

# Scorpion School

## Distance Learning Guide

*for the SRS community - families and faculty*

**Spring 2020**



SCHOLARSHIP • RESPECT • INTEGRITY • COURAGE • COMMUNITY

2515 Crossbow Court, Reno, Nevada 89511 | (775) 852-6222 | [www.sageridge.org](http://www.sageridge.org)

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## **Sage Ridge School - Distance Learning Plan**

In anticipation of a government mandated school building closure, on Friday March 13, students were asked to take all books and materials home with them. At the time, the School presented a distance learning plan for a temporary school closure. Governor Sisolak has since mandated that all Nevada schools close until at least April 17 to control the spread of COVID-19. At this time, Sage Ridge School plans to reopen on Monday April 20. Please note that this date is subject to change. In light of the extended time during which school buildings will be closed, Sage Ridge administrators have amended our distance learning plan to maximize learning.

To prepare your family for Sage Ridge Distance Learning - Scorpion School - please read the following guide in its entirety before Monday March 30.



### **Distance Learning at Sage Ridge**

Sage Ridge's approach to distance learning begins with the acknowledgement that the learning experiences teachers design when school is in regular session cannot be simply replicated through distance learning. Invaluable social interactions and collaboration which occur naturally every day on campus cannot be recreated in the same way.

Teachers must find new methods for providing timely and specific feedback to support student growth and learning. This guide provides a framework for how our faculty can leverage digital and experiential learning in ways which bring curricula to life and what families can expect during this experience.

We are deliberately using the term distance learning rather than technology-specific labels such as “virtual learning,” “e-learning,” or “online classes.” This choice reflects our conviction that quality learning can occur off campus without solely relying on computers. Rather than being tied to an electronic device for their learning, our goal is for students to read, communicate, and engage in authentic learning experiences, while continuing to be physically active.

Accordingly, Sage Ridge’s shift to distance learning begins with consideration of how we can intentionally align learning experiences with our **Mission** - Sage Ridge School graduates curious and confident citizens who embrace rigorous **SCHOLARSHIP**, **RESPECT** the dignity of individuals, choose **INTEGRITY**, embody **COURAGE**, cultivate a compassionate **COMMUNITY**, and ultimately thrive in college and in our global society - and **Value Pillars**.

Aligning distance learning to Sage Ridge’s Mission gives teachers permission to think differently about the opportunities and possibilities that may result from the challenging circumstances associated with any school closure.

## **Goals of the Sage Ridge Scorpion School Plan**

- Provide details on the School's plan to continue with teaching and learning in light of a necessary and mandated school building closure.
- Provide details of the daily schedules and explain its components.
- Explain the unique aspects of Scorpion School in the Lower, Middle, and Upper Schools.
- Outline Scorpion School expectations for all community members.
- Address questions families have at this time of school transition.
- Provide resources for families so support their success with Scorpion School.
- Provide families with contact information about from whom to seek for support.

The School is committed to regular review and monitoring of Scorpion School and will seek feedback from faculty, parents and guardians, and students on a regular basis via ZOOM meetings, school surveys, and personal phone calls.

### **First day of a closure (Monday March 30, 2020)**

On this day, families should make a home plan for at home learning. Students need a quiet place to work, and families will need to discuss rules and boundaries for school time. We recommend a centrally located common area for this rather than the bedroom. These rules should include but are not limited to the following: students should avoid the distractions of social media while they are completing school work,

and students should be removed from television or other media while they are working. Once set up, students should work on outstanding assignments, complete free reading, and/or study for upcoming tests.

### **Beginning the second day of a school building closure (Tuesday March 31, 2020)**

Students will begin distance learning. This will start at 9:00 with a ZOOM all school Community Meeting. Parents are invited to join the meeting. After the Community Meeting, students will join their first class - D Period. D Period on Tuesday will be a live ZOOM class. Students will receive a link via email to join the class.

### **What is Distance Learning?**

Distance learning - Scorpion School - occurs when school buildings are closed, and learning is relocated to the home environment. The students and the teachers are not meeting together in a classroom. Students will complete work and learn in both asynchronous and non-asynchronous settings. Students are working at home on assignments that teachers create for the students and post in FACTS or in GOOGLE CLASSROOM. Much like in a traditional school setting, students will receive written feedback on their work via FACTS, GOOGLE CLASSROOM, or email correspondence. Distance learning can take many forms and may utilize technology with which the students and teachers are already comfortable. Teachers also may introduce new technology to enhance learning for their particular class. In a distance learning environment, assessments are considered 'take home' assessments because students will have access to their materials in order to complete their work. The goal of distance learning is to provide a framework in which students can continue to learn even though teachers and students cannot meet for classes.



