



## Teaching and Learning

The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD will comply with all mandatory teaching and learning requirements by providing in-person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. As a New York State “Special Act” school district, Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD will provide clear opportunities for equitable instruction for all our students.

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD will ensure continuity of learning regardless of the instructional model. Although our goal is to provide in-person instruction during the 2020-2021 school year, we understand that due to the current Covid-19 pandemic and health crisis that our district’s in-person instructional plan could be interrupted by a school closure at any time. Therefore, the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls has designed a remote learning plan in the event of a school closure due to Covid-19 or an Executive Order by the Governor of New York, Andrew Cuomo.

Whether in-person or remotely the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD will provide standards-based instruction that ensures substantive daily interaction between teachers and students. This will occur in-person and remotely if needed. Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD has designed a program that can transition from in-person instruction to virtual learning without missing a beat.

### **The Gellar House School has designed a hybrid instructional program that includes both in-person and remote learning:**

- The in-person program follows the guidance of NYS learning standards, our students Individual Educational Program (IEP), 5:1:1 student to staff ratio and our ability to design classrooms and space the social distancing guidance
- The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD remote learning platform is designed to be implemented alternate the in person instruction.
- The Gellar House program currently has 15 residential students that will be divided into two groups (AM and PM). Each group will have approximately 7-8 students.

- The two groups (AM and PM) will further be divided into 2-3 students during live instruction to promote further social distancing and comply with the guidance.
- The virtual program design, opposite the in person instruction, incorporates three instructional supports: Google Classroom Live Zoom Instruction Supplemental work provided

The health and safety of our students and staff is paramount. Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD is prepared for any sudden school closures due to the Covid-19 pandemic. When a closure is necessary or mandated our instructional, counseling and related services will seamlessly transition to virtual instruction.

Virtual Instruction: “What does that look like?” Here is some important information:

- Google Classroom (LMS)
- Google Gmail for Communication
- Zoom Sessions
- Virtual Live Classes
- Virtual Live Small Group Academic Support Sessions
- Virtual Live Push in Related Services
- Virtual Live Individual Counseling Session
- Virtual Live Group Counseling Session
- Virtual Live Individual Academic Supports
- Academic Software - Support Programs (Edmentum, Achieve3000, IXL Math, see the entire list under the Technology section)

These are all the tools that we will use to deliver instruction, counseling and related services to our students in the event of a school closure. Teachers and students will virtually meet in their classrooms to teach and learn. Counselors and therapists will push in, pull out or meet individually to make sure all their students’ services are being provided. As our virtual educational program continues to evolve around our Google Classroom LMS that was built over the past five months, we will deliver live instruction to our students, from the building or home, five days a week from 9:00am – 3:00pm. We will design a six period Zoom teaching schedule, with a prep and lunch period.

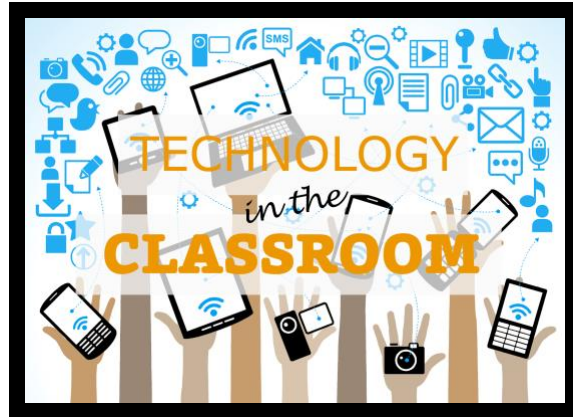
Every Thursday afternoon we will mail home and deliver supplemental work to the units for all students. The supplemental work will be connected to the following week's lessons. All weekly supplemental assignments will need to be turned in to the main office by Thursday at noon.

The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD will clearly communicate information regarding their in-person instructional plan, as well as our emergency remote learning plan in case of a school closure to residential staff, parents and guardians.

The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD is aware that due to complications caused by the pandemic, certain flexibilities will be authorized, including:

- Flexibility with the 180 minutes per week Unit of Study requirement
- Flexibility in the delivery of physical education
- Allowance for a blend of hands-on and virtual science laboratory experiences
- When appropriate, districts and charters may utilize remote or virtual work-based learning experiences for CTE and CDOS programs





## Technology and Connectivity

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD reopening plan is designed for in-person instruction. All three school buildings have high-speed broadband, promethean boards, smartboards, PCs, laptops and Chromebooks to support classroom instruction. Furthermore, we are using a Google Classroom LMS and supplemental educational software programs to support teaching and learning.

### **Geller House School Educational Software Programs:**

- Achieve3000
- IXL Math
- Flocabulary
- BrainPop

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD also recognizes that under the current public health emergency school closures occur at any time. Therefore, it is imperative to ensure that all students have adequate access to a computing device and high-speed broadband. A computing device and high-speed broadband is essential for distance learning and educational equity. The Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD has addressed technology and connectivity needs for all our CSE students (residential students) to support virtual learning and remote instruction that require internet and a computing device. Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD has supported our CSE students with the following technology supports:

- Provided Chromebooks to the residential units/ agency (JBFCS) for residential students
- Provide high-speed broadband for a residential program
- Provided MiFi (Inseego Jetpack Mifi 8800L) to two residential programs

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD instructional, clinical and administrative staff have assisted day students and parents/ guardians in securing computing devices through their sending CSE - local school districts.

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD has distributed Chromebooks to teachers, counselors and therapists (OT and speech) as needed to ensure live instruction in the event of a school closure and subsequent suspension of in person instruction and services. This capacity will allow the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD to seamlessly transition from onsite instruction to virtual learning that includes multiple ways for students to participate in learning and demonstrate their mastery of the learning standards in a remote instructional model.

Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD will provided instruction and support to all students and parents on the use of technology as well as IT support for students, teachers and families. Additionally, we will continue to provide professional development for teachers and leaders on designing effective online/remote learning experiences in our Google Classroom LMS, Zoom and educational software. In addition to the HCKS IT Department the Hawthorne Cedar Knolls UFSD has created and hired an Instructional Technology position to ensure ongoing instructional technology support.

