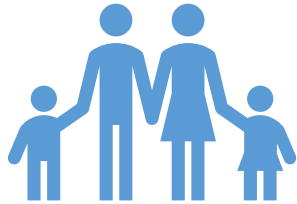

April Board of
Education Meeting
Syosset Central
School District
April 21, 2020

Superintendent's Report

Announcements



April is Census Awareness Month

The Census sets funding levels for schools, special education, health insurance, lunch programs, and so much more. Make sure our classrooms have the funding they deserve.

I did mine, it was easy. [My2020census.gov](https://my2020census.gov)



School Construction

Re-started with reduced crews and social distancing for health/safety priority projects

Pandemic Response

“Continuity of Learning”

- Online learning instituted for 6,600 students.

Childcare for Essential Workers

- First responders, health care workers, others
- Operating daily at Baylis through SCOPE

Food Security

- Daily breakfast and lunch service available from Aramark (can include weekends if needed)

Where are we now...?

- 52 days since the first case in NYS...
- Are we past the Apex?
- How gradual is the downslope?
- How long will it take to reopen public facilities, businesses, schools, etc.?
- State budget has a \$10-15 billion deficit;
 - Could result in 20% cuts to schools.
 - Depends on Washington DC.
 - First cuts could be announced on 4/30/20...



State/School Budgets

Economic/Long Range Outlook

NY State Budget

- Balanced on a big assumption – another \$10 billion in Federal aid.
- School funding –
 - Inflationary increase withdrawn.
 - Meant a loss of \$465,000 for Syosset.
 - State cut of \$1.3 billion replaced dollar for dollar with one-time Federal stimulus funding.
 - Means that without another round of stimulus next year, this money will disappear from 2021-22 school budgets.
 - Governor indicated that further cuts could come mid-year for 2020-21 budget:
 - April 30
 - June 30
 - December 31

Where does that leave us?

- No help from state on inflation starts us in a hole.
- Assume mid-year revenue cuts likely. Planning for 3 scenarios: “Deep, deeper, deepest”
 - 10% cut in state aid ~ \$2 million
 - 15% cut in state aid ~ \$3 million (Governor suggested yesterday)
 - 20% cut in state aid ~ \$4 million
- Goal: avoid mid-year staffing cuts if at all possible
 - Cutting a \$100,000 position mid-year only saves \$50,000 – you have to cut twice as many positions
 - Mid-year staffing cuts have twice the impact on program
 - Mid-year staffing cuts might require schedule/class changes for students

Current Actions – Personnel and Program

Hiring “freeze”

- Will leave 12 teaching retirement positions unfilled
- Will leave 2 administrative retirement positions unfilled.
- Some cleaner/secretarial positions will remain unfilled

Programmatic impacts

- Will include lab during class period for science electives at SHS.
- Will only hire 1 new grade of co-teachers at elementary, not 2.
- Will likely result in fewer and fuller sections at SHS
- Some shared teaching staff at elementary
- Shared administrative staff at middle school

Non-Personnel Savings

Purchasing freeze

- Flexible classroom furniture
- Library furniture
- Scoreboard

Defer maintenance

- 3 roof repair projects (Barn, SHS, South Woods)
- Paving/curb repair projects

Construction deferral

- Library reconstructions
- Floor replacements
- Abatements

Potential Additional Spending?

Ideas that have been circulating which could impact our 2020-21 budget if adopted by New York.

Summer school
2020?

Start school
year early 2020?

Remedial costs
for special
education
students?

Social services
costs for
students in
COVID-impacted
families?

Long Range Planning

- Should we use “rainy-day” funds?
 - Next year may be worse:
 - Non-election year – less appetite for government assistance
 - Fewer personnel savings – can’t cut the same position twice
 - Increased pension contributions – because the pension fund relies on stock market returns
 - Increased health care costs – to shore up hospitals devastated this year
 - Remedial costs – likely more students with social work needs post-COVID
- If Federal Stimulus funds are not replaced, 2021-22 starts with a \$1.3 billion hole
- School cuts from the 2008-09 budget (GEA) were not fully restored until 2016-17.

