

DISTANCE LEARNING FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How will my child access instruction? Do teachers get to choose their platform or is everyone using the same type?

All teachers will be using Google Classroom and giving your child access to that specific classroom. Teachers will be using Zoom to provide instruction. This is much more structured than the Spring version of distance learning.

What curriculum will be used?

We will be using our state adopted curriculum:

Engage NY math
HMH Wonders-ELA
Studies Weekly-Science
Teachers Curriculum Institute-Social Studies

Will my child receive a device?

All children that request a device will be provided with a Chromebook for grades 1-8 or an iPad for grade K.

What if my WiFi connection isn't good?

We have ten personal hotspots or mifi hotspots to distribute free of charge at this time. There will also be an external hotspot at school so that the wifi may be accessed from the parking lot. Students do need to stay in cars and / or practice social distancing without mingling with other students.

What happens if my internet connection goes out in the middle of a lesson?

All live or whole group lessons are being recorded so that any child may access them at any time. Teachers are also available in the afternoon for "office hours" to provide additional assistance and answer any questions. As always, we will be as flexible as possible under the guidelines of the state requirements.

Is there filtering of content on the school provided devices?

Yes. We currently use GoGuardian which filters content and tracks site usage on each device.

How will you take attendance?

Attendance will be taken during the live instructional / whole group formats and during the small group instruction. Teachers will be reporting daily attendance at the end of the day, and an engagement log will be kept on all students. Communication with your child's teacher will be key. <u>Attendance is mandatory.</u>

How does my child turn in assignments?

Each child will have a Google log in and each teacher will create a Google Classroom. Assignments may be uploaded into the classroom or sent via other means such as scans or pictures. Each teacher may also have other means by which they will be collecting assignments. We are also working on simplifying the log-ins through the use of a collective login app called Clever.

What if my child is absent?

As always, please contact the school to let us know your child will be absent. Work with your teacher about make up assignments as needed.

What if my child has an IEP?

Your child's case manager will be contacting you directly to schedule therapy and instruction and support. These will be provided virtually at this time unless otherwise scheduled. IEPs will be scheduled ASAP and assessments conducted as appropriate and practicable. Any

changes to an IEP will be discussed and determined by the IEP team although at this time, there are no group learning settings allowed by public health criterion.

Am I expected to teach science and social studies?

No. We will be sending home our state adopted curriculum with specific assignments to complete. We will also provide links to supported learning in science through Generation Genius and a new program called Freckle. Freckle also has social studies supported assignments for students as well. We chose to focus our real time, teacher provided instruction on the heavy duty subjects of ELA and math rather than shorten the time teachers had with those two subjects. Social studies and science have specific assignments and requirements but you may complete those on an independent schedule.

How will social studies and science be graded?

Social studies, science and PE for grades 5-8 will be graded on a Pass/Fail basis.

May I just get packets for my child?

At this time, no. We are providing real time instruction by certificated teachers. Packets were given because of the emergency nature of school closures in March. We are prepared to teach your child almost as if they were actually on campus.

What if my child has difficulty with the online learning?

The key is to communicate with your child's teacher. We will do our best to accommodate individual needs, particularly for those students with disabilities.