

Curriculum Nigh Q & A

1. Is this presentation going to be available after the meeting?
 - a. Yes, we will post it on our website: <https://ems.lwsd.org/>
2. Cameras really should be mandatory. Why is it not?
 - a. As a district, we cannot mandate that cameras be turned on. We will continue to focus on building our students confidence in this virtual setting and encouraging them to turn on their cameras.
3. Can teachers encourage students to turn-on camera? My kid refuses saying most students do not. I will certainly do my nest to encourage as well.
 - a. Our teachers are encouraging students to turn their cameras on, especially when speaking or collaborating with peers.
4. I'd like to know more about attendance, especially on Wednesdays and during asynchronous times. My student has been counted as absent for a couple of classes on Wednesdays, even though she has completed all of her asynchronous assignments.
 - a. We have changed Wednesday attendance to be automated and not done by teachers. If your student logs into Teams at some point during the day on Wednesday, they will be marked as present.
5. How are you monitoring students that they are present and attentive on class calls?
 - a. Our teachers check in with students throughout live class sessions and invite them to participate, engage with peers, respond to questions, raise their hands, and post in the chat. As a staff, we continue to focus on the best ways to engage students in this remote setting.
6. My 8th grader sometimes struggles with tech issues and missed turning in assignments by a day couple of times. Is there some flexibility around this given the new environment?
 - a. Yes, we collaborate as a staff to help mitigate student workload and technology struggles. We are trying to find ways to help ease the way in which students are turning in their assignments. Our teachers understand that technology doesn't always cooperate and will give students grace.
7. The cameras on isn't working well with 4 people (parents and kids) in the home using the internet.
 - a. We completely understand and do not mandate that cameras are on all the time. It is helpful to have the camera on when speaking, responding to a question, or collaborating with peers
8. Is there a parent only account for Teams just like Skyward?
 - a. No, there are no parent accounts for Teams.

- 9.** How do we log into Teams as parents?
 - a.** Currently the Lake Washington School District does not have parent access to Teams.
- 10.** Why does the activity feed only go back one week? If something was not done last week, how can I see that it was done by my child the following week? (Child claims they have now submitted it.)
 - a.** The best way to figure out if your student has turned in an assignment is to check Skyward not Teams. That will be your most up to date source for assignments that are turned in.
- 11.** Can we use teams for friendship groups?
 - a.** Counselors will be looking into that possibility but there must be an adult staff member present for any Teams meeting/group
- 12.** Research shows that cameras on the whole time is mentally exhausting. It's difficult to control for distractions, eye contact, different lighting/face sizes, etc. How about for intros or in Together Mode for discussions?
 - a.** Great suggestions we will look at what works best during live instruction. We are still seeing very few cameras on during class.
- 13.** Will Stephanie and the counselors be conducting sessions on suicide prevention/education and drug/alcohol education to all student during remote learning? Wasn't clear on whether that is going to be included perhaps during Eagle Time.
 - a.** Yes! We haven't gotten them scheduled yet but are working on it.
- 14.** What is the expectation of grading timeline from the teachers? Should we expect feedback and grading in 1-2 weeks of assignments?
 - a.** That is correct, you can expect that teachers will update their gradebook at least every two weeks. However, we work really hard to give students feedback as much as possible. The goal is to create an open line of communication to allow the student to know exactly how they are doing and what they can do to improve.
- 15.** Are you planning any activities to support the missing social aspect of remote learning (friendship clubs, group activities etc)?
 - a.** Counselors are looking at the possibility of forming virtual groups for students. We also have instructional assistants (IAs) looking at putting "lunch bunch" and study groups together.
- 16.** Does the Guardian Digest go to the student or the parent? If it is the parent and we are not receiving the email, how do we correct?
 - a.** The Guardian Digest only goes to parents and the mail address that it comes from is Microsoft Office 365. It is an automated email that sometimes gets blocked by email filters. Please check your junk mail to

see if it ended up there. If you are still not receiving the emails, please reach out to our librarian, Kevin Olson. He can help you problem solve.

- 17.** The QR code campaign has reached the scan limit.
 - a.** Please go to the EMS PTSA Fundraising website to donate - <http://evergreenptsa.org/Page/Pta/Fundraising>
- 18.** Do we have science Olympiad teams set up already? How to register?
 - a.** Please reach out to our PTSA enrichment chair atenrichment@evergreenptsa.org for details on how to sign up for Science Olympiad. More information is also available on the PTSA website: <http://evergreenptsa.org/Page/Enrichment/Home>
- 19.** Can student join the Robotics now and how?
 - a.** The registration for Robotics Club closed on 10/14 and the club's teaching sessions have already begun with the first competition in two months. For any questions, please reach out to the club chairs at robotics@evergreenptsa.org
- 20.** Are these clubs/teams still open for applications?
 - a.** Spelling Bee, Bridge, and Arts Reflections are open for registration. Please see the details at <http://evergreenptsa.org/Page/Enrichment/Home>. For science and math club, please contact enrichment@evergreenptsa.org to have students added to the waitlist.
- 21.** Is debate club open for registration?
 - a.** No. This program won't be open until the Debate Chair is confirmed. Stay tuned!