

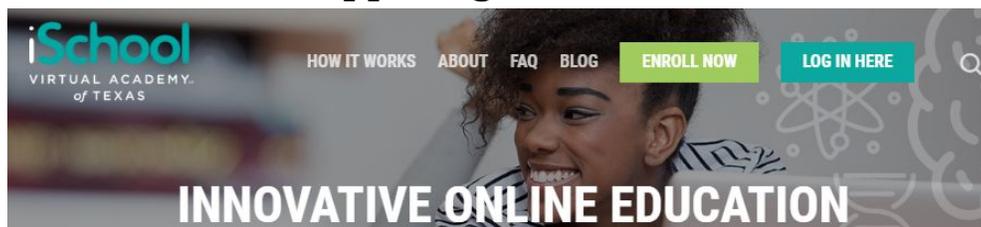
# iSchool

VIRTUAL ACADEMY<sup>SM</sup>  
of TEXAS

## Getting Started with iSchool Virtual Academy of Texas!

We are thrilled that you have chosen to partner with us in providing your student with an exceptional educational experience for the 2018-2019 school year. As we are entering the first weeks of school and beginning to send out login information and load courses for our students, we wanted to ensure that you had the most up-to-date information available.

**To login to the student or parent portal, go to <http://ischoolvirtual.com> and click on the “Login Here” button in the upper right corner.**



When students have received their student email credentials (username and password), students can log in to the student portal through the “Log In Here” link at [ischoolvirtual.com](http://ischoolvirtual.com). You will be able to login in to Buzz (where your coursework is located) using the “Buzz” button located in the portal. This will load your Buzz account and give you access to your courses.

Once you have logged in to your Buzz account you will be prompted to reset your password. **PLEASE KEEP TRACK of this password as you will need it to log on if the student portal is not available.**

**If the student portal is unavailable,  
login directly to the Buzz websites listed below:**

**To Access Buzz Courses for grades 3rd-8th: [isvatcpa.agilixbuzz.com](http://isvatcpa.agilixbuzz.com)**

**To Access Buzz Courses for High School: [isvaphs.agilixbuzz.com](http://isvaphs.agilixbuzz.com)**

**Once on the website, do NOT click the login button. Instead click on the three dots on the right side of the login button and enter your ORIGINAL google credentials (gmail student address and password) as the username and password. The same login info you use to sign in to your student Gmail account and [my.responsiveed.com](http://my.responsiveed.com) will work to log directly into Buzz.**

## Attend Online First Day of School Orientation Classes

Please click on the appropriate grade level schedule below to find the links for this week's online orientation class sessions:

[Elementary School First Week of School Schedule](#)

[Middle School First Week of School Schedule](#)

[High School Class Schedule](#)

[High School Class Links](#)

## Links for Students and Staff

Student Handbook: <https://tinyurl.com/isvaHandbook18-19>

Getting Started Guide: <https://tinyurl.com/isvaFAQ18-19>

Below you will find helpful information including:

Student Handbook: <https://tinyurl.com/isvaHandbook18-19>

What to expect this week: questions and answers about logging in and accessing courses

How to get help

Welcome messages from our Campus Directors

General Frequently Asked Questions about the academic program at iSchool Virtual Academy

## Logging In, Accessing Student Accounts and Courses

### Q. What should you expect in the first week of school?

- A. Virtual schools are very different from brick and mortar schools, in that the login information is the key into the campus door. Parents and students experience anxiety and uncertainty sometimes as they are waiting to receive their login information or if they experience “bumps” trying to log in.

**Please be assured that we will take care of your student.** Our students are our first priority and, although we may have to take your information to further investigate and then call you back, we will make sure that your student is able to successfully start school with us.

Our administrators, teachers and office staff work in the field of education because we have a dedication and passion for supporting and helping students to be successful. Please do not panic if a login isn't working, one of your student's assigned courses is incorrect, or you aren't sure what is expected of you and your student. We are here to help with all of the bumps that

happen with an online school at the beginning of the year. Let us know where you need help and we will do everything we can to make this experience as positive as possible.

