Gloucester County Public Schools
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Welcome to the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning (GOAL)

Dear Students and Families:

On behalf of the staff at the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning (GOAL), we are happy to welcome you to the 2014-15 school year! The GOAL is a learning program that provides interactive, flexible, and alternative learning options to help meet the diverse educational needs of eligible students. It is intended to expand learning opportunities to students who require or prefer an approach to learning that is more independent and flexible than a traditional classroom environment.

We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure your children can achieve their highest potential. We recognize that in order to be successful in school, our children need support from both the home and school. We know a strong partnership with you will make a great difference in your child’s education. As partners, we share the responsibility for our children’s success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child’s learning by ensuring that he/she:

1) Attends school daily and arrives on time, ready for the day’s learning experience
2) Reads daily to develop a love for reading and to improve literacy skills
3) Shares school experiences with you so that you are aware of his/her school life
4) Informs you if he/she needs additional support in any area or subject
5) Knows that you expect him/her to succeed in school and go on to college

The wonderful GOAL staff and I feel privileged to be a part of this school family. We thank you for your support and look forward to meeting you. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to working with you throughout the year.

Sincerely,

Wendy Wyatt
Supervisor, Virtual Learning
wwyatt@qc.k12.va.us
804-693-2526

Dr. Toni Childress
Graduation Specialist
tchildre@qc.k12.va.us
804-693-7783
Site Information

TC Walker Education Center
6099 TC Walker Road
Gloucester, VA  23061
Office: 804-693-2526
Fax:  804-693-7685

Office Hours:  Monday – Friday 7:30 am – 3:30 pm
School Hours: Monday – Friday 8:00 am – 2:30 pm

Director:     Dr. Toni Childress
              Wendy Wyatt

Counselor:    Sue Harris

Learning Facilitators:  Michelle Baker, English
                        Donna Brownlee, Science
                        Jacque Riva, Math
                        Warren Zuger, Social Studies
Admission and Enrollment

Students interested in attending the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning (GOAL) are required to:

✓ Counsel with school counselor
✓ Complete and return the application provided by the school counselor
✓ Participate in a panel interview
✓ Commit to school MODEL

Parents interested in having their child attend the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning (GOAL) are required to:

✓ Participate in a panel interview
✓ Support student educational goals
✓ Commit to school MODEL

Applications will be accepted throughout the school year. Upon admission to the program, students will be enrolled in courses as soon as possible. Student continuation of enrollment will be evaluated quarterly. Failure to comply with rules and expectations may result in dismissal from the program.
MISSION: Our mission is to provide an interactive, flexible, and non-traditional learning option to help meet the diverse educational needs of eligible students. The Gloucester Online Academy of Learning is intended to expand learning opportunities to students who require or prefer an approach to learning that is more independent and flexible than a traditional classroom environment.

OPPORTUNITIES: The Gloucester Online Academy of Learning strives to offer students opportunities that will enhance their lives academically, professionally, socially, and culturally. These opportunities are included in the list below.

- Rigorous online curricula
- Accelerate credit recovery
- Participate in an alternative, independent, self-paced instructional platform
- Accelerate or remediate learning
- A caring learning environment
- College and Career planning and preparation

DISCIPLINE: Student acceptance to the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning is based on student interest and space availability. The GOAL is designed to be a privileged program for self-motivated students that are committed to earning a high school diploma. GOAL students are required to follow all Gloucester County Public Schools rules, regulations, and policies as well as the guidelines and expectations of the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning.

- ATTENDANCE: Daily attendance is mandatory. There is no distinction between excused and unexcused absences. The attendance policy is listed below.
  - First absence: Parent/Guardian will be notified.
  - Second absence: Parent/Guardian will be notified.
  - Third absence: Parent conference to evaluate the student’s enrollment status/commitment
  - Fourth absence: Student may be referred for dismissal.
  - Make up hours: Students can make up two absences per quarter during scheduled make-up hours

- DRESS CODE: Students are required to comply with the dress code as described in the GCPS Code of Conduct.

- DIGITAL DEVICES: The use of cell phones, iPods, mp3 players, tablets, or similar technological devices during school hours is PROHIBITED. Electronic devices MUST be stored, secured, and remain turned OFF during school hours. Any violations will result in the device being CONFISCATED for parent/guardian pick up. Subsequent violations will be considered lack of commitment to the MODEL and will require a parent conference with an evaluation of student enrollment status.
**EXPECTATIONS:** Students are expected to attend the GOAL on a daily basis and work diligently toward completing the graduation requirements set forth by the state of Virginia. If a student finds it difficult to maintain the recommended pace in one or more classes, a parent conference will be scheduled to discuss strategies and options.

- **Performance:** Students are expected to attend school on a daily basis. In addition, students are required to make continuous progress toward completing their courses without causing disruption within the program environment. Students who are unable to maintain this level of commitment, may be dismissed from the program and referred to their school counselor. Student discipline and enrollment will be evaluated quarterly or as needed.

- **Attitude:** At the GOAL, students will have caring adults and peers that challenge and support them on their educational journey. It is imperative that students have a **POSITIVE ATTITUDE** to achieve success.

- **Post-Graduation:** Every student, along with the GOAL Counselor, will develop a post-graduation plan that will include various options to achieve post-secondary career and educational ambitions.

**LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:** Virtual Learning courses meet or exceed curriculum standards including the Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL). Student progress is monitored and facilitated by highly qualified Virginia licensed instructors. There are a variety of ways to contact your instructor and the GOAL Administrator throughout the school year including telephone, e-mail, and personal meetings to answer questions and support your online learning experience.

Students, enrolled in online courses, are expected to participate actively in the virtual experience. They interact with talented instructors to help achieve their educational goals. Students experience opportunities to interact with other students, develop relationships with instructors and fellow students, and learn subject area and technology skills. Students are expected to manage their time effectively and keep current with all course assignments. GOAL students are expected to support each individual’s right to learn in an environment free from distraction and conflict.

- **STAFF:** Each student feels connected to a specific adult educator who has high expectations, the ability to monitor student academic progress through self-paced curriculum, and the commitment to help that student navigate a rigorous track through high school, college, and on to a meaningful life of learning.

- **PERSONALIZED SCHOOL CULTURE:** The staff creates an environment that generates self-confidence, teamwork, and healthy habits. Administrators, counselors, and teachers, work together to respond to students’ cognitive, emotional and physical needs to remove barriers and support student achievement.

- **STUDENT LEADERSHIP AND RESPONSIBILITIES:** Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined with support and accountability systems in place to ensure effectiveness. Leadership capacity is groomed and supported at all levels including students, parents, teachers, and administrators.
## HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS
### 2014-15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Standard Diploma Requirements</th>
<th>Advanced Studies Diploma Requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discipline Area</td>
<td>Standard Credits</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laboratory Science²</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>History &amp; Social Studies³</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health &amp; PE</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fine Arts or Career &amp; Technical Education</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electives³</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Selected SOL</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Shall include at least two course selections from the following: Algebra I, Geometry, Alg. Functions & Data Analysis, Algebra II
2. Shall include courses from at least two disciplines: Earth Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.
3. Shall include US History, US Government, and one course in World History or Geography
4. Shall include at least two sequential electives
5. Students who complete a CTE exam may substitute for a verified credit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Modified Standard Diploma Requirements</th>
<th>Standard Credits</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Discipline Area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics¹</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Science²</td>
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<tr>
<td>History &amp; Social Studies³</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fine or Practical Art</td>
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<tr>
<td>Electives⁴</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>20</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Intended for students who have a disability and are unlikely to meet the credit requirements for a Standard Diploma. Eligibility in the program is determined by the student’s IEP team and the student.

SOLs: Student must have passing scale scored of 371 on the Reading 8 SOL and 344 on the Grade 8 Mathematics SOL

1. Shall include Algebra, Geometry, or Personal Finance
2. Shall include two from Earth Sciences, Biology, Chemistry, or Physics.
3. Shall include US History and US Government
4. Shall include at least two sequential electives
STUDENT CONTRACT

As a student of the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning, I understand that I will be a part of a learning community family. The Gloucester Online Academy of Learning is committed to my successful completion of high school and the continuation of my education. I acknowledge that my enrollment in the GOAL is a privilege, not a right, and my success will result from my dedication and hard work. I understand that my enrollment is conditional upon my commitment to the GOAL MODEL and this contract. I agree that I will:

1. Respect the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning staff, TC Walker staff, peers, and the facility.

2. Maintain the attendance policy according to the Gloucester Academy of Learning Student Handbook.

3. Arrive at school, class, and all other appointments on time.

4. Put forth my best effort to diligently and honorably complete all course work and projects.

5. Obey all rules concerning behavior and conduct as stated by the Gloucester County Public School district and the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning.

6. Be responsible for understanding my graduation requirements.

I understand that my enrollment at the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning may be withdrawn should I fail to abide by this contract.

____________________________________  ______________________________________
Student Name (printed)                  Date

____________________________________
Student Signature
PARENT CONTRACT

As a parent of a Gloucester Online Academy of Learning student, I understand the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning is committed to helping my child successfully graduate from high school and continue their education beyond high school. I agree to make my best effort to support my child and the GOAL staff in achieving these goals. I acknowledge that my child’s enrollment in the GOAL is a privilege, not a right. Their success and continued participation is dependent upon my commitment to the GOAL MODEL and this contract. I agree that I will:

1. Ensure that my child maintains the attendance policy according to the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning Student Handbook.

2. Ensure that my child is punctual for class and other appointments.

3. Attend all scheduled staff/administration conferences.

4. Support my child by being aware of his/her individual requirements for graduation and progress by reviewing progress reports, reports cards, and transcripts.

5. Participate/support the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning Mission and activities.

6. Provide the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning office with updated contact information in a timely manner.

I understand that my child’s enrollment in the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning may be withdrawn should I fail to abide by this contract.

____________________________________
Parent/Guardian Signature

_________________________  ______________________
Parent/Guardian Name (printed)                 Date
STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND AGREEMENT

I have read the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning Student Handbook. I am aware of the expectations and requirements for students and parents. Therefore, I understand and agree to the Gloucester Online Academy of Learning concept, model, and contract.

STUDENT NAME (printed): _____________________________________________

STUDENT SIGNATURE: _________________________________________________

DATE: __________________

PARENT /GUARDIAN NAME (printed): _____________________________________

PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE: __________________________________________

DATE: ___________________

NOTE: In order to secure enrollment, please return the signed statement to GOAL office.