- **Call/email our federal representatives:**
 - Without more help from Washington, it will not be possible for our state to avoid drastic cuts in school funding.
 - Please support additional federal aid to our state and our schools.
 - You may find your district's member(s) of the U.S. House of Representatives by entering [a zip code here](#).
- A list, with their Washington phone numbers, is available [here](#) (scroll down to New York).
 - [Senator Charles Schumer.](#)
 - [Senator Kirsten Gillibrand.](#)

• Source: NYSCOSS

What
Can
I Do?

Online Learning – Overview/Research

Progress Report

Best Practices in Online Learning

- NYS has not issued guidance. Capital Region BOCES [guidance](#) is (inclusive of independent work):
 - Grades K-2: 3.5 hours per week total | Grades 3-5: 5 hours per week total
Grades 6-8: 10 hours per week total | Grades 9-12: 24 hours per week total
- [Kansas](#): “... guidelines for MAXIMUM student commitment each day...”
 - “Pre-K : 30 minutes; Grades K-1: 45 minutes; Grades 2-3: 60 minutes; Grades 4-5: 90 minutes; Grades 6-12: 30 minutes per teacher (3 hours max in a day).”
 - “The guidelines above are meant for any delivery model -- packets, on-line, hybrid, etc.”
- [Alabama](#): reduce curriculum to a high-priority subset.
- [Massachusetts](#):
 - “We recommend that districts support students to engage in meaningful and productive learning for approximately half the length of a regular school day.”
 - “We expect this learning to take place via a combination of educator-directed learning and student self-directed learning.”

Researchers – Harvard and MIT created [EdX](#)

- Online learning research is in its infancy.
- MIT (Dr. Justin Reich) [recommendations](#) to State Education Agencies:
 - Determine whether the overall goal is enrichment or advancing new material in the curriculum. (While all 50 states have canceled some or all statewide assessments, only 15 have issued statements about whether to advance new material.)
 - If advancing new material, reduce topics to a high priority subset.
 - “Consider encouraging a stronger emphasis on asynchronous over synchronous (live) learning”.
 - “Consider emphasizing the use of synchronous technologies for office hours or individual check-ins (rather than) class instruction”.
 - Provide guidelines for keeping synchronous spaces secure, safe, and private.

More Early Research Recommendations

- Young learners ([NPR Interview](#) with Justin Reich at MIT)
 - Lack the “attention or the executive function skills to be able to sit and learn online for hours every day on their own”.
 - Recommends: “a combination of relatively short, live video check-in meetings and self-paced work, with teachers available to students over email, phone, text ...”
- Older students (Stanford University [study](#) on online learning)
 - Emphasize “Engagement” over “passive learning” (sit and listen);
 - “... engagement strategies work because they are based on learning theories that stress student activity rather than passive learning ...”
 - “... assignments that ask students to do something – such as work in a group, solve a problem, prepare a project, and experience a situation – will more likely produce student engagement ...”
 - Online attention span begins to wane after about 30 minutes. ([Nature Magazine](#))

Online Security

- New Hampshire issued a [waiver](#) parents must sign.
- All apps/platforms must be approved under NYS Ed.Law 2-d
 - [Student privacy and data security standards](#)
- Syosset issued:
 - [Online Etiquette](#)
 - [Chromebook Agreement](#)
 - [Code of Character, Conduct, and Support](#)
 - [Acceptable Use Policy](#)
 - [Internet Safety Policy](#)
- FERPA issues (additional student [privacy guidance](#))

Common Questions

Graduation/Prom

- For now, schools are closed until May 15; currently collaborating with student government re: backup options.

Summer School?

- Reopening will be determined by NYS. Enrollment may be limited to enforce social distancing. We just don't know yet. Planning is underway.

Sports?

- Today Nassau and Suffolk issued a coordinated decision to cancel the spring season altogether.

Ending this year early?

- The Governor's office has acknowledged that the loss of spring break means we may exceed the number of days we have budgeted to pay staff.

Starting next year early?

