



Join the many families in Colorado whose children are reaching their true, personal potential through the individualized learning approach offered by Colorado Virtual Academy, a tuition-free public school.

For information events and to learn more:

K12.COM/COVA
866.339.6814

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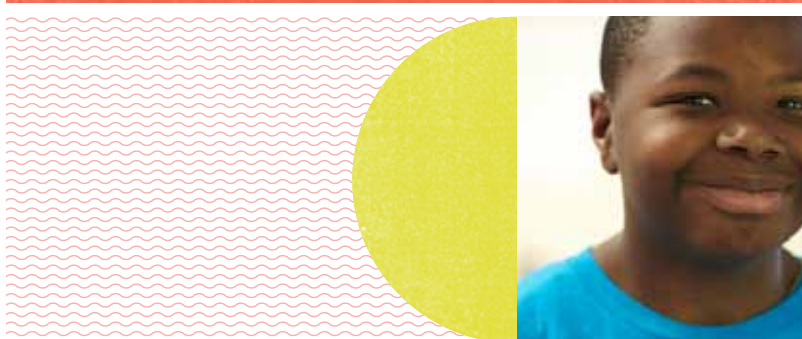


COVA

Colorado Virtual Academy

A partner school of K¹², the leader in K-12 online education.





WE ARE COVA.

Let's awaken the power of learning in your child. When students are inspired to learn, they grow more curious. Curiosity, in turn, leads to passionate interests. And those interests soon blossom into full potential—and an exciting future. We're ready to put this goal in sight for your child. Because it's amazing what can happen when you're free to learn.



WHY COVA?

Welcome to our full-time, tuition-free, online public school for grades K-12.

Dear parent,

Colorado Virtual Academy (COVA) lets students learn in the ways that are right for them. We combine the research-based, award-winning curriculum from K¹²—America's K-12 online education leader—with expert teachers and extensive support to provide an outstanding education that meets or exceeds state standards.

The key is our individualized approach. While COVA has requirements for grade advancement, our program brings families and teachers together to help children in grades K-8 learn at their own pace. Middle and high school subjects are more group-structured, but there's still greater scheduling flexibility than most traditional schools. Plus, there are museums and zoo outings for younger learners, teen activities like student government and dances, and clubs for everyone all the way to graduation. These opportunities create real connections within our community.

Find out why so many parents say we've made learning come alive for their children. I invite you to start exploring COVA today.

Heidi Heineke Magri

Heidi Heineke Magri
COVA Head of School

- Tuition-free, fully accredited public school that uses the K¹² Program
- Individualized Learning Plan tailored to your child's unique needs
- Proven combination of online curriculum and hands-on materials
- Flexibly paced courses in K-8; multiple academic levels and electives in high school
- Instruction from passionate, experienced, Colorado-licensed teachers—all committed to helping your student achieve his or her potential
- Programs for advanced, gifted, and enrichable learners
- Active, vibrant community including clubs and social events
- The ability for students to participate in their school district's extracurricular athletics and activities
- A high school diploma that meets or exceeds all state requirements, and that leads graduates to an impressive record of success
- The nation's largest network of support for families, including extensive local options like the COVA Booster Club and a Mentor Program for new parents
- Dedicated counselors to guide students in academic, college, and career choices
- Unique opportunities for college-level credit through AP courses and concurrent enrollment with Colorado community colleges

These are just a few reasons why thousands of families since 2001 have found the right choice for their children at COVA.