## **Types of Technology used during Scorpion School**

To support Scorpion School learning, teachers and students will be using the following platforms: GOOGLE CLASSROOM, ZOOM, FACTS/RENWEB, and GMAIL. Please note that certain teachers will require students to use other online tools specific to their subject or class. For example, students may be required to use Khan Academy for math practice. Certain online platforms have age restrictions on use, and others may require parents to create accounts or have dual accounts with their students. Individual classroom teachers will communicate with students and teachers about specific class requirements during Scorpion School.



## The Scorpion School Schedule

In accordance with Independent School Management's (ISM) recommendation for best practices, Sage Ridge administrators created a Scorpion School Schedule. If possible, families should print this schedule and put it on students' desks and on the refrigerator.

**Sage Ridge Scorpion School Schedule**  
31 March 2020 until the school building re-opens

Start	Finish	Time	Period	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3	Day 4	Day 5	Day 6	Day 7	Day 8	Day 9	Day 10
9:00 AM	9:30 AM	30	Period 1	Campus Mtg	Advisory	G1 9:00-10:00	Advisory	Community Mtg	Campus Mtg	Advisory	C3 9:00-10:00	Advisory	Community Mtg
9:30 AM	10:30 AM	60	Period 2	A1	D1 (LS/MS FLEX)	H1 - 10:00-11:00	C2	F2	E3	H3	D3 (LS/MS FLEX) 10:00-11:00	G4	B4
10:30 AM	11:30 AM	60		Sage Support		11:00-11:30	Sage Support		Sage Support		11:00-11:30	Sage Support	
11:30 AM	12:30 PM	60	Period 3	B1	E1	A2	D2 (LS/MS FLEX)	G2	F3	A3	E4	H4	C4
12:30 PM	1:30 PM	60		Lunch									
1:30 PM	2:00 PM	30		Sage Support									
2:00 PM	3:00 PM	60	Period 4	C1	F1	B2	E2	H2	G3	B3	F4	A4	D4 (LS/MS FLEX)
3:15 PM	4:15 PM	60			Faculty Mtgs		Faculty Mtgs			Faculty Mtgs		Faculty Mtgs	



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\* During scheduled period time the class is "in session" - including direct instruction, sharing, 'office hours', collaborative work. Teachers should hold one live check-in using Zoom video conferencing software each week (one out of the two classes).

\* Sage Support - students work on assignments, teachers or students can ask for conferences

### [Go to Full Schedule](#)

- In this schedule, students have three subjects a day, and each class will have two work/meeting times a week.
- Each class will meet synchronously at least one time per week. This means that teachers will send students a ZOOM link to join a live classroom at least one time per week. Students should join the meeting on time, be in an SRS uniform top or spirit top, and should have all of their materials and supplies at the ready.
- Please note - Students in Grades 3-8 and US students in Fitness class will have assignments every day, five days a week. These students will still meet one day a week for a LIVE classroom. Teachers of those classes will share expectations with students. US students who are not in physical education classes may use the following resources recommended by Mrs. Kratzer and Mr. Farnsworth: [Fitness Blender](#), [DAREBEE](#) - Fitness on your own terms, the [APP Seven Minutes Workouts](#).



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- Sage Support is a time for students and teachers to complete work and assignments. It is also a time for teachers and students to connect in small groups. If teachers and students meet one on one over ZOOM, the students and teachers will be in public places - living room, family room, dining room - in their homes - and teachers will record the sessions.
- Campus and community meetings will be webinars that students will join via shared links.
- Advisory groups will meet via GOOGLE classroom and/or ZOOM meetings.
- Faculty members will engage in ZOOM meetings on Tuesdays and Thursdays. They will communicate daily on internal platforms - BASECAMP and GMAIL.



## Scorpion School Agreements

### Scorpion School Expectations for Faculty

<b><u>For faculty</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be available online Monday - Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.</li><li>• Update FACTS on a weekly basis with lesson plans and homework assignments.</li><li>• Provide meaningful and thoughtful assignments within reason and in line with the type of assignments that you typically offer in your classrooms.</li><li>• Provide grades in FACTS/RENWEB for two pieces of student work a week.</li><li>• Provide due dates for assignments in FACTS/RENWEB and/or Google Classroom that are consistent with class meeting times on the Scorpion School Schedule.</li><li>• Check in with students during each class meeting time by either ZOOM and/or a Google Classroom question.</li><li>• Conduct a minimum of one live ZOOM session per week with your class.</li><li>• Record attendance in FACTS/RENWEB based on ZOOM attendance or on time Google Classroom check-in responses.</li><li>• Maintain a positive affect with the students in an online learning environment.</li><li>• Create a predictable environment and a clear set of expectations.</li><li>• Communicate to students that you are available to support them.</li><li>• Be mindful that students succeed best when they are connected.</li><li>• Challenge students to encourage engagement with work and assignments.</li><li>• Grade assignments when they are submitted, provide feedback, and enter grades into FACTS/RENWEB within 24 hours of submission when possible. Evaluate longer assignments and papers within a one- week period.</li><li>• Read and reply to email from students and families within 24 hours of email receipt.</li><li>• Communicate with families and the <a href="#">School</a> in the case of illness and the inability to work.</li><li>• If possible, provide work for students in the case of an illness.</li><li>• Attend ZOOM staculty meetings from 3:15 p.m - 4:15 p.m on Tuesdays and Thursdays.</li></ul>
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## Scorpion School Expectations for Students