**Q. Where do students log in the first day of school?**

- A. Students will log in to <http://ischoolvirtual.com/> (in the upper right hand corner) using their Google gmail school address and their password. Once logged in, students will click on the “Agilix Buzz” link to view courses. All students will have access to the Intro to Buzz Orientation course during the first week of school and should work through the Intro course while other assigned classes are being loaded throughout the first week of enrollment with our school.

IF students already have their Google credentials (gmail address and password) they can login to <http://ischoolvirtual.com/> and scroll down to click on the link to Agilix Buzz.

Students gmail address and password are found in the Parent portal, in the parent’s account.

Students will need their parents to create a parent portal account using the student token in order for the parent to retrieve the student’s Google Credentials which will allow the student to log in to the portal and access courses.

If students cannot log in and are waiting for a Service Desk Ticket to be resolved, they can still attend live online class sessions with their teachers.

***Please reference the Week 1 Orientation Schedule at the top of the page.***

**Q. What do parents need to do to ensure their students can log in to school?**

- A. We have sent emails to **parents of returning students** with specific directions for logging in to our system (i.e. the Unified Portal). Parents will need to log in to the parent portal, retrieve the student “token” and then use the token to log in to the student account.

**Parents of new students** will receive emails with the “token” to log in to the parent portal and activate the student account prior to the first day of school or soon after their enrollment is finalized.

**Q. My student is a returning student and I have not received an email with my token information to login. What should I do?**

- A. If you have NOT received an email from us with your parent portal token information (such as the sample email below), please provide your student’s name, student’s date of birth, parent name, a phone number and an updated email address for us [at this link](#).

(paste or type the following address into your browser if the link does not work:

<https://goo.gl/forms/Rx00OsodmsV4wL9h2>)

**Q. I received the Parent token email information but I am unable to log in to the portal. What should I do?**

If you received the Parent token email and need further assistance please contact our [Service Desk here](#) or call 1-888-729-0622 and press Option 3.

**Q. Who is the Parent token email from and what does the email state?**

- A. The email is from [no-reply@responsiveed.com](mailto:no-reply@responsiveed.com) and the subject is “iSVA Student Account Activation - Unified Portal.” A sample of the email email that you will receive is below (*please note specific messaging may change slightly*):

FROM: no-reply@responsiveed.com  
SUBJECT: iSVA Student Account Activation - Unified Portal

Dear iSVA Parent,

We are honored that you have chosen to enroll your student in iSVA of Texas and are looking forward to a new school year full of hope and possibilities for your child.

This email contains very important information about logging into the ResponsiveEd Unified Portal and activating your student's account, so they can begin their classes on the first day of school.

Unified Portal Instructions: [Click Here](#)

Student Name: [Student First Name]

Portal Token: [Parent specific token]

If you need further assistance please contact our [Service Desk here](#).

**Q. If I haven't received my token email, can I read the directions for accessing the parent/student portal and see a sample of what I'll be able to see when I receive my token?**

- A. Yes, [click here to preview detailed directions](#) and an overview of what is available in the Parent Portal.

We are sending **via email** the parent portal token information for returning students. As we process new student enrollment documents, we will send out the email with the parent token for logging in to the portal.

**Q. How do I find my student's login information, so s/he can login to the portal and view the Buzz Orientation course and other courses?**

- A. Parents/guardians must login in to the Parent Portal to create the parent account and associate the parent account with their student by entering the token provided via email. Once Parents have associated their parent portal account with the student's account, parents can access the student's Google credentials (see directions below) to give to the student so that the student can then login to the portal and view Agilix Buzz courses. The Buzz Orientation course will be available prior to a student's school start date and then additional grade level courses will become available on the school start date.

All courses will be found by accessing the Agilix Buzz Learning Management System (LMS). Once students have their Google credentials to log in to the portal, they will access their courses and coursework through the portal.