- That would also have to be a state decision (attendance days in August do not "count" to NYS).

More Questions

Can I get into my locker/gym locker?

- We are developing a system where locker contents will be bagged and exchanged curbside. Future information will be forthcoming towards the end of the month if the closure is extended by NYS.

Medications?

- If you need access to prescription medications kept at school, please contact your principal who will make arrangements with the nurse.

College admissions?

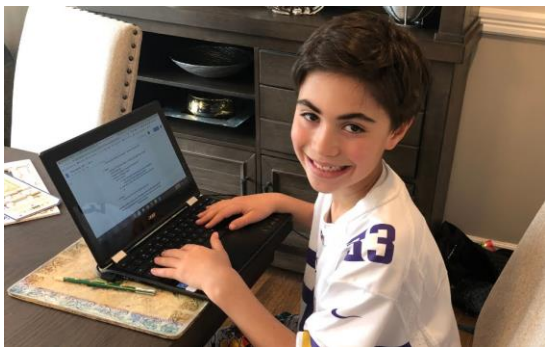
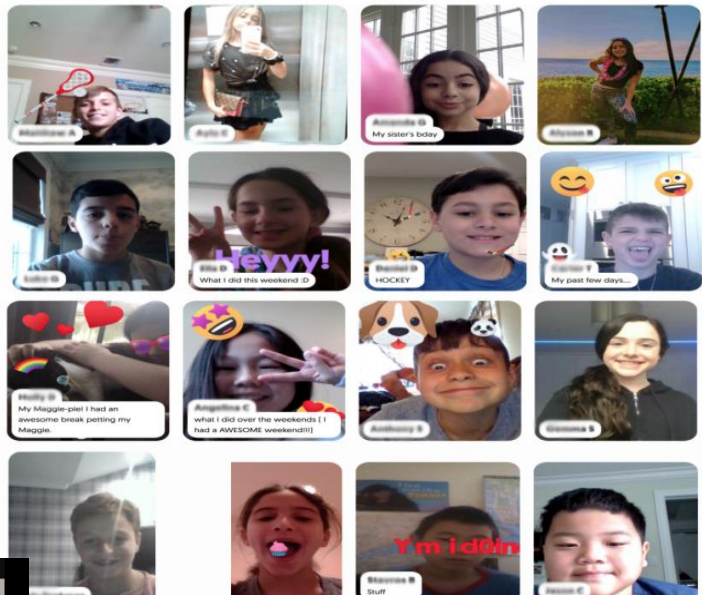
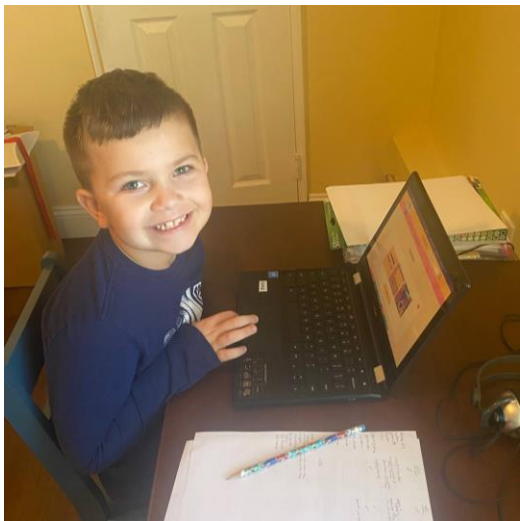
- College counselors are well aware that this is an unusual spring and have indicated to us they will factor that into their review of transcripts.

Falling behind on instruction?

- No matter what, when we are back together, we will focus on helping all students catch up to where they need to be.

Online Learning – Syosset Plan

Progress Report

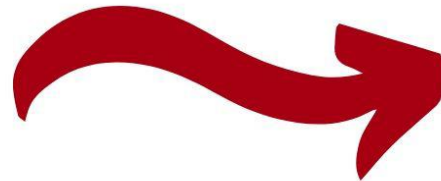


What a Difference a Month Makes!