<b><u>For students</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Select a home study location - a spot where you can work at home free from distractions.</li><li>• Complete your school work on a daily basis unless you are sick and are unable to work.</li><li>• Model the pillars of Scholarship, Respect, Integrity, Courage, and Community.</li><li>• Follow the Sage Ridge School Honor Code.</li><li>• Give your best effort on all of your work.</li><li>• Turn in your own work. If you have questions about academic integrity with distance learning, ask your advisor, your teacher, Mrs. Bubala, or Mr. Crain.</li><li>• Turn in assignments when they are due.</li><li>• Join and attend weekly classroom sessions as required by your teachers. Students will receive ZOOM invitations from their teachers and can join without having a ZOOM account.</li><li>• Wear Sage Ridge uniform tops or spirit wear tops during school hours.</li><li>• Contact your teachers during Sage Support time with any questions or requests for help. Remember it is more difficult for teachers to check for your understanding when you are not in a classroom and you need to be courageous - communicate with your teachers.</li><li>• Ask parents for help with issues that need to be resolved.</li><li>• Reach out to your advisor for support with non-academic issues.</li><li>• Read feedback from teachers that is posted in FACTS, email, GOOGLE classroom, etc.</li></ul>
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## Scorpion School Expectations for Parents and Guardians

### **For parents & guardians**

- Prepare your students for Scorpion School by reading all school correspondence and reviewing the materials with your children, Grades 3-12.
- Talk with students about the importance of distance learning during the time of a school building closure.
- Be positive about how the school is handling distance learning. It is important that parents model problem-solving and positivity.
- Be clear about what the students are supposed to be doing and why they are participating in Scorpion School. Answer questions about the importance of continuing with school at home.
- Acknowledge that there will be a learning curve for everyone involved in this process.
- Support your students in selecting a home study location - a spot where you can work from home free from distractions.
  - This spot should not be in the bedroom except in cases of older students who have already established a bedroom desk as their quiet study spot.
  - If older students do work in their rooms, their doors should be open.
  - Lower and middle school students should establish a public home study location. It should not be in the room where they will sleep.
  - Let your child have a voice in determining where the space should be and what the space might look like. If younger children want to decorate their home study location, within reason, let them.
- Ensure that children are following the daily schedule.
- Ask questions of school personnel as they arise; go directly to the appropriate source so that their questions can be answered in a timely manner. See the list of contact information at the end of this guide.
- Connect with other parents via social media, phone/text, or online tools.
- Communicate with the [School](#) by 9 a.m. if your child is ill or has an appointment and cannot participate in Scorpion School for all or part of the day.
- Communicate with teachers on questions about how to support students. Teachers may contact parents from teachers' personal cell phone numbers. Be respectful of teachers' private and family time, and do not call them outside of their work hours. Contact teachers during Sage Support when possible.
- Communicate with advisors on questions about non-academic issues.

## Scorpion School Expectations for Advisors

<b><u>For Advisors</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lead Advisory Sessions on ZOOM or Google Classroom during the regularly scheduled time on Tuesdays and Thursdays.</li><li>• Communicate with students and families once a week via email, phone or ZOOM.</li><li>• Report to the Head of Academics or the Head of Student Life as is appropriate for support with student or family issues that need resolution.</li><li>• Work with grade level team leaders and the Student Life Head to implement advisory activities.</li></ul>
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## Scorpion School Expectations for Grade Level Team Leaders

<b><u>For GLTLs</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support campus and team members with Scorpion School questions as they relate to particular grade levels.</li><li>• Work with team members and the Student Life Head to plan and organize advisory activities.</li><li>• Communicate with the Student Life Head about questions related to particular grade levels.</li><li>• Create a GOOGLE CLASSROOM for the grade level to communicate class news.</li><li>• Work with the grade's Community Lead for support with class meetings/activities.</li><li>• Join Grade Level Team Leader ZOOM meetings with the Student Life and Academic Head when they are scheduled.</li></ul>
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## Scorpion School Expectations for Department Chairs