- o  **Google Credentials.** This displays the student's **Google Credentials**, which are used to access classroom activities, and the **Student Portal**. The student will need to become aware of these credentials to further log-in the Student Portal to authenticate with the Agilix Learning Management System (LMS) where they study and test on their assigned Course Material.

**Q. When will students see their courses in the portal?**

- A. Once **returning** students are able to log in to the portal, they can then click on a link from inside the portal to access assigned Buzz courses. Prior to school start, only the Orientation (all grade levels) and OwnIt! (grades 7-12) courses are available. Students will NOT be able to see their regular courses until the first day of school on August 20th. Students will have courses added throughout the first week of school.

**Q. How do I request a Chromebook for my student?**

We have heard from many parents who say they need a device for their student. As a result, we will be providing students with Chromebooks. At the conclusion of the school year, students will be required to return the device. If they are damaged or lost, you will be responsible for replacing it.

If you would like for your child to receive a device, please [complete this Google Form](#) to provide the correct address for shipping purposes. Once you have provided the correct address you should receive your device in at least three weeks. Please note, this means that you will not have the device on the first day of school. You will need to use a local library or other option to access your coursework until your device is delivered.

**Q. My student's grade level is wrong in the portal? Has my student been retained?**

- A. Student grade level updates begin in the week prior to school and are completed during the first week of school. Students are being assigned grade level courses based on their end of the year Report Card Promotion or Retention, or their grade placement committee decisions if their report cards stated "pending SSI requirements" instead of "promotion" or "retention."

After the first day of school, your student's grade level will be updated to match what was reported to you on the end of year report card, or to reflect the grade placement committee decision if your student was in 5th or 8th and failed STAAR math or reading tests.

**Q. My student is new to iSVA, where do I send my student's special programs records?**

- A. Please send your student's most recent 504/Special Education/LPAC records to [txvirtual@responsiveed.com](mailto:txvirtual@responsiveed.com).

**Q. When I log in to the parent portal, the information for my student or for me is incorrect. How do I update it?**

- A. If you need to **update your information in the parent portal**, you will be able to do so in the first of weeks of school. Everyone will be asked to update and verify their contact information after the first day of school.

Grade levels for 2018-2019 will be updated in the portal in the first few days of school. Courses are assigned to students based on the student's expected 2018-2019 grade level. We reviewed end of year report cards and grade placement meetings (when appropriate) to determine grade level placement.

## Message from Tiffany Linwood, Grades 3-8 Campus Director

Welcome students and parents to the 2018-2019 school year! I am very excited to be your Campus Director at iSchool Virtual Academy of Texas. Our highly qualified staff are looking forward to a wonderful year full of inquiry and learning. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. It is my hope to build a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential.

Students will be enrolled in core courses and enrichment courses based on their grade level. Please view the list below for the grade level courses that are assigned.

3rd, 4th, and 5th grade	6th grade	7th grade	8th grade
Language Arts Math Science Social Studies Art Music Health Physical Education	Language Arts Math Science Social Studies Music Health Physical Education Computer Basics	Language Arts Math Science Social Studies Middle School Health Physical Education Middle School Theater	Language Arts Math Science Social Studies Physical Education Middle School Art

If your student is in middle school and you would like to enroll him/her in high school courses, please submit your request [using this simple form](#) or type/paste the link into your browser:  
<https://goo.gl/forms/Z4rGXKWZUry4cWPQ2>

To watch a RECORDED information session about what to expect this school year, please click here: [iSVA Parent Information Session \(Recorded\)](#)

## [Elementary Week 1 Orientation Online Class Schedule](#)

Click here OR type this url into your browser:

<https://ischoolvirtual.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/08/Elementary-Orientation-and-Regular-Schedule-2018-2019-Orientat-Week-1-Schedule-1.pdf>. To access the online class sessions, students will click on the link in the schedule, enter their first name and grade level in the login box where it says to type your name (example: Sara Grade5). Students should only use their first name and grade level.