**First day of closure:
March 16, 2020**



One month later



**Data as of Friday,
April 17, 2020**

A total of over **23,000
live meets held!**

Elementary students participated
over **86,000** times!

Middle School students participated
over **63,000** times!

High School students participated
over **73,000** times!

Syosset Online Learning Plan - Elementary

One “synchronous” event per day for each classroom teacher

One synchronous event per day for a “special” teacher (art, music, PE, or World Language)

Asynchronous assignments for independent work in all subjects.

Teachers hold office hours and respond to parent email and students in Google Classroom.

Special education 3 times/week for Special Class, Resource Room and Consultant Teacher

Syosset Online Learning Plan - Middle

One synchronous event every other day for daily classes

Approximately four class sessions a day based on team planning including special area classes from Monday to Thursday

Blended Learning Activities including Google Meet and/or office hours, posting of daily assignments and answering students' questions on Google Classroom, and independent and collaborative work using district approved digital tools.

Special education direct contact with students at a minimum of three times per week for Special Class, Resource Room, Instructional Support Class, and consultant teacher direct services. Related services provided at a minimum of once a week.

Syosset Online Learning Plan – High School

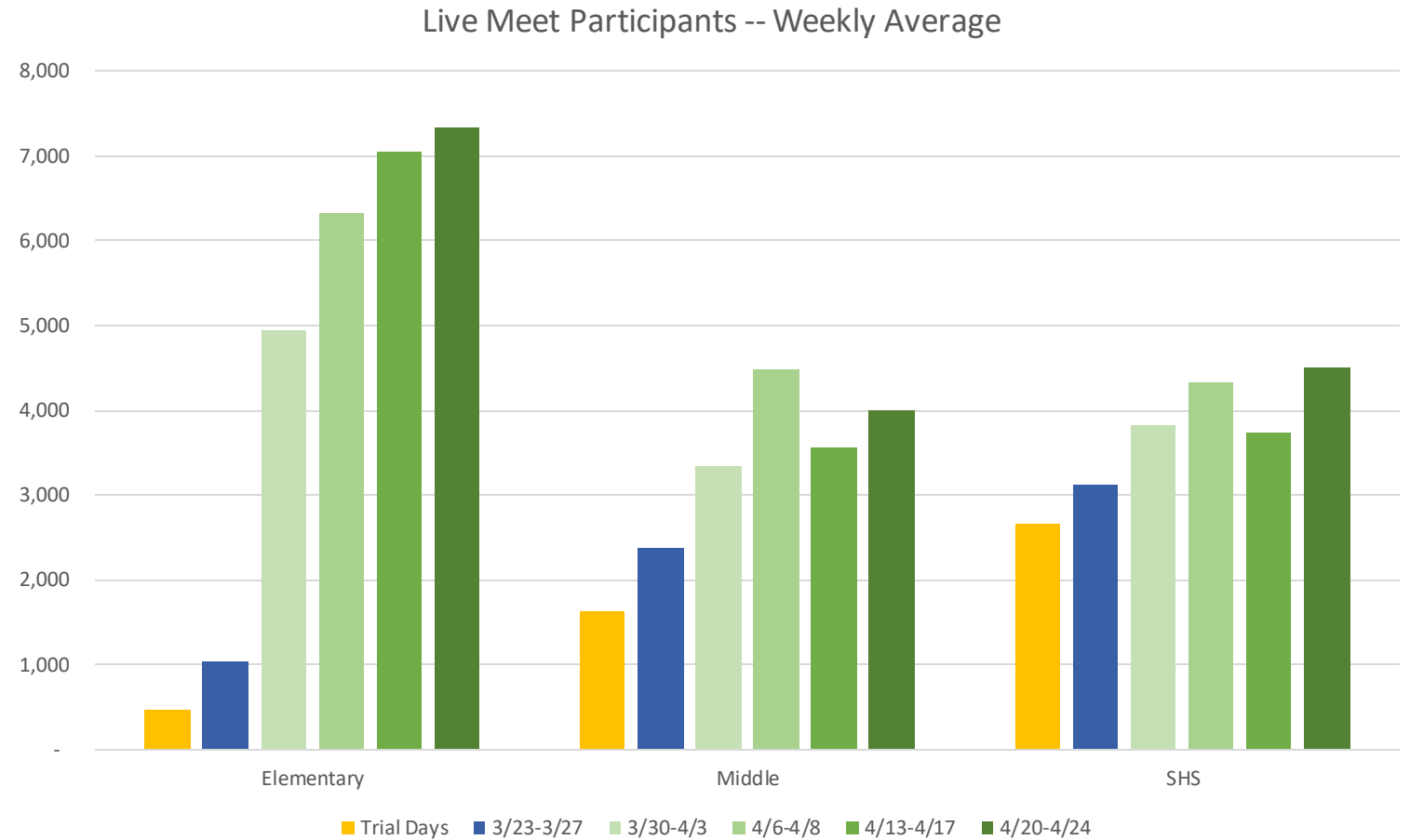
Following “bell” schedule

Thoughtful combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction

Clubs continuing to meet virtually

Athletics teams given virtual workouts; coaches working with scholarship athletes.

Live Meet Participants



Special Education Services

