

Beecher Road School

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March 26, 2020

Dear Beecher Road School Families,

This letter marks the launch of the Beecher Road School Distance Learning Plan. The purpose of this plan is to provide teaching and learning for our students during the current extended school closure. Goals for our distance learning plan include:

- To keep students academically motivated
- To review previously taught materials
- To introduce new content and concepts

This plan provides students with an alternate means to teaching and learning, however, we acknowledge that distance learning is not a substitute for the richness of in-class teaching that provides the opportunity for students and teachers to collaborate, confer, engage and learn together. For our students who require an IEP, case managers are working to address the varied needs of students through individualized remote learning plans.

We recognize that every family is different, as is every student. We also know that children benefit from a familiar daily structure, especially in times of uncertainty. To that end, we are providing a possible daily schedule. **The times suggested on the following pages can be adapted for your needs; and times may vary!** If this schedule does not work for you, we encourage you to create one with your child. We also suggest that you create a dedicated space for your child to complete their work. Finally, the sample schedule does include optional enrichment and extension activities. While some of this work might be provided by teachers, consider other options such as lego building, puzzles, baking together, doing random acts of kindness and going on a nature walk.

It is expected that all students will participate in, and complete, assigned work during this time of distance learning to the best of their ability. If your child requires assistance or has questions about a particular assignment, please contact your child's teacher. **If your child will be "absent", please report it in the usual means; by calling the attendance hotline at 203-389-2195.** This will allow us to continue to track absences and illnesses. Although not all work will be graded, teachers will be reviewing it on an ongoing basis. This will, of course, look different for every grade level. **Teachers will be sharing out the distance learning plans with their classes through email and Google Classroom.** Teachers will be available via email to respond to questions you or your child may have. All of us are experiencing both personal and professional challenges at this time, and we thank you in advance for your continued collaboration and patience.

Our Mission

Beecher Road School is a caring, creative community that models and inspires the joy of life-long learning, embraces diversity, and celebrates the unique qualities of each person.

In summary:

- The provided schedule is merely suggested. Please make a plan that works for you and your child!
- If your child is absent, please call the office as you usually would.
- Teachers will be sharing their first distance learning plans via email and Google Classroom prior to this Monday March 30.

Finally, we are wishing all of our Beecher families good health. We hope to see you all again soon!

Warmly,

Analisa Sherman Doreen Merrill Cheryl Mammen Robert Gilbert

Parent Expectations

We appreciate your willingness to partner with us during this period of distance learning. Parent involvement should include the following:

- Develop a flexible schedule for the completion of school work
- Create a dedicated work space for your child (children)
- Monitor all online activities; remember school policies around acceptable use still apply!
- Provide your child with support as needed. Please contact your child's teacher if your child is having significant difficulty understanding or completing an assignment.
- Check your email, the district website and your child's Google Classroom for updates
- Student work completion is not optional, all assigned work is to be completed to the best of a child's ability

Possible Daily Schedule Grade K-2	
8:30-9:30	Flexible morning time (this includes breakfast, getting dressed, daily hygiene, free play etc.)
9:30-10:00	Reading
10:00-10:15	Movement break
10:15-10:45	Writing
10:45-11:15	Snack/Morning break
11:15-11:30	Phonics/Word Work/Word Study
11:30-12:30	Break: this includes lunch and free play
12:30-1:00	Math
1:00-1:30	Science/Social Studies
1:30-1:45	Snack/Movement break
1:45-2:15	Specials
2:15-2:45	Optional enrichment and extension

Possible Daily Schedule Grade 3-6

8:30-9:30	Flexible morning time (this includes breakfast, getting dressed, daily hygiene, free play etc.)
9:30-10:15	Reading
10:15-10:30	Movement break
10:30-11:15	Writing
11:15-12:15	Break: this includes lunch and free play
12:15-1:00	Math
1:00-1:45	Science/Social Studies
1:45-2:15	Specials
2:15-2:45	Optional enrichment and extension