## [Middle School Week 1 Orientation Online Class Schedule](#)

Click here OR type this url into your browser:

<https://ischoolvirtual.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/4/2018/08/Middle-School-Orientation-and-Regular-Schedule-2018-2019-Middle-School-6th-8th-Orientation-Week-1.pdf>. To access the online class sessions, students will click on the link in the schedule, enter their first name and grade level in the login box where it says to type your name (example: Sara Grade5). Students should only use their first name and grade level.

### Message from Tammany Olson, High School Campus Director

Hello, High School Students and Families:

We are delighted and honored that you have chosen iSchool Virtual Academy of Texas and Responsive Education Solutions as your student's school of choice. As your High School Campus Director, I look forward to serving your student and providing him/her with an exceptional educational experience. Our highly qualified faculty and staff are anxiously awaiting August 20<sup>th</sup>, our first day of school. Thank you for entrusting your child's education with our program. We look forward to an incredible year.

To watch a previous information session please click here: [iSVA Parent Information Session \(Recorded\)](#)

The HS FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL SCHEDULE can be found here : [High School Week 1 Orientation Guide](#)

### Message from Dr. Shannon Nason, Headmaster for Classical

Thank you for your support of iSVA - Classical Academy! Your child is about to embark on something amazing, where great literature, content-rich history, and great conversations about perennial issues of human concern are emphasized. I hope you are as excited as I am for your child to participate in this innovative program.

The following is a list of important dates and information as you prepare for the start of school:

1. August 20 will be **meet your teacher day**. The meet your teacher sessions will begin at 8:00am. **I will be sending your child's schedule soon with additional instructions for how to access these sessions on the first day of school.**
2. All novels and grammar books will be sent to your home address after the first week of school. If your address has changed, then you will need to let me know as soon as possible, since it will be important for your child to receive these books in a timely manner. Please fill out this form if your address has changed and you are not aware that you have told iSchool Virtual Academy of the change:  
<https://goo.gl/forms/UCeyrIntXHlxjb5r2>

3. The iSVA - Classical Academy 2018-2019 School Supplies List can be found here:  
<https://goo.gl/J118FZ>

Please check your inbox for additional announcements!

Sincerely,  
Dr. Nason

## Frequently Asked Questions

### General

- ★ How do I login for the first time?
  - Student username and passwords are retrieved from the parent account. Prior to the first day of school, parents will receive an email that includes a link to the parent portal as well as a parent username and password. Once the parent logs in to the parent portal account, they are able to retrieve the student username and password for the student portal. From the Student Portal, students are able to login to begin school by finding information about live classes, study halls, and can complete school work.
  
- ★ What are the school hours? What time do classes start?
  - The instructional day is from 8 am until 4 pm, Monday through Friday. Students may work on their coursework at any time, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, however, cgradeourse assignments are scheduled on the course calendar only on school instructional days. Students may work ahead on coursework and may work during alternative hours, as long as students are mastering course content and completing assignments prior to or on the lesson assignment date.
  
- ★ Where can students find the links to join the online live class sessions and when are classes held?
  - Students will find the links to online live class sessions inside of each of their courses in Buzz. Teachers will provide a grade level or campus level schedule on the landing page or resource folder in each course so that students can easily find the links to join online sessions.
  
- ★ What is my student's weekly schedule?
  - Students have access to teachers in online classrooms Monday through Thursday from 9 am until 4 pm for synchronous online class sessions, reteach sessions and study hall. Invites and links for Live class sessions and study hall sessions can be found on the Student Portal. Fridays are independent student work days in which students are expected to complete assigned lessons and catch up on any past due lessons. On Fridays, students may access the Homework Helpline, use the iSchool Virtual Academy Video Library or attend one of our in-person Success Centers for additional assistance with assignments. Students will see the live teaching schedule when they login to the Student

Portal.