Federal rules adjusted to extend deadlines for provisions of special education services

State rules for provision of IEP services allow for flexibility and teletherapy – “Do your best,” said Commissioner Tahoe

Providing consultant teacher, co-teaching, resource room, special class, and speech/physical/occupational therapy via online in addition to hearing and vision support services

Psychologists, social workers, and behavior analysts working with student groups and supporting families

Syosset Parent Support

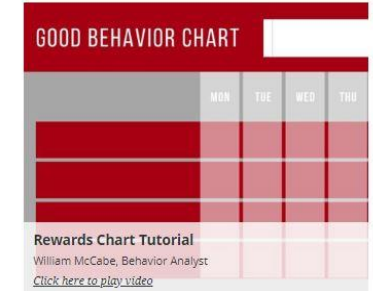
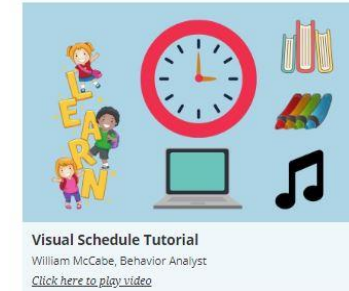
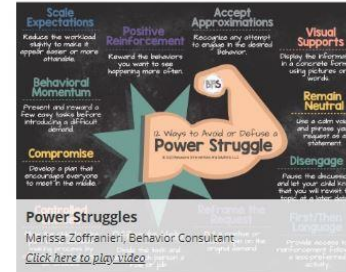
www.syossetschools.org/parentsupport

- District behavior analysts, social workers and guidance counselors collaborated to provide parents with a variety of helpful resources as students are engaged in online learning from home.
- Video tutorials, presentations and links to outside resources are included in this one easy-to-navigate webpage.
- Information on creating schedules, dealing with power struggles, addressing social-emotional issues, self-regulation and other concerns is included.
- COVID-19-specific resources, such as tips for talking to children about current events, and fun movement and mindfulness activities, have also been included.

SYOSSET PARENT SUPPORT

District staff is available to support our parents and guardians during the emergency school closure as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. Please click below to access a presentation by District behavior analysts William McCabe, MEd, BCBA and Marissa Zoffranieri, MEd, BCBA that outlines helpful resources and strategies to support our families during this difficult time. Should you have any questions or need additional support, please email syossetsupport@syossetschools.org.