<b><u>For Chairs</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support department members with Scorpion School planning and preparation by answering questions about assignments, assessments, and grading.</li><li>• Communicate with the Academic Head about questions related to particular departments.</li><li>• Create ZOOM meetings for department meetings during scheduled times.</li><li>• Join academic team meetings during the times when they are scheduled.</li></ul>
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## Scorpion School Expectations for Staff

<b><u>For Staff</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Be available online Monday - Friday between the hours of 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 p.m. - 3 p.m.</li><li>• Communicate with supervisors every morning by 10 a.m. via a phone call, BASECAMP, or email to discuss goals for the day.</li><li>• Read and reply to email from students and families within 24 hours of email receipt.</li><li>• Communicate with families and the <a href="#">School</a> in the case of illness and the inability to work.</li><li>• Attend ZOOM faculty meetings from 3:15 p.m - 4:15 p.m on Tuesdays and Thursdays.</li></ul> <p><b><u>College Counseling</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ensure continuity of the processing of student files for college applications.</li><li>• Support school advocacy with colleges, College Board, and other external bodies to ensure campus closure, distance learning, and their effects are understood.</li><li>• Provide advising and timely updates to students and parents on college admissions, testing, scholarships, and related matters as needed and information comes to light</li></ul>
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## Scorpion School Expectations for the Leadership Team

<b><u>For Leadership</u></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Develop whole school and school section plans for distance learning.</li><li>• Communicate regularly with faculty/staff and parents.</li><li>• Collect feedback data to monitor program effectiveness and determine needed improvements.</li><li>• Support faculty/staff and parents/guardians during distance learning.</li><li>• Work with Department Heads and Grade Level Team Leaders to support ongoing development of programs and delivery</li><li>• Ensure effective implementation of distance learning plan and accountability to student learning.</li><li>• Create whole school opportunities and create ways to connect our community</li><li>• Ensure the school is meeting local, state and accreditation requirements as they are modified during this crisis.</li><li>• Work with the wider community to connect our students and offer support where we can.</li></ul>
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## Lower School Campus - Scorpion School

### Lower School Overview - Grades 3-5

The School/Family Partnership is especially important during a distance learning environment. The lower school teachers are committed to meeting students where they are while also challenging them to grow and learn on a daily basis. The School's goal is to continue this year's work of engaging lower school students in new challenges and fostering a love of learning. Teachers will work with families and students to build confidence with our online platforms, and teachers will communicate with parents on a weekly basis through FACTS/RENWEB, ZOOM, or via phone calls. Elementary school children are working to become independent learners, and based on their growth track may require varying levels of support. Much like they have done all year, teachers and advisors will use D period for FLEX TIME. This means that the class period may be used for advisory time, independent work time, a certain subject, or for social and emotional development activities. Grade level team leaders, advisors, and teachers will communicate to families and students about the use of D period for their particular grade level.

#### We ask Lower School parents for the following support:

- Read all school and teacher correspondence.
- Follow all general parent expectations as they are outlined above.
- With your child, check FACTS/RENWEB and your child's email each morning (Monday - Friday) to determine the assignments and tasks your child will do on that particular day.
- Check grades, marks, and comments in FACTS/RENWEB once a week.
- Prompt your child to write down the day's assignments and tasks in his or her planner.
- As needed and especially in the first weeks of distance learning, assist your child in logging into Google Classroom and required ZOOM sessions. Special Note: Third grade students will be using their school GMAIL on a regular basis and GOOGLE CLASSROOM for the first time during Scorpion School. Mrs. Bratt will communicate with families when she has created GOOGLE CLASSROOMS; at this time you will be prompted [to help your child access the virtual classroom](#).
- Let your child do his or her own work; do not step in and complete work for them, even if they are struggling with a concept or task. Do assist them in contacting their teachers for help.
- Email your child's teacher for assistance or to discuss how to address individual questions.
- Each evening, ask your child to share about their Scorpion School day, what they worked on, what they learned, and what they discovered about themselves, their teachers, or their peers.
- In situations where students live in two homes, communicate regularly with the other adults with whom your child lives.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES** - [CDC - Ages 6-8](#); [CDC - Ages 9-11](#)



## Middle School Campus - Scorpion School

### Middle School Overview - Grades 6-8

Middle School students are curious and eager learners. They enjoy learning in a variety of ways and are keen to assert their independence. Even with their budding independence, middle school students still need parent support and will benefit from a strong School/Family Partnership. Scorpion School will present our middle school students with the opportunity to exercise their independence and learn in new ways even though they are not doing so on campus. The SRS Middle School Faculty appreciates and understands middle school social, emotional, and academic development, and is committed to supporting student growth during our distance learning period. Students will learn while engaging in both asynchronous and synchronous, real time, classes with teachers and classmates. Much like they have done all year, teachers and advisors will use D period for FLEX TIME. This means that the class period may be used for advisory time, independent work time, a certain subject, or for social and emotional development activities. Grade level team leaders, advisors, and teachers will communicate to families and students about the use of D period for their particular grade level.