- ★ How is attendance taken?
  - Parents are not required to enter attendance minutes into our system. When you begin your school year with us, your courses will create an assignment calendar for you which automatically assigns your lessons, quizzes, free-days, practice tests, and tests so that you will be able to complete each course before the end of the school year. Every school day, you will see which assignments are due for that day in your course calendar. It is important that you complete your course assignments when they are assigned so that you can stay “on pace” with the course calendar. You may work ahead in any of your courses if you choose to do so and are mastering the course content.
  
- ★ Where can I access the HS calendar?
  - Click [HERE](#) to access the high school calendar
  
- ★ Where can I access the 3rd - 8th Grade calendar?
  - Click [HERE](#) to access the 3rd - 8th Grade calendar
  
- ★ Does the school offer tutoring?
  - In addition to tutoring opportunities offered by our certified teachers during normal school hours, our Success Centers provide tutoring to students from 2PM-7PM. Students can make an appointment and go to tutoring in-person at our Arlington or San Antonio system. Students may attend online Study Hall class sessions for assistance with lessons or assignments, or for help reviewing course content. Mandatory tutorials may be assigned to students depending on academic needs. Students who are identified as needing mandatory tutorials may be required to attend online or in-person tutorials in order to help students meet state standards for mastering curriculum. Students may also be required to complete specific assigned lessons outside of regular course assignments to ensure are mastering state standard.
  
- ★ What endorsements are offered and how do I know what endorsement my student is currently on track to receive?
  - iSVA HS offers the following endorsements: Arts and Humanities with a Fine Art focus, Arts and Humanities with an English focus, Business and Industry with a Technology focus, Multi-Disciplinary with a Social Studies focus, Multi-Disciplinary with a Dual Credit/AP focus, STEM with a Math focus, and STEM with a Science focus. Planning resources can be found on different tabs here: <https://tinyurl.com/Endorsement-iSVA-Full-Details> and resources from the state of Texas can be found here: <https://tea.texas.gov/graduation-requirements/hb5.aspx>.
  
- ★ What High School courses are offered?
  - Middle School students wishing to enroll for a High School course should submit the request at:
  - Freshman and Sophomores are eligible to take the following courses: <https://tinyurl.com/iSVA-Fresh-Sopho-Courses>. To select classes, freshman and

sophomores can click here: <https://goo.gl/forms/qRMxUC1Q6oeJ45lg1>

- Juniors and Seniors are eligible to take the following courses: <https://tinyurl.com/iSVA-Jr-Senior-Courses>. To select classes, juniors and seniors can click here: <https://goo.gl/forms/MXLbbm1ARTt7CqZV2>

★ How does dual credit work?

- We currently partner with Lone Star College (LSC) for our dual credit provider. The provider requires entrance exams based on test scores to participate. If your students wants to take a Dual Credit class in the Spring of 2019, the TSI exam will need to be taken by the end of November. Information about taking Dual Credit classes will be distributed in October. Dual Credit score requirements can be found here: <https://tinyurl.com/iSVA-Dual-Credit-Opportunities>

★ How can I get a Verification of Enrollment for my student's driver's license requirements?

- A VOE is needed to obtain a drivers license and to obtain a work permit. A student must be in good academic standing (passing all courses and not behind in coursework) in order for these documents to be issued. To request a VOE, please email our iSVA Registrars at [iSVAregistrar@responsiveed.com](mailto:iSVAregistrar@responsiveed.com).

★ Will there be clubs or sports?

- We don't have any clubs created just yet, however, teachers are anxious to get a few put together so more information will be sent out as these clubs are created and developed. We offer credit for off-campus PE, which affords students opportunities to play sports in local groups.

★ Will there be outings/field trips for students?

- College tours will be scheduled by the counselors and all students will be notified of these dates and locations on their landing pages.

## Testing

★ How does STAAR testing work in a virtual school?

- Because iSVA is a TEA accredited school, students must attend STAAR testing in person as per TEA requirements. Students will be assigned a testing location at one of our brick and mortar RES schools in their area. Locations, time, and dates for testing will be sent out a few weeks prior to testing.

★ How can my student sign up for SAT/ACT tests? Are there any test-prep courses offered?