Navigating the "New Normal": Adjusting our Lives in Uncertain Times



[SEL & Behavioral Resources](#)



[COVID-19 Social Stories](#)



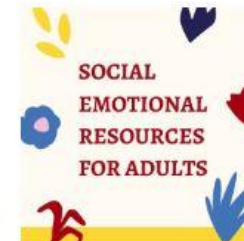
[Self-Regulation](#)



[Talking to Your Child About COVID-19](#)



[Play, Movement, Mindfulness](#)



[SEL Resources for Adults](#)



[Mental Health Support Resources](#)



[Apps, Videos and Fun Activities](#)

Syosset Online Learning Plan

- Synchronous (real time)
 - Make emotional connection to kids
 - Maintain connection to the learning community
 - Identify any kids who may appear in crisis
 - Multiple forms of live interaction
- Asynchronous
 - Students do deeper work
 - Teachers provide feedback and coaching
 - Assignments requiring background reading and research
 - Repetition for skill fluency
- Both are vehicles for teaching



Synchronous Learning

*Synchronous learning is the kind of learning that happens in real time. This means that you, your classmates, and your instructor interact in a specific virtual place, through a specific online medium, at a specific time.

Methods of synchronous online learning include video conferencing, teleconferencing, live chatting, and live-streaming lectures



Asynchronous Learning

*Asynchronous learning happens on your own schedule. Students have the ability to access and satisfy the classwork within a flexible time frame.

Methods of asynchronous online learning include self-paced lessons, recorded videos, posted assignments on learning management systems, and exchanges across discussion boards

4th Quarter Grades – High School/MS Regents

- Teachers continue to grade and comment on work as they normally do.
- Quarterly grades will be assessed in a 4-Tiered System:
 - Pass with Mastery (>89.5) – will result in an A+ for Q4;
 - Pass Plus (>79.5) – will result in a B+ for Q4;
 - Passing (>64.5) – will result in a C+ for Q4;
 - Incomplete – Insufficient work to earn credit for Q4.
- Q4 grades can only improve the overall grade (“do no harm”);
- The Infinite Campus portal will still show a “grade in progress”.
 - If the cumulative grade Q1-Q3 is higher than the cumulative grade including Q4, the Q1-Q3 grade stands.

4th Quarter Grades – Middle School

The Infinite Campus portal will still show a “grade in progress”.

- If the yearly grade is improved by Q4,
 - All 4 Quarters will count for 25%.
- If the yearly grade is not improved by Q4,
 - The first 3 quarters will each count for 33.3%. (“Do no harm”)
- Elementary School curriculum compacted for online learning. Feedback on progress toward skills and standards still under discussion.