#### We ask middle school parents for the following support:

- Read all school and teacher correspondence.
- Follow all general parent expectations as they are outlined above.
- Confirm that your child checks FACTS/RENWEB and email each morning (Monday - Friday) to determine the assignments and tasks your child will do on that particular day.
- Check grades, marks, and comments in FACTS/RENWEB once a week.
- Prompt your child to write down the day's assignments and tasks in his or her planner.
- Let your child do his or her own work; do not step in and complete work for them, even if they are struggling with a concept or task. Assignments are structured such that they do not require parent involvement.
- Prompt your child to use Sage Support time to email teachers for assistance with assignments.
- As needed, email your child's advisor to discuss ways you can support distance learning.
- Each evening, ask your child to share about their Scorpion School day, what they worked on, what they learned, and what they discovered about themselves, their teachers, or their peers.
- In situations where students live in two homes, communicate regularly with the other adults with whom your child lives.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES** - [CDC - Ages 9-11](#); [CDC - Ages 12-14](#)

## Upper School Campus - Scorpion School

### Upper School Overview - Grades 9-12

Much like Middle School students, Upper School students crave independence and thrive in community settings where they can interact and connect with their peers. The Upper School teachers are committed to continuing the sense of community our high school students feel each day in Crossbow. Teachers will hold live classes at least once a week, will touch base with students in small groups and on an individual basis, and encourage students to connect on their own in chat groups or through other online methods. Students will use their study hall periods for independent work much like they would in a school setting. Study hall periods will not be live meetings. The School recognizes that missing out on being at school during any year of high school is particularly disappointing for students. To address concerns on the minds of many high school students at Sage Ridge and worldwide, at this time we can offer the following information:

- Students in Advanced Placement classes will continue to prepare for the **AP exams**. The College Board recently announced that all testing will be conducted online this year. For more information, please read Mr. Lamb's email dated Sunday March 22 and also reference The College Board's [Information for AP Students Affected by Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#) for related details. The full exam schedule, specific free-response question types that will be on each AP exam, and additional testing information will be available by April 3, so check back there then. Traditional face-to-face exam administrations will not take place. Students will take a 45-minute online free-response exam at home. According to AP representatives you can reach by phone, this applies to both domestic and international test administration. More specific information about the at-home testing plan is scheduled to be released on April 3. For more information on test administration issues feel free to contact AP Services at [apstudents@info.collegeboard.org](mailto:apstudents@info.collegeboard.org) or 888-225-5427 (toll free) or 212-632-1780.
- Many sophomores, juniors, and seniors still have required **community service** hours to complete for graduation requirements. Any outstanding hours for this year will be waived. Seniors who meet all other requirements for Honors and High Honors diplomas will not be disqualified for missing community services hours for the 2019-2020 school year. Juniors who at the end of their senior year in 2021 meet all other requirements for Honors and High Honors diplomas - except for their service requirement for the 2019-2020 school year - will not be disqualified for missing community services hours.
- **College counseling** for juniors and seniors will continue. Mr. Lamb will continue to meet via phone call or ZOOM with parents and students. Students should follow all recommendations that come from Mr. Lamb, including but not limited to using NAVIANCE and College Kickstart, and working on the Common Application (juniors). Freshmen and sophomore families are also welcome to contact Mr. Lamb at any time for advice on any topic related to college admissions.

- Seniors will continue working on their **theses** and should be in close contact with both Dr. Sullivan and their assigned thesis advisors. While we cannot predict at this time if and when the school building will reopen, we are planning for students to defend their research. If the defenses cannot be conducted in person, they will be held via ZOOM meetings.
- The **senior internship** requirements are canceled for this year. Seniors should contact their internship sponsors as quickly as possible to inform them of the cancellation. Seniors should write their sponsors a thank you letter that recognizes the opportunity the sponsors offered to the students.
- The **Senior Disney Trip** is cancelled. Mr. Thibault will provide more information to students and families.

### We ask Upper School parents for the following support:

- Read all school and teacher correspondence.
- Follow all general parent expectations as they are outlined above.
- Confirm that your child checks FACTS/RENWEB and email each morning (Monday - Friday) to determine the assignments and tasks your child will do on that particular day.
- Check grades, marks, and comments in FACTS/RENWEB once a week.
- Confirm that your child is using a planner or other method to track assignments. Students should use the same method they were using at school before Spring Break.
- Let your child do his or her own work; do not step in and complete work for them, even if they are struggling with a concept or task. Assignments are structured such that they do not require parent involvement.
- Let your child email teachers for assistance with assignments. Unless there is some extenuating circumstance that prevents your child from communicating on their behalf, do not speak for them.
- As needed, email your child's advisor to discuss ways you can support distance learning.
- Each evening, ask your child to share about their Scorpion School day, what they worked on, what they learned, and what they discovered about themselves, their teachers, or their peers.
- In situations where students live in two homes, communicate regularly with the other adults with whom your child lives.