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

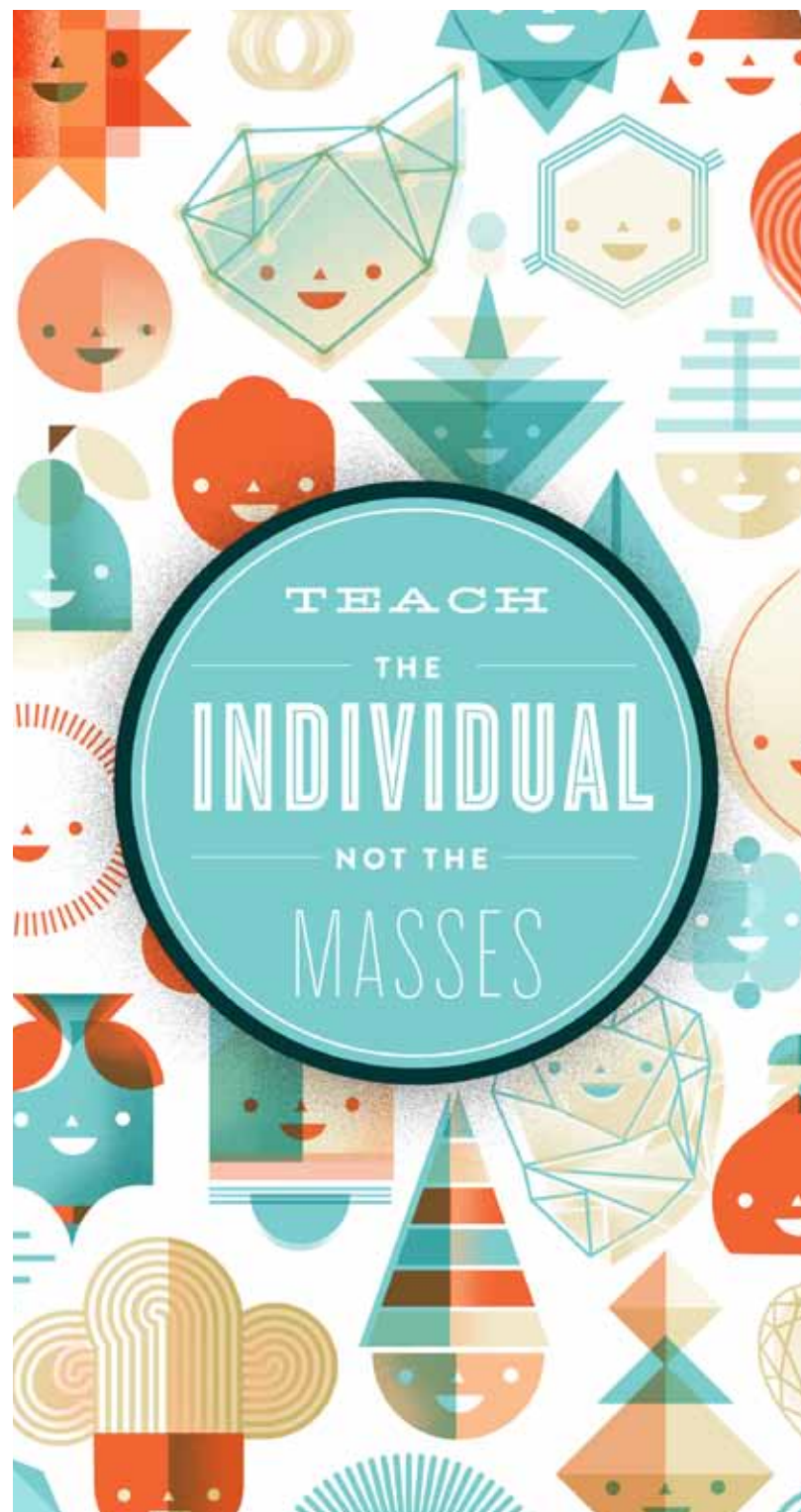
As America's K-12 online education leader for over a decade, K¹² has a singular focus: to help your child reach his or her true, personal potential.

It all starts with the award-winning K¹² online curriculum and learning methodology, based on decades of cognitive research. Combined with COVA's passionate educators and socially active learning community, we put into motion a 360-degree solution tailored to your child's specific needs.

Instrumental to this proven method is the Individualized Learning Plan (ILP). This multi-year document is created to map out academic goals, course sequences, and instructional strategies based on your student's unique strengths and challenges.