- You can register your child for ACT or SAT exams at their predetermined dates and locations. Click [HERE](#) for ACT website. Click [HERE](#) for SAT website. Every student will have an account with Study Island which has study resources for college entrance exams. Khan Academy has free study materials for SAT on their site.

★ Will there be placement testing for the dual credit courses offered through Lone Star College?

- Please see the Dual credit question about for links and more information.

## Courses

- ★ Are there live sessions every day?
  - Yes, teachers offer live sessions in every course each day (except Fridays) at scheduled times (see teacher landing pages for their schedules). If a teacher is not in a scheduled live session they will be in a study hall to allow students to drop in as needed to answer questions. Teachers are not available for live sessions on Fridays due to staff meetings but students will still be required to log in and work in their courses.
- ★ How do grades work?
  - 100% of your students grades will be based off of the unit tests throughout the course (generally there are five); that means each test is worth 20% of their grade. This allows students to practice without penalty on the lessons and quizzes leading up to the unit practice test. Students must make at least an 80% on the practice test to show mastery of content which then allows them to take the Unit Test. Students must make at least a 70% on the Unit Test to show mastery and move on to the next unit.
- ★ How does my student contact the teachers?
  - Teacher contact information can be found on their landing pages within the Buzz course. Teachers will primarily contact students via their ResponsiveEd Gmail account so they should check it daily.
- ★ How do labs work in science courses?
  - Some courses utilize virtual labs where students would watch a video of the lab being performed and then answer the questions. Other courses require students to use simple materials that students generally have at home. If your student has a question about what materials they can use for a lab please direct them to email their science teacher for help and ideas. The High School Environmental Systems course and the High School Aquatic Science course students both have materials that are mailed out after the student attends the class.
- ★ Do you offer AP courses?
  - Yes, we offer AP classes through the Virtual School Network.
  - Are there finals in the courses?
    - No, students must take 5 unit tests in each semester long course (there are a few exceptions to the number of unit tests in certain classes, but typically 5 unit tests in a course). Students cannot be exempt from any tests.

## Supplies

- ★ What general supplies does my student need?
  - Students will be required to take notes in every class and should have a dedicated notebook for each subject. Students may also need: pencils, pens, highlighters, sticky notes, and other general supplies depending on how they choose to take notes. Students should have a large wall calendar that due dates are written out on.
- ★ Does the school provide computers for students?
  - Yes, parents may request a Chromebook for their student(s). Chromebooks will be shipped directly from Staples. This technology is the property of Responsive

Ed and must be returned when a student graduates or withdraws from our district. Information about this will be sent out when parents receive their username and password to the parent portal.

- ★ Are students sent textbooks?
  - No, our curriculum is 100% online based and TEA accredited so students will access their courses and lessons through the Buzz platform. This means no lugging around heavy textbooks! We have a few courses that have supplies and those are mailed out later in the semester when needed.

## **Graduation**

- ★ Will we have graduation?
  - Yes, an in-person formal graduation ceremony is held in June near the DFW area. Students will purchase and wear a cap and gown.
- ★ Will the diplomas look "official" (traditional)?
  - Yes, iSVA is an accredited public high school. Our diplomas look just like regular diplomas as we are an accredited district.
- ★ How big is the graduation?
  - The size of graduation depends on the number of seniors that we have graduating. Last year students were able to invite an unlimited number of guests. Depending on where the graduation venue is held, we may have to limit the number of attendees each student brings to the ceremony.
- ★ Where will the graduation be?
  - Graduation will be near the Dallas/ Fort Worth area.
- ★ What if my student can't attend graduation?
  - We stream graduation live via Facebook and all names are read out loud.
- ★ Can my student graduate early?
  - Students in our program are allowed to accelerate through course material as they are able. Therefore, graduating a semester early is a possibility. However, all state requirements including state testing still are in effect. So, each student is a case-by-case situation. As you begin working on courses, contact a counselor for an individualized conversation with you and/or your student about the possibility in your situation.