April 28, 2021



TRAIL Program History



The Thomasville Remote Academy of Innovative Learning (TRAIL) program is a fully online remote instructional program that was designed for learners in Grades PK-12 who:

- Desired an alternative to the traditional classroom environment due to COVID-19 or other health or personal reasons; and/or
- Are Thomasville City Schools families as well as charter, private, and homeschool families seeking flexible instructional options for any variety of reasons.

Districts were required by the Governor to offer a fully remote option during the 2020-2021 school year for students who desired one.



- At one point in the 2020-2021 school year, the TRAIL program served nearly 800 students in grades Pre-K through 12. There are 603 students currently on TRAIL.
- Instruction was provided in both synchronous (live) and asynchronous (on-demand) formats through Google Classroom (elementary) and Canvas (secondary)
- After an initial enrollment period, admissions onto TRAIL were rolling by parent demand until April, 2021
- Students who were were on TRAIL and wished to return to the district plan were allowed an open return period at the end of the 1st semester and each time the district changed plans



- While we expect to be in a more traditional instructional setting for August, there is a recognized need for flexible instructional options.
- Parents and families have been surveyed twice about interest in a remote option for 2021-2022
 - 124 responses:
 - 29.8% would choose remote instruction
 - 44.3% would choose or would consider/want more information

TRAIL 2021-2022 Admission/Enrollment



- TRAIL will only be available for students in Grades 3-12. TRAIL will not be an option for students in Grades PK-2.
- Admission to TRAIL for the 2021-2022 school year will be by application only and enrollment numbers will be limited.
- Admission to TRAIL will be limited to students with a demonstrated need for remote instruction and who have shown a capacity for success in remote learning.



- Applications will be available online May 5, 2021, and the application window will run through June 3, 2021.
 - Students/families who wish to enroll after the enrollment window closes should contact Central Office.
- Enrollment in Grade 3 will be limited to 15 students. Enrollment in Grades 4-12 will be limited to 20 students per grade level.
- Families who apply for grades 3-8 must commit for the entire 2021-2022 school year. Students in grades 9-12 will commit for at least the first semester with recommendation for the entire year.

3rd-5th Grades:

Selected teachers will be teaching dedicated sections of TRAILblazers

Instruction will be delivered via the Seesaw and Google Classroom learning management systems

Synchronous and asynchronous options per teacher lesson planning

6th-12th Grades:

Instruction will be delivered via multiple modes, including using the Canvas learning management system and supplemented by Edgenuity and NC Virtual Public School as needed.

Course offerings may be limited to courses available remotely.

Synchronous and asynchronous options available per teacher lesson planning

All TRAIL students will receive district-issued technology as needed and EC, EL, AIG, and wrap-around services as applicable during remote instruction.





- Key changes from 2020-2021 to 2021-2022:
 - Dedicated TRAIL teachers only whenever possible no dual teaching
 - Using facilitators at 6-12
 - Limited enhancement options for 3-8
 - Limited course offerings for 9-12
 - No rolling admissions/removals
 - Can be removed for lack of success/attendance
 - TRAIL students not eligible for athletics or extracurriculars at TMS or THS



- TRAIL performance requirements for 2021-2022:
 - No more than 5 absences in a grading period
 - Must maintain course average of 70 or above
 - Mandatory action plan for course average below 70 at end of a grading period
 - Must show improvement while on action plan
 - Must pass all courses while on TRAIL
- Failure to meet all of these requirements will result in the removal from TRAIL and return to in-person instruction

Statement of Understanding



Parents/Guardians will be asked to agree to the following as part of the enrollment process:

The Thomasville Remote Academy for Innovative Learning (TRAIL) provides an opportunity to participate in virtual learning. Assignment to TRAIL requires a special commitment of time and effort from students and their parent/guardians. All instruction and services will be provided remotely. This commitment requires that, upon acceptance to TRAIL, you agree to keep your student in the program for the entirety of the 2021-2022 school year. If at any time during the year, your student is not meeting the stated responsibilities of TRAIL, s/he will be required to return to in-person instruction at the assigned school.