As a parent, you provide input to help teachers and school staff develop the ILP. You also participate as an active partner with teachers and your child throughout the learning process. K¹² and its partner schools like COVA provide support, advice, and access to an extensive parent network to ensure you're never alone.

Whether you have a child craving advanced opportunities or needing more support to master concepts, the K12 online schooling program surrounds students with the resources they need to succeed—not just at every grade level, but also in college, in a career, and in life.



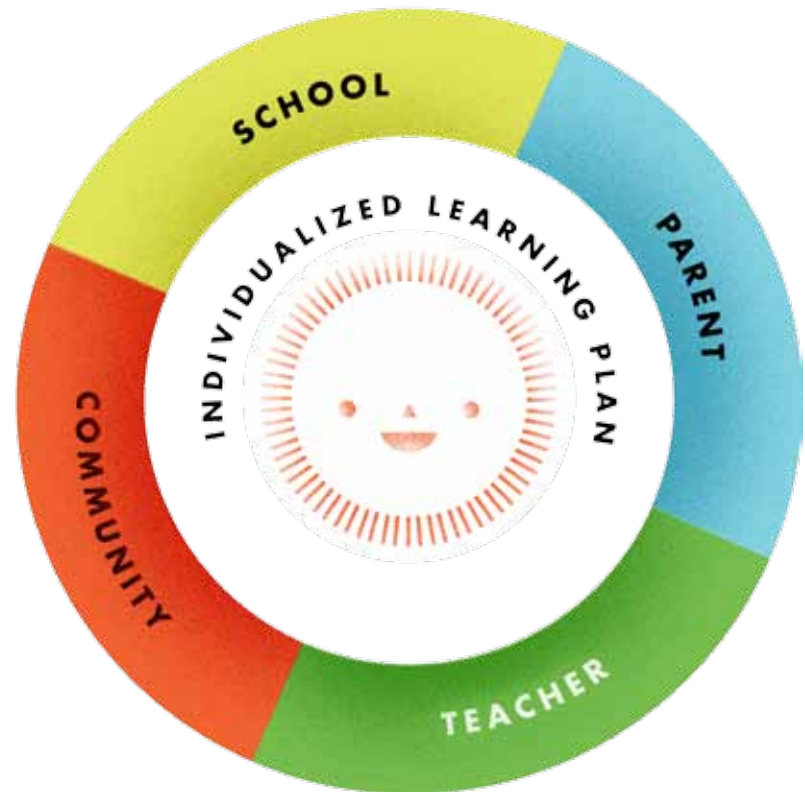
THE STUDENT TEAM

At K¹² partner schools like COVA, your child has the benefit of a powerfully effective student team—a collaboration between teachers, counselors, advisors, senior school leadership, the school community—and you. In fact, as a parent, your role is so important we call you the “Learning Coach.”

Members of the student team work hand in hand, providing support, encouragement, and care. Together, we inspire your child to believe in his or her own abilities—removing barriers to reaching the potential within.

The difference with K¹² is “dramatic,” says Laurel Barrette, K¹² director of school counseling programs. “Too many kids get put in a box. Students may be tracked into one group with one level of courses, even if their strengths vary by subject. If they do get placed in a more appropriate mix of Honors and non-Honors courses, a stigma can be attached to the so-called easier courses.

“A really important thing we’re able to do at K¹² is look at the individual student in an accepting, open-minded way. We’re able to put together a customized plan and meet kids’ needs, without them having to worry what other people think.”



EVERYONE PLAYS A ROLE.