**CHILD DEVELOPMENT RESOURCES** - [CDC - Ages 12-14](#); [CDC - Ages 15-17](#)

## **Common Questions and Their Answers**

### **How can parents help support their children during Scorpion School?**

One of the most important things parents can do to support distance learning is to communicate clearly and openly with their children and the School. It is important that parents tell their children that distance learning is important and should be taken seriously. An important action parents should take to reinforce this message is to establish boundaries and routines for 'school time.' The Scorpion School Schedule is designed to help students and parents have structure and routine. The number of classes/subjects a day on which students will work - three or four - is designed to allow for flexibility and transition time for students and teachers.

### **What should my child be doing during Sage Support time?**

Sage Support time is a time for a variety of activities to occur as they are needed. The following may occur during Sage Support periods:

- Students may email teachers or advisors for help with assignments or general school issues.
- Teachers may reach out to families or students to check in on student progress.
- Students or families may initiate a ZOOM or phone call with teachers or advisors.
- Students in Grades 3-8 and US Fitness may use this time for their daily Physical Education assignment. Other US students may use this time for exercise or to enjoy fresh air in their yard or on their patio.
- Students may use the time to connect with other students

### **Will we have Student Led Conferences (SLCs) this spring?**

Yes! Conferences will be rescheduled for the weeks of April 6 and April 13. Advisors will reach out to parents to schedule conference times during Sage Support hours or during other mutually agreed upon times. Advisors will send ZOOM links to parents and students to join the virtual conferences. Students in Grades 3-8 have been preparing for the conferences, and they are eager to share with their families and advisors. Students in Grades 9-12 have completed/received course request worksheets, and will complete 2020-2021 course registration during the conference times. For all students, the SLCs will also provide an opportunity for families and advisors - all together in one virtual meeting - to check in about progress with Scorpion School.



## **What are the plans for Sage Session?**

A lot of work and planning was put into creating amazing Sage Session offerings for the students. Just before Spring Break and the acceleration of COVID-19, students participated in a Sage Session Fair. We know that students are excited about the opportunity to participate in Sage Session. At this time, school administrators have not yet made a determination about the status of Sage Session. We will provide more information as it becomes available.

## **Will students learn everything doing distance learning that they would learn in the classroom setting?**

It is important that the School is transparent in its answer to this question. No, students will likely not learn everything they would if they were in classes with their teachers. They will, however, keep learning material, covering content, and developing skills in each of their subjects and achieve the major learning goals set forth by our curriculum for quarter 4. Whenever possible, the same material will be covered, studied, and learned to the best of everyone's ability. Teachers will make adjustments to the content they will cover as deemed necessary and appropriate for this modified schedule.

During their distance learning experience, students will learn things they would not necessarily learn if they were attending school. For one, our students will grow their ability to self-regulate. Students will be in live online classes six to seven times a week depending on their schedule. They will be checking in with the teachers of their three to four daily classes on a routine basis. Still, within this schedule, students will have more flexibility than they typically would in a traditional school day. They will improve their ability to initiate conversations - via email, GOOGLE CLASSROOM, etc. - with their teachers when they have questions. Students will learn more about their own successes and challenges with independence. Our students will also learn more about themselves by working on their assignments in their quiet, home study spaces. As adults, we can acknowledge these unprecedented opportunities for growth. While distance learning has been used for years by a variety of educational institutions, Scorpion School is new for all of us. Its success for our students will largely be determined by the degree to which all of the adults are on the same page, communicate well, and support each other and the students.

## **Will students have homework to complete in the evenings?**

All work is considered homework as students are doing the work at home. We have not divided the time during which students should be working in one day into classwork and homework time. In FACTS/RENWEB, teachers will use the same format they typically do for their assignments. They will put the lesson plans and objectives/key questions in the LESSON PLAN category and the homework assignments (the work students are to do and turn in to their teachers) in the HOMEWORK category. There will be entries

in FACTS/RENWEB for each day a class appears on the Scorpion School Schedule. Teachers will provide time frames for how long assignments should take students to complete. Parents with students in various grade levels will notice that Upper School students may continue their work outside of school hours. While the College Board communicated that Advanced Placement tests will be administered online at home this spring, students in those classes will continue with their rigorous preparation for those tests.

