face to Face or Seminole Connect).

32. How do families register for SCVS courses in the Hybrid option?

School personnel will contact each family to discuss course registration. These personnel will also handle expedited registration for these courses via a new system that does not require parents to visit FLVS.net to set up an account or request courses.