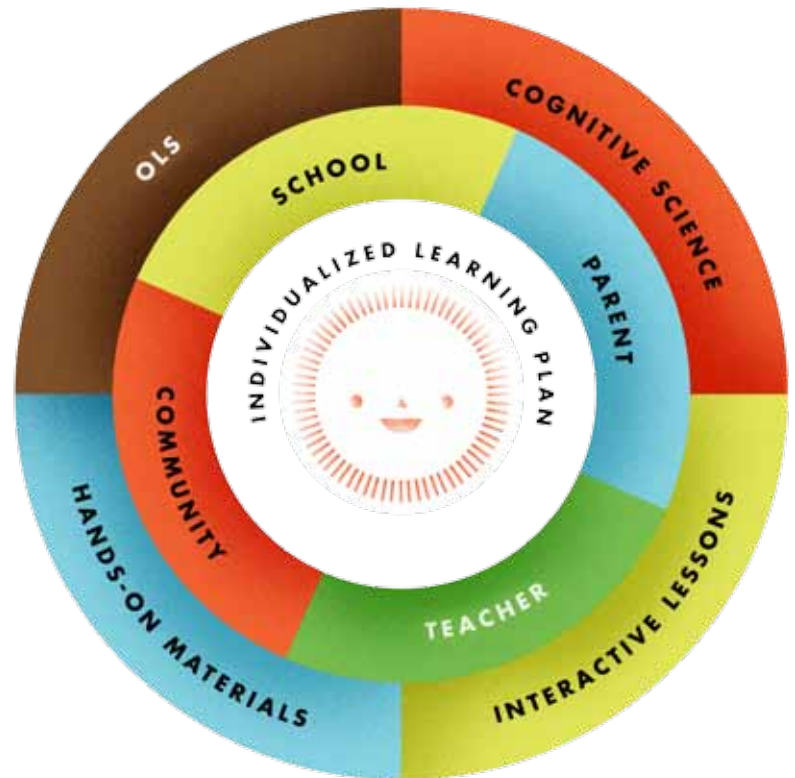
THE K¹² PROGRAM

COVA uses the award-winning K¹² curriculum that's been created by cognitive scientists, interactive designers, and master teachers—many with PhDs. Decades of research about how children learn are combined with rich, dynamic content to make learning come alive.

This patented methodology incorporates everything from engaging audio, video, and illustrations to animated demonstrations and learning games. Each course is designed to be online from the outset, unlike other curriculum providers that often scan a textbook and call it “online education.” Subject matter is carefully sequenced so that, from one grade to the next, students build new knowledge upon the strong foundations of what they've already learned.

To address a variety of learning styles, K¹² integrates hands-on materials with online lessons—books, microscopes, maps, art supplies, and more, particularly in early grades. Plus, mastery-based assessments are built right into the K-8 curriculum, to confirm students' understanding of material. All course content meets or exceeds state and national standards.

It all comes together in the Online School (OLS), where students can log into their daily lessons, submit assignments, join a live web class, or reach out to their teachers for extra help. Easy-to-use planning and communication tools in the OLS let parents adjust scheduling, monitor progress, and stay in control.



EVERY ELEMENT PLAYS A PART.

HOW COVA WORKS



ELEMENTARY & MIDDLE SCHOOL

Our K-8 program taps into children's natural inquisitiveness, with courses that truly engage young minds and reinforce key concepts in meaningful ways.

Each grade includes the four core subjects—language arts, math, science, and social studies—along with music and art, plus world language options beginning in third grade. Courses are flexibly paced, allowing students to move at the speed that best suits their needs. Those who are ready to move on to the next lesson or unit can do so, while those who require just a little more time may take it.

Nearly all courses are complemented by a wealth of hands-on materials you'd find in a traditional classroom, including illustrated children's stories, flash cards, counting blocks, magnifying glasses, inflatable globes, tambourines, paintbrushes, rock and mineral kits, and much more. Plus, the standard math courses in K-5 and a reading remediation course for grades 3-5 feature the latest "adaptive" technology that intelligently adjusts to your child's skill level, offering practice where it's needed most.

As your child's Learning Coach in grades K-5, you'll typically spend 3-6 hours per day working side-by-side with your student, helping facilitate his or her progress through the lessons. You'll also have the close support of your online teacher via e-mail, phone, and one-to-one online meetings.

