

Dear District 161 Families,

Our current Continuity of Learning Plan (skill practice) will remain in place through Spring Break. Beginning Monday, April 6, we will begin utilizing our Remote Learning Plan for E-learning days. Please see the attached Remote Learning Plan for details.

While remote learning is not the same as a regular classroom environment, it can provide some continuity when school is interrupted. The goal of our remote learning plan is for students to continue learning and receive feedback from their teacher.

As you know, we are experiencing unprecedented times that call for flexibility for our administrators, staff members, students, and families as we provide learning opportunities. As such, please know that:

- New content will be introduced during our remote learning days with the caveat that learning will be student-paced each week with respect to the needs of families.
- There is no expectation that students will be on their device with their teacher from 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. daily.
- During that timeframe, teachers may be checking in with students and/or be providing feedback on activities that have been assigned on the teacher's web page.
- We will remain flexible in terms of assessing learning. During this state of emergency, our focus is on developing skills and providing formative feedback from the teacher.

All schools will generally utilize the following guidance:

- 8:30 a.m. - Each Monday teachers post activities for the week on Teacher Pages
- 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Teacher and student interaction as needed during this time frame to provide feedback, instruction, and/or support. (While not online continuously, teachers will monitor digital learning spaces i.e. Office 365, etc., and will e-mail families as needed.)

We recognize that remote learning may be a new concept for some families and, as a result, we will be analyzing and adjusting along the way to make improvements.

In preparation for our Remote Learning Plan utilization, our building technicians will continue to answer questions and support parents during Spring Break. We also are developing a second opportunity for a parent to pick up their student's tablet and charger. This would take place after Spring Break, if the state of emergency continues. Additional information would be forthcoming.

Please know how much we appreciate your patience as we continue to navigate this global emergency together.

Sincerely,  
Supt. Barb Rains, Ed.D.