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April 10, 2020

Dear Parents,

Governor Brown and the Oregon Department of Education announced that our schools will not open again for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. We are deeply saddened by this information, but we know this latest guidance comes as another measure to keep us as safe and healthy as possible.

We will continue to honor distance learning for all of our students K-12, and will follow a plan to report on progress towards focus standards for Distance Learning. We want to congratulate each of you in your efforts to navigate this process of implementing remote learning for your students at home. We know that since this began on Monday, April 3, it has changed the way learning occurs on a daily basis. Thank you for taking on this challenge. We acknowledge it looks different and we know parents are learning to navigate a new normal.

As a district, we are now moving towards Phase 3 of our remote learning plan. Per directive by the Oregon Department of Education (ODE), [Distance Learning for All](#), or Phase 3 of our Remote Learning Plan, is to be implemented on April 13 and will run through the remainder of the school year. Remote Learning Phase 3 is outlined in this document.

ODE defines distance or remote learning as:

*Instruction in which the student and instructor are in different locations. Students engaging in distance learning have access to appropriate educational materials and receive ongoing interaction with their licensed and/or registered teacher(s). It is important to note that distance learning includes multimedia communication and blended learning strategies, **not just digital/online learning**. Learning may or may not be separated in time (asynchronous vs. synchronous). School districts will enter into distance learning along a continuum based on their capacity.*

Our Phase 3 of Remote Learning follows the above definition. Some teachers will connect with students through Canvas or SeeSaw (digital platforms) and some will provide activities that do not require technology. Parents will see more digital or online learning in higher grade levels and as students are more able to complete work independently. A student's Remote Learning day consists of three things: Teacher-Led Learning, Learning and Supplemental Activities, and Nutrition and Wellness. Teachers will be collecting evidence on student progress on learning standards; they will provide progress reports and grades; and they will provide credit-earning opportunities - all with the goal of progressing students to the next grade level and graduation.

**Teacher-Led Learning** is structured, grade-level learning directed and supported by a teacher. Teacher-Led Learning at early grades may involve a teacher connecting with a class over a recorded video to read a story to students, followed by

**District Goal:** WE empower all students to achieve post-high school success.

The District prohibits discrimination and harassment based on any basis protected by law, including but not limited to, an individual's actual or perceived race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, national or ethnic origin, marital status, age, mental or physical disability, pregnancy, familial status, economic status, veteran status, or because of a perceived or actual association with any other persons within these protected classes.

asking the students to complete an activity related to the story. The teacher would follow up by providing feedback to students on their work or performance. In the upper grades, Teacher-Led Learning may involve a teacher posting an assignment with directions on Canvas for students to complete independently. The teacher in this case would also provide feedback and, if appropriate, a grade for the assignment.

**Learning and Supplemental Activities** may be connected to Teacher-Led Learning and is led by the student or family. Supplemental activities will vary by grade level but could include such things as independent reading, journaling or creative writing, educational software and television programs, independent research, or board games.

**Nutrition and Wellness** are included into the day as it works best for family schedule and student needs. Physical activities such as walking, riding bikes, or playing individual sports help maintain physical well-being and allow students to better focus on learning activities. Families should build in frequent nutrition and physical breaks throughout a remote learning day.

### **Remote Learning Instructional Day**

Following the guidance of ODE, our recommended maximum daily guidelines for **Teacher-Led Learning** are as follows:

- Grades PK-1: 45 minutes
- Grades 2-3: 60 minutes
- Grades 4-5: 90 minutes
- Grades 6-12: 30 minutes per teacher (3 hours in a day)

In addition to Teacher-Led Learning, ODE has provided guidelines for **Learning and Supplemental Activities**.

- Grades K-1: 1-2 Hours Recommended
- Grades 2-3: 2 Hours Recommended
- Grades 4-5: 3 Hours Recommended
- Grades 6-12: 1-2 Hours Recommended

For more information about Learning and Supplemental Activities, go to ODE's [Distance Learning for All](#) resource page.

**Parents and families** will play a key part in student learning with remote learning. The student's home is now their classroom and parents and families need to provide structure and support to assist in the learning process. The amount of structure and support will vary depending on the age, grade level, and unique learning needs of each student, but all students will need structure and support from their families. Teachers and school administrators are committed to partnering with families to support this new way of educating our children and will be reaching out to you in this next phase of remote learning. The District is also committed to providing services for students who qualify for Special Education, English Language, and Talented and Gifted services. More details are provided below or will be coming from your child's school.

### **Remote Learning Phases 1-3 Calendar**

Phase 1: March 16 - April 3

- Supplemental resources for at-home use

Phase 2: April 6 - April 10

- Teachers connecting with students and facilitating supplemental activities

**Phase 3: April 13 - June 12**

- Teachers begin transitioning into Teacher-Led Learning, instruction, and assessment as students begin to pick up Chromebooks.

## **Remote Learning Plan Phase 3 Goals**

### **WE Expect Excellence**

- Staff and students prioritize time together to focus on the most important or relevant learning.
- Staff will continue to monitor, report and record each student's progress towards learning goals and standards, encouraging critical problem solving, collaboration, communication and creativity.

### **WE Innovate**

- Schools will provide multiple, flexible opportunities, for all our students to continue on their learning pathway toward graduation.
- Staff and students will learn and apply new tools for remote teaching and learning and will continually adjust to find creative ways, digital and non-digital, to engage in learning.

### **WE Embrace Equity**

- Staff will prioritize student belonging, care, connection, well-being and mental and social-emotional health.
- Staff will center equity in all outreach and communication efforts with parents and caregivers and will find ways to provide tools and materials to students.

### **WE Collaborate**

- Every student will connect regularly with their teacher(s).
- Staff, families, and caregivers will work as a team, anchored in partnership. Together, teachers and families will co-facilitate learning, design consistent routines, and establish the learning environment.

Thank you for your dedication to navigating this new remote learning. We know that this work is difficult and we are all learning along the way. During the next few weeks, we will be continually updating information as things evolve. Please continue to send your feedback and questions along the way. We would like to help families be able to navigate this digital platform. I believe we need to give grace to our students, staff, and parents, while learning these new techniques.

**Please remember we are all in this together and we are here for you.**

With appreciation and gratitude,

Ginny Hansmann