

### Ringgold Cyber Academy – Option #3

Ringgold School District was pleased to offer the flexibility of the Ringgold Cyber Academy during the 2021-2022 school year. Ringgold Cyber Academy classes occur online, in an asynchronous format. There is no live instruction.

Students who are successful in completing these classes typically work on their courses each day to stay on pace and complete all assignments. Assignments are generally due on Friday of each week during the school year.

Ringgold Cyber Academy classes are facilitated through Fusion Cyber Solutions, a program operated by Intermediate Unit One, using their teaching staff. The courses are not taught by Ringgold School District teachers. Students requiring help in a particular class should reach out to the appropriate Intermediate Unit teacher for assistance, as they would in a traditional class. Please note that teachers may not be available to assist or respond to students during the day because many of them teach in other Washington County schools.

While we recognize the importance of providing flexible educational options for families, we also must stay true to the mission of Ringgold School District. We must be sure that each child is wholly participating and benefiting from their educational opportunities. For some students, the Ringgold Cyber Academy's asynchronous option provides a venue that is unique, robust and challenging. It allows students to work at their own pace and allows families a flexibility that can be enhanced by other learning experiences provided at home.

For others, asynchronous programming may not provide the same structure and support that is needed and available to students who attend school in person. This option prevents students from participating in laboratory experiences, project based learning, or other hands-on workshops that occur in classrooms. The Ringgold Cyber Academy also limits opportunities for social interactions with peers, and teachers teaching in this program may not be able to respond to emails and phone calls during the school day. For these reasons, we do not recommend the Ringgold Cyber Academy for students who typically need greater structure or support.

In order to closely monitor student progress, the following rules apply for those interested in participating in the Ringgold Cyber Academy:

1. Attendance:

- a. Students in the Ringgold Cyber Academy must log on to their classes every day. Attendance is recorded when a student logs into the Homeroom course.
- b. Failure to login to the Homeroom will result in an absence. Students who are absent shall submit excuses to their Ringgold school building for such absence to be excused.
- c. Students who are not logging in and attending will be subject to the truancy procedures of the District.

2. Academic Participation and Progress

- a. Students will be permitted to enroll in the Ringgold Cyber Academy at the start of the school year or at the start of a new grading period.
- b. If a student is failing in two or more classes, a parent meeting shall be required with a Ringgold administrator from the building the child would attend if going to school in person.
- c. The student shall be given one week to improve their academic standing.
- d. Students who were in Ringgold Cyber Academy for the 2021-2022 school year and failed two or more subjects must meet with an administrator to discuss whether an in-person start will be required for 2022-2023.

- e. Students who are required to start in-person may transition to Ringgold Cyber Academy at the end of the first quarter of the school year if they are passing their classes.

3. Space and Time

- a. Students must have internet access that is reliable.
- b. Students must be able to access their Chromebook and log on each day.
- c. Students must have a quiet place to participate that is free of distractions.