# **RC NEW YORK STATE** REGIONAL INFORMATION CENTERS ONE SYNCHRONOUS LEARNING AND STREAMING

# **STREAMING** BEST PRACTICES

Districts' 2020-2021 plans include details about in-person, remote, and hybrid learning. Remote learning involves instruction that takes place outside of the school building while the students are not in attendance at the school. The hybrid (blended) model includes a combination of in person and remote learning. One strategy that some school districts are using to deliver synchronous learning to remote learners is livestreaming video. Synchronous learning opportunities leverage distance learning technology to support real time teaching and learning.



# NYSED GUIDANCE

ALL STUDENTS MUST HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO FEEL SAFE, ENGAGED, AND EXCITED ABOUT THEIR LEARNING, WHETHER IN-PERSON, REMOTE, OR SOME COMBINATION OF THE TWO.

DISTRICTS SHOULD BE PREPARED TO SHIFT BETWEEN IN-PERSON, REMOTE LEARNING, AND A HYBRID MODEL IN A WAY THAT IS LEAST DISRUPTIVE TO STUDENTS.

IDENTIFY ANY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS, PARTICULARLY THOSE NEEDS RELATED TO TEACHING REMOTELY AND THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY.

SCHOOLS SHOULD PROVIDE STUDENTS WITH DEVICES AND INTERNET FOR USE AT HOME TO THE EXTENT PRACTICABLE.

### **TRAIN USERS** ON TIPS AND TRICKS



Train teachers and students. For example, if a user is experiencing latency issues, their experience may improve if they shut off their camera. Encourage users to upload a profile picture in advance to support a personal connection while leveraging the audio connection without video enabled.

## **PLANNING** CONSIDERATIONS



Identify spaces that will be used for instruction. Work with technical teams to ensure there is adequate wireless access and bandwidth to meet instructional goals. Additionally, confirm backup and software updates are scheduled to run outside of school hours.



Review the functionality available in district approved web conferencing platforms (e.g., Zoom). Most streaming / web conferencing platforms will adjust video quality to adapt to available bandwidth and network conditions and/ or include bandwidth throttling functionality.



Consider limiting streamed video to one live stream per classroom space, presumably the teacher. Ensure that the use of video streaming applications (e.g., Netflix and Disney+) aligns with core instructional goals. The more streams, the more bandwidth needed.



Ensure all instructional resources are used in compliance with local, state, and federal policies and laws (e.g., EdLaw 2-d/Part 121, FERPA, and COPPA).



Prepare alternate activities for students in the event a technology isn't available or functioning as expected. Provide students with access to instructional software (e.g., online curriculum and learning solutions).

The RICs and BOCES provide support related to a variety of web conferencing platforms (e.g., Google Meet, Zoom, Webex, and Microsoft Teams). For more information about specific web conferencing platforms and products, please contact your local RIC and/or BOCES.