## **How much time will my student spend looking at a computer each day?**

The Scorpion School Schedule is designed to provide balance for students, parents/guardians, and school employees. For each of their classes, students will participate in at least one live ZOOM class a week. Students will spend three to four hours a day engaged with work on their computers. Some assignments may require students to be on their computers for additional time. During work time, students may be using online resources or GOOGLE CLASSROOM. Some work will be submitted via GOOGLE CLASSROOM. Students will also have ample time to read each day and do independent offline work.



## **What is the most common type of technology support might my family need, and how do I receive it?**

The most common technology challenges will involve computer glitches, hardware issues, and properly accessing Scorpion School online platforms - GOOGLE CLASSROOM, ZOOM, and GMAIL. Addressing these issues will require time and patience on everyone's part. For platform challenges, families should reach out to their classroom teachers first to see if they can work together to problem solve the issue. To request assistance with computer glitches or hardware issues, please email [help@sageridge.org](mailto:help@sageridge.org). As it is possible,

the technology department will work with students and families on an individual basis to provide loaners for non-operational computers still under the Lenovo/Laptop Schools warranty.

## **What do we do if one of the digital platforms we are using fails?**

Scorpion School will continue. Even if teachers are not able to hold live classes, we will continue to communicate assignments and work through FACTS/RENWEB. If there are technical issues with this school information system, families will receive emails to keep them abreast of the issue/s and the expected timeline for resolution. If a family believes there is an issue with one of the platforms and is not sure what to do, please do not hesitate to send an email to [help@sageridge.org](mailto:help@sageridge.org).

## **What routines and boundaries should parents establish for their students?**

Much like people who regularly work from home do, students who are working from home need routines. Once school begins on March 31, students should be operating as if they have a regular routine from Monday to Friday. This means that regular bedtimes and other house rules should be followed. Students should go to bed and wake up at their regular times, and should get dressed in the mornings much like they would if they are going to school. Students should wear their Sage Ridge uniform or spirit tops during school hours. There will not be a requirement to do Dress Wednesday (although students are welcome to do so at their own choosing!).

We anticipate that one of the most important boundaries students will need support with revolves around the amount of time students spend on social media and other online platforms. While many adults have spent an ample amount of time in the last couple of years stressing to young people the importance of personal interactions and relationships over digital connections, we are now faced with a situation where people of all ages will likely need to rely on social media platforms to feel connected and to prevent complete isolation from friends and extended family members.

Families who have already established house rules on technology use will have a foundation on which to build new guidelines that take into account the amount of time students will be at home and will be unscheduled each day. While students will still have school work each day, they will no longer have after school activities, sports, and other social gatherings.

Families that have not established house rules on technology may find the necessity to do so quite challenging. The best approach to this challenge is teamwork. Parents should include their children in the discussions and decisions about boundaries for non-school technology time. When young people feel they have a part in making decisions that directly impact them, they are more likely to buy in and follow the rules.

## How can families support their child's social emotional development?

Supporting your child's social emotional development is more important than ever right now given the global impact of COVID 19. Remember that emotional distress will distract and disrupt the learning process. And constant stress can take a mental toll on young learners. It's very important for us to help our children stay in the present moment. As parents and educators it is frustrating because we can't "fix it" for them. But we can teach them coping skills, and drive their thoughts into taking action. Recalling the Youth Positive work that students have done in advisory can help.

- Taking three deep breaths - "up and down breathing". Imagine your breath travelling up your spine all the way to your crown. Like a big candy cane.
- Asking themselves, "where am I?", naming things in their present surroundings: my chair is leather, my desk is wood, my sweatshirt is soft, etc.
- Acknowledging students' individual strengths: I'm good at \_\_\_\_\_. I'm excited about \_\_\_\_\_. I like the challenge of \_\_\_\_\_.
- What does education mean to me personally? What role does education have in my life at this time? How can I make my education more fun and more fulfilling during this time?
- Remembering to focus on a Growth Mindset. Here are several videos that relate to the lesson on Growth Mindset for [elementary school students](#), for [middle school students](#), and for [upper school students](#).

Balance is a key element to consider when creating routines and providing boundaries. Families are encouraged to read the Challenge Success handouts below on how families can achieve PDF - Playtime, Downtime, and Family Time - anytime and especially during school and business closures and social distancing mandates. "**Challenge Success** is a nonprofit organization affiliated with the Stanford University Graduate School of Education that promotes student well-being and engagement with learning."

[For preschoolers](#)

[For elementary-age children](#)

[For teens](#)

## What are some ideas for meaningful activities outside of school hours?

Students in Grades 3-8 and those Upper School students in Fitness will receive daily assignments that involve physical activity and might require students to go outside in their yards. In addition to these assignments, and for US students who are not enrolled in Fitness, it is crucial that students engage in physical activity on a daily basis. If it is possible for students to do so in light of family living situations and government rules and mandates, students are encouraged to spend some time each day outside.



