

ALHS Online Fall Update Report – October 2020

Prepared by Dr. Jim Grunwald, ALHS Online superintendent



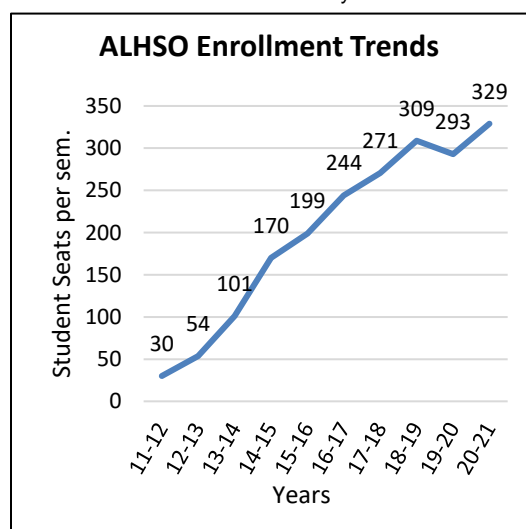
2020-21 Course Enrollments:

The charts below reflect the course enrollment for 2020-21 after the semester 1 drop-period ended on 9/21/20. Semester 2 numbers will continue to change through mid-January as students adjust schedules. Enrollment has continued an upward trend after a slight dip last year. To God be the glory for the continued support of schools, parents, and students for the services provided through ALHS Online.

Enrollment numbers by Course:		
Course Name	Sem. I	Sem. II
Art: Creative Process	1	
Da Vinci Club	1	
Science Fiction / Fantasy Literature	11	
Life of Christ – Synoptic Gospels	3	
Human Anatomy & Physiology I	41	
Introduction to Multimedia	10	
Intro to Programming	15	
Web Page Design	11	
World Regional Geography	21	
Algebra 1 (7-8 th grades)	33	33
American Sign Language 1	21	21
American Sign Language 2	5	5
Chinese 2	5	5
Geometry (8 th grade)	16	16
German 1	6	6
German 2	11	11
German 3	7	7
German 4	1	1
Latin 1	6	6
Latin 2	2	2
Latin 3	4	4
Latin 4	1	1
Spanish 1A (7 th -8 th grades)	12	12
Spanish 1B (8 th grade)	9	9
AP Computer Science A	2	2
AP Environmental Science	11	11
AP Psychology (+22 from ApLHS)	48	48
AP U.S. History	4	4
Art and Architecture		2
Medical Terminology		16
Computer Graphics		4
Creative Writing		14
Digital Photography		13
Game Programming 1		8
Human Anatomy & Physiology I		40
Life of Christ – Autoptic Gospel		4
Intro to Psychology		15
World Regional Geography		20
Total	318	340

Seat Enrollment by School:		
School	Sem-1	Sem-2
ALA	2	2
ApLHS	9	10
CLHS	4	4
DSA	36	37
ELHS	3	1
FVL	2	2
GPL	8	9
ILHS	4	3
KML	30	24
LHS	4	2
LLHS	10	7
LPS	20	21
MaLHS	14	15
MLS	9	12
MVL	38	55
NELHS	4	5
NLHS	1	3
SCLA	2	1
SLHS	17	17
West	12	16
WiLHS	2	2
WLA	13	18
Public/Home	4	4
LES (7-8th)	70	70
Total	318	340

Note: The LES (7-8th) category above is comprised of 32 WELS Lutheran Elementary schools.



Middle-School Courses: ALHSO is in its sixth year of offering Spanish 1A, 1B, and Algebra 1 to 7th and 8th grade students. Geometry was added in 2018-19 to accommodate those students that completed Algebra 1 in 7th grade. ALHSO has seen the number of schools participating and students enrolling in the courses continue to grow each year. This year 32 WELS Lutheran elementary schools are participating with 70 students each semester.



Planning for 2021-22: Planning is already underway for the 2021-22 school year. If you have additional courses that you would like to see offered, or know of individuals interested in teaching online, please contact ALHSO superintendent Dr. Jim Grunwald at grunwajr@mlc-wels.edu. Courses and instructors for the next year need to be determined by late November. A list of current courses is available on the ALHSO.org website under the **Resources** tab.

WELS Virtual High School Exploration: ALHSO has continued to receive inquiries about expanding its services to offer a fully online Christ-centered high school program for families in areas of the synod where a WELS high school does not exist. The ALHSO Board of Directors has decided to explore the feasibility of ALHSO offering a full high school curriculum to 9th grade students starting in 2021-22 and adding a grade level each subsequent year. The exploration will begin by surveying families and congregations in outlying areas of the synod. The purpose of the survey will be to determine if enough interest in such services exists to make such an expansion financially feasible.



If ALHSO does expand its services, it wants to do so in a way that maintains the strong partnership with existing WELS high schools and not pull students away from them. One idea is to set a relatively high tuition rate but greatly discount it for families/congregations that are outside the recruitment zones of existing WELS high schools. It is also assumed that if a face-to-face learning experience is readily available in a WELS high school, parents will likely choose that option over online learning. ALHSO welcomes any feedback from WELS schools, congregations, or parents concerning this approach.

ALHSO will be increasing its administrative staff as it explores the national and state requirements for a virtual high school, including providing required student services. Additional teaching staff will also be needed as curricular offerings are expanded. ALHSO is in the process of seeking grant funds to help offset exploratory and initial expansion costs.

Accreditation: The culminating activity for accreditation as an online service provider through Middle States Association - Commission on Elementary and Secondary Schools was the virtual Team-Visit that took place between MSA and ALHSO stakeholders on April 20-21, 2020. The MSA visiting team's recommendation to the MSA Accreditation Advisory Committee and the MSA Commission was that ALHSO be granted a full 7-year accreditation status without stipulations! The MSA Commission will act on the recommendation at its November 2020 meeting.



Feedback: If you have questions or suggestions for additional courses, course instructors, program improvement, or anything else, please feel free to contact ALHSO superintendent Dr. Jim Grunwald at grunwajr@mlc-wels.edu.