In grades 6-8, the parent's role adjusts to approximately 1-4 hours per day, as students grow more independent and rely more on their teachers for instructional support.

HIGH SCHOOL

Our program for grades 9–12 is highly individualized to students’ abilities in each subject, as well as their developing interests.

The K¹² high school curriculum features over 150 courses to help teens chart a personal course to success:

- All of the core subjects: English, math, social studies, and science
- Spanish, French, German, Latin, Chinese, and Japanese
- Career-building electives including the latest science, technology, business, and liberal arts fields: web design, marketing, economics, journalism, public speaking, art history, and more

We also offer multiple academic levels to meet diverse needs:

- Core courses break down topics and develop study skills
- Comprehensive courses involve more writing and analysis
- Honors courses demand even greater independence
- College-level AP courses prep for Advanced Placement exams
- Credit recovery courses help those who didn’t pass a subject initially
- Foundations courses in math and English help address skill gaps

Courses are taught by teachers certified in their subjects, so the parent’s role shifts to moral support, attendance reporting, and progress verification. More instruction happens through live “ClassConnect” sessions to help students through difficult concepts and prepare for assessments. Teachers also hold online office hours.

Yes, the program will push your high school student, but only to maximize success on his or her path. We won’t judge the path, but we will judge the effort—and expect hard work and determination.

ADVANCED OPPORTUNITIES

For students seeking more challenge, we offer many ways to kindle the spark of learning.

For grades K–8, the K¹² Advanced Learner Program (ALP) has been developed in alignment with guidelines from the National Association for Gifted Children. Through the program’s online National Learning Circles, children investigate topics that help enhance reading, writing, research, and critical thinking skills. This includes everything from LEGO robotics to competing in the “Brain Olympics.”

For all grades, COVA also offers a unique GATE (Gifted and Talented Education) program that lets students dive deep into their own areas of interest, plus collaborate on projects with other gifted students.

The flexibility of the K¹² program means that students are placed at their ability level in courses, as opposed to their grade level. For example, a gifted 3rd grader might pursue math at an accelerated pace, while an advanced teen can take Honors American Literature.

In addition to 15 Honors courses, the K¹² high school curriculum also includes 19 college-level AP options. These courses prepare students to take Advanced Placement exams for college credit. Choices range from AP Calculus, English Literature, Physics, U.S. History, and Spanish to more specialized subjects like AP Art History and Computer Science.

COVA offers a concurrent enrollment program that allows students—including new enrollees—to take college-level courses through a local community college with college professors and on the college campus. Students have an opportunity to earn college and high school credit. Those interested must qualify for the program, and not all community college credits will transfer to a four-year university. Tuition is free except for fees and books.

TEACHERS WHO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

All of COVA's online teachers are Colorado licensed—and like excellent teachers everywhere, they know how to direct learning and inspire students. Our teachers also forge strong partnerships with parents. They manage all facets of the instructional process, regularly communicating with you and your student via e-mail, phone calls, and online meetings.

Many COVA teachers have advanced degrees, combined with several years of traditional classroom and online teaching experience. What they all have in common is an enduring passion to see your student succeed. Throughout every course, our teachers remain involved to monitor progress, ensure mastery, and develop specific intervention plans when a child is struggling. Meet three COVA teachers here!

Renae Cartwright
Middle school lead teacher
MS in curriculum and instruction
Baylor University
12 years teaching, 5 with COVA

“COVA can instill self-confidence by meeting students where they are academically.”

Molly Kennedy
Elementary school teacher
MA in education
Lesley University, Colorado
22 years teaching, 8 with COVA

“COVA allows teachers and Learning Coaches to target how the student learns best.”