- Physical Fitness Resources - Recommended by Mrs. Kratzer and Mr. Farnsworth: [Fitness Blender](#), [DAREBEE](#) - Fitness on your own terms, the [APP Seven Minutes Workouts](#).
- Yard Activities - [BACKYARD ACTIVITIES](#)
- Walking - [FAMILY FUN WALKING GAMES](#)

## Can I come to school to talk to someone face to face?

No. Per Governor Sisolak's order, the Sage Ridge School building is closed. Please do not come to the building to find employees or to seek support. Please contact us by email. All Sage Ridge School employees can initiate a ZOOM meeting for a face to face interaction.

## Who do I contact if I need help or support?

For questions about...	Contact
A class, assignment, or resource	The relevant teacher
A personal, academic, or social emotional concern	Student's advisor or any member of SRS leadership or faculty you feel connected to.
A technology related problem or issue	<a href="mailto:help@sageridge.org">help@sageridge.org</a>
Other issues related to distance learning	Head of Academics - <a href="mailto:jstrawder-bubala@sageridge.org">jstrawder-bubala@sageridge.org</a> Head of Student Life - <a href="mailto:ccrain@sageridge.org">ccrain@sageridge.org</a> . Head of School - <a href="mailto:tbechtel@sageridge.org">tbechtel@sageridge.org</a>

## Resources

### Emergency Services

- Crisis Support Services of Nevada - It is normal to feel anxious at times like this. If you or someone you know is struggling and needs help, call 1 (800) 273-8255 or the local number 775-784-8090, text LISTEN to 839863 or check out our website at <https://cssnv.org/> Crisis Support Services of Nevada's staff and volunteers are here 24/7/365. You matter.
- Nevada 211 - Find help 24/7 by dialing 2-1-1; texting 898-211 or visiting [www.nevada211.org](http://www.nevada211.org)
- Division of Child and Family Services Mobile Crisis Response Team – Call 775-688-1670 or visit <http://www.knowcrisis.com/>
- SAFEVOICE, Use the SAFEVOICE App or log onto [SafeVoiceNV.org](http://SafeVoiceNV.org), select your school, select event type or concern type or you may call the hotline at 1-833-216-7233
- Community Health Alliance - Information for those families that need health care, but don't have the funds. 775.329.6300 <https://www.chanevada.org/>
- For emergencies, call 9-1-1. For non-emergencies you can reach the Washoe County Sheriff's Office at 775-328-3001, City of Reno Police at 775-324-2121, or City of Sparks Police at 775-353-2231.
- Nevada Department of Employment, Training, and Rehabilitation (Unemployment services) - File for unemployment online at [ui.nv.gov/css.html](http://ui.nv.gov/css.html). Call centers have extended their hours and can assist people from 8 a.m.- 8 p.m. Monday through Friday. Northern Nevada: 775-684-0350. Rural areas in Nevada and out-of-state residents: 888-890-8211
- Know the factors that put you at a higher risk of contracting COVID-19:
  - Travel within the past 14 days to one of the countries identified through CDC's travel warnings, which can be found here.
  - Close contact with persons suspected, or confirmed, to have COVID-19
  - Severe illness requiring hospitalization for a viral respiratory disease that has no other known cause
  - If any of these apply to you, call your medical provider, or the Washoe County Health District at 775-328-2427 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Sunday, or call Washoe 311 (Dial 3-1-1) after hours.
  - If you traveled outside of Washoe County and are concerned that you might have COVID-19, you can fill out a survey instead of calling 775-328-2427.
  - [Washoe County COVID-19 Assessment Form Survey](#)

### Talking to your Kids about Coronavirus

- American Academy of Pediatrics – caring for the health of your family and talking to kids about the virus. [More information.](#)



- Collaborative for Social and Emotional Learning's Guidelines for Parents and Caregivers provides short family tips for supporting your kids during COVID-19. [More information.](#)

## Family Wellness, Social and Emotional Learning and Mental Health

- Taking care of your own mental health in uncertain times is important so you can support those around you. [More information here.](#)
- Helping your family de-stress during the Coronavirus from Common Sense Media, [click here](#)

## Bias, Discrimination and Racism

- Teaching Tolerance's [article for speaking up against discrimination.](#)
- NASP [Countering COVID-19 \(Coronavirus\) Stigma and Racism: Tips for Parents and Caregivers](#)
- NASP [Cómo combatir el estigma y el racismo en torno al COVID 19 \(coronavirus\) Consejos para padres y cuidadores \(PDF, Spanish\)](#)

### **Acknowledgements:** *Thank you to*

Washoe County School District  
National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS)  
Independent School Management (ISM)  
Shanghai American School  
The Nueva School  
San Francisco Day School