

Distance Learning

2020-2021

OVERVIEW

As we begin a new school year, we are working to make school as safe as possible for our students. It is our belief that students learn best by being at school in the classroom and we are making adjustments and changing our plans of how we operate. While we work to make school as safe as possible, we realize that certain circumstances will cause some students to choose Distance Learning. It will be our goal to provide the same curriculum, frequency, pace, and rigor to our Distance Learners as students present in the classroom will receive.

Support from home for Distance Learning is extremely important. We will ask that an “at home” adult will sign a commitment form to be an “Academic Coach” to monitor the progress of the Distance Learner and ensure that work is being completed each week. Our teachers will work hard to give each child the appropriate grade level experience through daily whole group teaching videos. Distance Learners will not be able to receive the small group/individualized instruction from their teacher, so support from home will be essential.

In the spring, Distance Learning was more relaxed due to reviewing material and less time to prepare for the sudden cancellation of on site classes. As we begin this year, we have had time to prepare and will be holding students accountable for all assignments and activities. Grades will be given for each assignment and will determine their grades each quarter. It is vital that we hold our students accountable and monitor their progress as they are introduced to new material and standards.

If Distance Learning is the platform that you choose, this will be a semester long commitment. Traditional school will begin on August 20th. Distance Learning will begin on August 24th.

Academic Assistance

- Distance Learning will be shared amongst all of the grade level teachers. This means that your child may receive videos from any of the teachers within that grade level.
- They will be assigned a homeroom teacher that will be a point of contact for questions and clarification.
- Teachers will make every effort to communicate expectations, respond to requests, provide support and meet the needs of Distance Learners. Since all teachers will be providing traditional instruction during the day, communication with teachers during this time will be limited. Teachers will return correspondence when time allows and they are available to do so. An email will be the best way to reach out to teachers since they will be in the classroom with limited phone access during the day.

Assessments

- Academic progress for Distance Learners will be monitored through a computer software program. It is very important that students complete these assessments on their own without assistance to get an accurate picture of their progress. This will allow us to design an individualized program based on their needs.
- At some point throughout the year, we may also ask that your child come to the school to be given a face to face assessment. They would not come into contact with any other students or adults other than the teacher giving the assessment.

Attendance

- Daily attendance will be taken at the end of each week for Distance Learners, based on the completion of assignments for the week. For example, if a student fails to complete an assignment for Tuesday, they will be marked absent for Tuesday.
- Unless otherwise specified by the teacher, work for each week will be due Saturday at 11:59 PM. Any paper packets would be turned in each Monday.
- If a student fails to turn in an assignment by the deadline, they will be counted absent. If the teacher allows the work to be turned in late, the student may get credit for the assignment, however, their attendance will still be effected and will not be changed to “present.”

Grade Requirements

- Distance Learners will complete equivalent assignments to those physically present in the classroom.
- Distance Learners will receive a similar number of grades per week as students that are physically present in the classroom.
- If for any reason a distance learner is sick or unable to complete the required assignments by Saturday at 11:59 PM, it is extremely important to contact the attendance line at (405) 499-4623. We will work with absences at home just like we do at school. With excused absences, discretion and reason will be utilized for make-up work. If a child does not complete an assignment, it will be entered as a zero credit. Teachers are granted discretion in determining the amount of time allowed for make-up work.

Schedule

- The schedule for Distance Learning will be flexible in nature. This means students will be able to watch their videos and complete their assignments at any time throughout the day and week. We expect that completing daily lessons and activities will consist of around 3 to 4 hours per day for all grades.
- Our Specials teachers (Art, Computers, Library, Music, PE) will also use a platform to record lessons and upload videos so that Distance Learners will be able to participate in a rotation of daily activities.
- Lessons for distance learners will be one day behind students that are present in the classroom. Teachers will video their lessons daily and then upload them to their Google Classroom for distance learners to view the next day.

Technology

- Technology will be required. All students will use a computer daily. If your child does not own a device at home, one will be made available to them through the school.
- Google Meet/Zoom will be used for when face to face interaction is needed or required.
- Each grade level will have a “Distance Learning Classroom” setup in Google. Students will be required daily to check the platform for assignments and lessons sent to them by grade level teachers.
- In some cases paper packets will be needed to complete an assignment or activity. Distance Learners will need to have a parent or guardian available to pick up assignments and return completed work once a week. This will be distributed through the exit office.