**COVA HELPS MY STUDENTS
BECOME CURIOUS, SELF-
MOTIVATED, CONSISTENT, AND
HARD-WORKING INDIVIDUALS.**

Melissa Lambrecht
High school science teacher

Bachelor's in chemistry education
University of Northern Colorado
9 years teaching, 5 with COVA



PARENT SUPPORT

Along with consistent support from teachers and staff, we make it easy to connect and share resources with other parents—not just from COVA, but in K¹² partner schools worldwide. Our far-reaching parent networking groups help you get off to a great start, make the transition to a new grade, glean insightful tips, and even get moral support from veteran Learning Coaches.

For example, you can join the Booster Club to meet face-to-face with other parents. The K¹² online directory lets you find nearby families with kids the same age for Booster Buddies field trips and more. Parents also run group co-ops to help share Learning Coach duties and support students in various subjects.

K¹² hosts a wide variety of live online forums and web-based seminars for parents all over the globe, including expert-led workshops on various topics, interactive sessions to “pick the brain” of other Learning Coaches, new parent orientations, assistance with transitioning to high school, parent clubs, and more. Plus, as soon as you join COVA, our Mentor Program pairs you with a seasoned Learning Coach for ongoing guidance, advice, and encouragement. Meet three COVA parents here!

Kristin A.
Highlands Ranch
2 with COVA

“Our daughter’s confidence is back and she’s a happier student.”

Kim F.
Morrison
10 years with COVA

“Our boys are able to work ahead and will graduate early!”



**I’VE SEEN MY SON
GROW ACADEMICALLY,
AS WELL AS SOCIALLY.**

Tammy V.
Parker
2 years with COVA



STUDENT LIFE

COVA families love that their child can participate in all the athletics, clubs, and activities offered through their district—just like any other public school student. And the flexible nature of the K¹² curriculum helps students pursue their passions—whether they enjoy ballet, Boy Scouts, karate, music, or engaging in a charitable cause.

COVA also offers plenty of extracurricular activities of its own, to further help your child build lasting friendships, develop strong social skills, work collaboratively with others, and stay connected. Some of these opportunities are hosted online through our secure web-based meeting tool. Others take place face-to-face, including regular field trips to museums, parks, and other exciting locations. Teens can enjoy prom and other dances, along with graduation ceremonies.

Over 100 clubs are available through COVA and K¹², ranging from Chess, Photography, Quiz Bowl, 4-H, and Book Buddies to Debate, Cooking, Volunteering, Model U.N., and even a Babysitters Club. There are also many student organizations, including National Honor Society and Student Government. While many of these activities are school- or K¹²-initiated, others are started by students eager to share their interests. With these kinds of choices, COVA students can lead colorful, energetic, and well-rounded lives. Meet three of them here!

Brent G.

Grade 12

National Honor Society,
Naval Sea Cadets

Says his mom:

“He takes both his education
and extracurriculars seriously”

Abreana B.

Grade 12

Peer Mentoring, Yoga
Club, Greek dancing, piano

Says her mom:

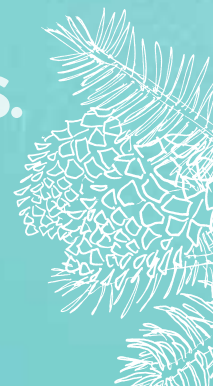
“She’s truly inspiring with how
she serves others.”



**DOING SCHOOL
AT HOME IS FUN,
FLEXIBLE, AND
PORTABLE—AND I’VE
MADE GOOD FRIENDS.**

SARA A. | Grade 6

Booster Buddies, LEGO Robotics,
Destination Imagination



GRADUATE SUCCESS

Whether your student is craving more challenge, better suited to a more focused learning environment, or always on the move, we give Colorado students from all walks of life the tools they need to succeed—in school and beyond. Our graduates earn a high school diploma that's recognized by colleges and employers all around the globe.

Our individualized, flexible approach helps students become more independent, responsible, active learners. They find their own path and follow it to a university, a vocational program, workplace readiness, or straight into a career. Students from K¹² partner schools have been accepted to Princeton, Stanford, Brown, Duke, Cornell, UC Boulder, and hundreds of other fine institutions.

Meet two COVA alumni here—for a glimpse into the possibilities for your child!

Ciarra T.
Colorado State University, Pueblo
Political science
Dean's List

“Being a student at COVA taught me discipline and responsibility.”

Jared R.
U.S. Air Force Academy
Dean's List

“One major benefit was the independence K¹² instilled in me.”



K¹² AND COVA REPORT CARD

Parent Satisfaction

89%

of COVA parents say they'd recommend the K¹² curriculum to a friend or family member ¹

91%

of parents say they're satisfied with COVA online teachers ²

Student Satisfaction

93%

of K¹² students say they've benefitted academically from the K¹² curriculum ³

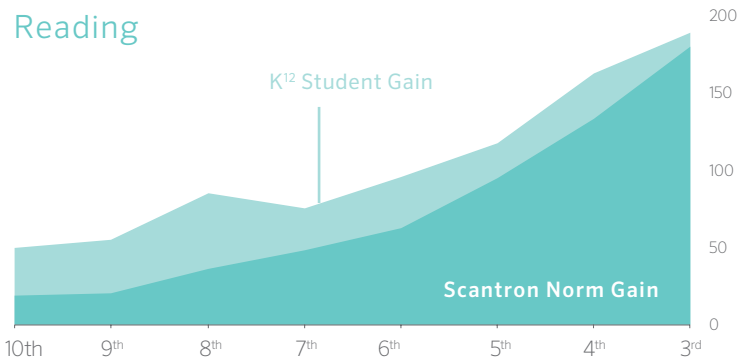
93%

of K¹² students say the K¹² curriculum has had a positive impact on them ³

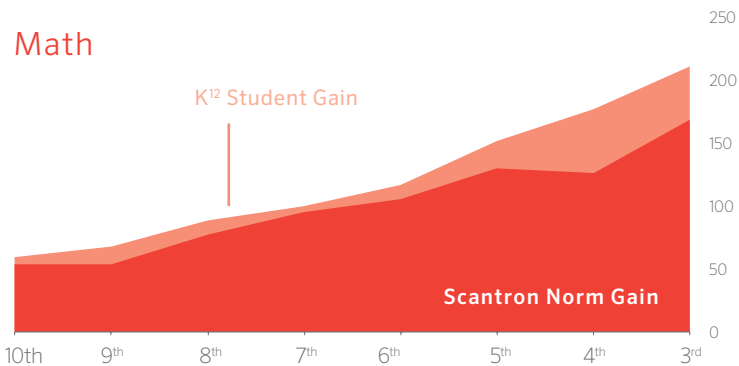
Yearly academic growth

For the 2010-2011 school years, students in K¹² Virtual Academies outperformed the norm group in all grade levels in math and reading.

Reading



Math



Students from K¹² partner schools have been accepted at hundreds of fine post-secondary institutions, including:⁴

PRINCETON, UC BOULDER,
BROWN, COLORADO STATE,
NYU, CORNELL, UC DENVER,
U.S. AIR FORCE ACADEMY,
STANFORD, COLUMBIA, UVA,
UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA,
UC BERKELEY, OXFORD, BYU,
CARNEGIE MELLON, TULANE,
NORTHWESTERN, JULLIARD

¹K-8 Parent Satisfaction survey for K¹² Virtual Academies, spring 2011, High School results 89%
²K-8 Parent Satisfaction survey for K¹² Virtual Academies, spring 2011, High School results 87%
³Senior Survey for K¹² virtual academies, spring 2012
⁴Based on student reports from annual K¹² Senior Surveys and matriculation data, 2010-2012

THANKS.

Thanks for learning more about this important option you have for your child's education.

So many families in Colorado have made this change, and they've found how remarkably well their children do when learning comes alive. By removing barriers, we encourage children to have confidence in their ability to learn. That excitement about learning is the key to unlocking each child's highest potential.

We hope you'll take the next step, and look forward to working with you.

WE ARE COVA