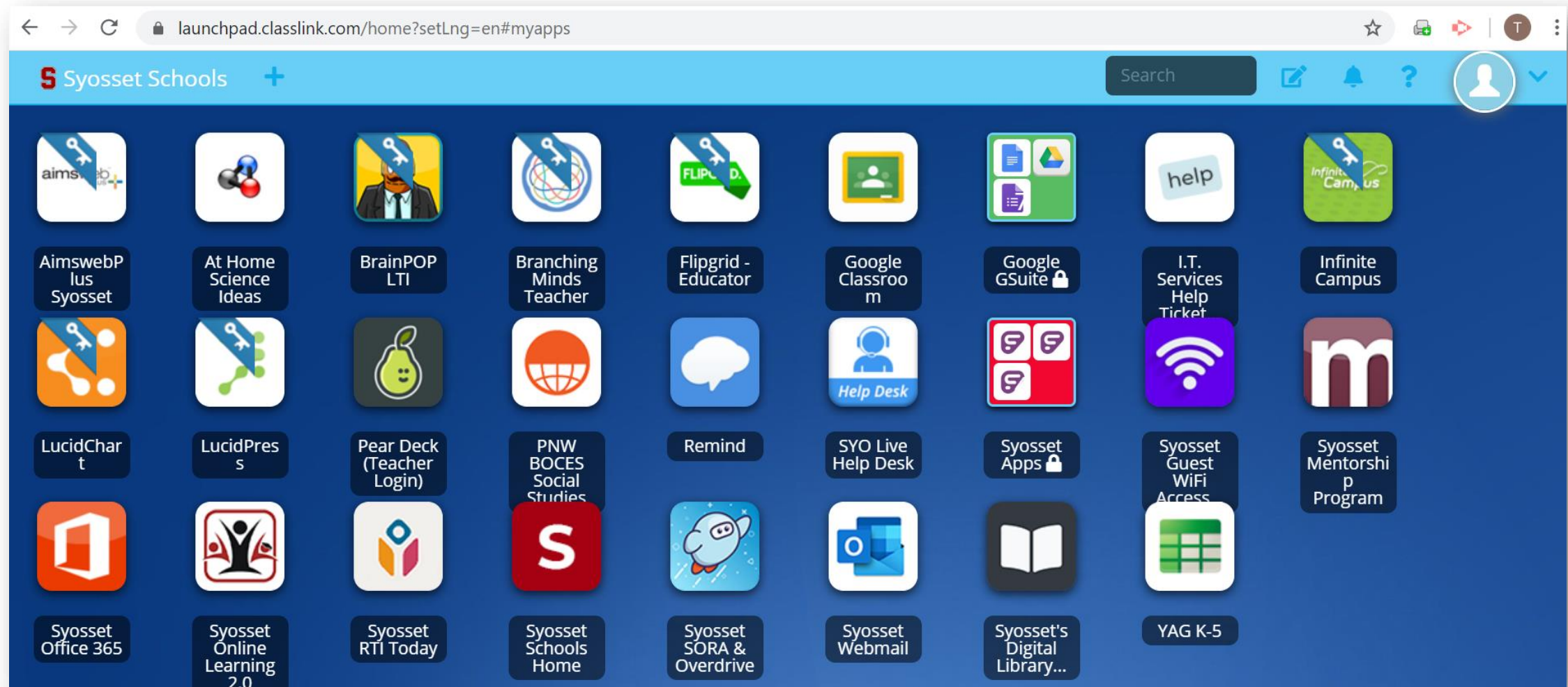
NYS State Changes

Grades 3-8 testing canceled

Regents exams canceled
(passing the course = course credit)

Accountability determinations
suspended for one year

The “Back End” – Teacher Support Platform



Online Professional Development Calendar

calendar.google.com/calendar/embed?color=%23cca6ac&src=syosset.k12.ny.us_6a8kt3h17bgl7q99hg8t5l0o4g@group.calendar.google.com

Syosset Online Professional Learning Calendar

Today April 2020

Print Week Month Agenda

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
29	30	31	Apr 1	2	3	4
	10am BOCES: Google Classroom 11:30am Pear Deck w/ Allison de 12pm Pear Deck Basics with Nina 12:30pm WeVideo Q & A w/ Kelly	10am BOCES: Google Forms 11:30am Google Meet - for begin 11:30am Kami for Annotation (an 12:15pm Flip Grid with Kristina &	10am BOCES: Google Q & A 10am K-12 Nearpod Collaborate 12pm How to Create a Digital Les 1pm IDEA & Book Creator Webin	10am BOCES Google Drive 11:30am SeeSaw Getting Started 11:30am K-12 WeVideo Q & A w/ 1pm Home Learning with Book C	10am BOCES: Google Classroom 12pm Carolina Science with Barb 12pm Getting Started With Book	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
	10am BOCES: Google Meet 11:30am Nearpod: Quick Launch 12pm Book Creator for Beginners	10am BOCES: Google Grading 11:30am Gr K-1 Raz-Plus for Rem 11:30am YouTube: Getting Starte	10am BOCES: Google Forms in th 10am BOCES: Google Webinar- V 11am You Tube - Getting Started 11:30am Gr2-3 Raz Plus for Remc 11:30am Raz Kids PD for Resouce	10am BOCES: Google Jamboard	10am BOCES: Google Classroom	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	12pm ST Math How Getting Start	10am Google Classroom: BOCES 11:30am ST Math Understanding 12pm Learning A-Z (Raz Plus) Ge	10am Taking Google Slides to the 11:30am Jamboard with Melanie S 12:30pm Learning A-Z (Raz Plus)	10am How to live teach using Jar 10am Seesaw - Basics: BOCES 11:30am Getting Started with Lea 2pm General Q&A - For Teachers	10am Seesaw - Beyond the Basic 12pm Learning A-Z (Raz Plus) "E	
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
	11:30am Gr 4-5 Raz Plus for Rem 11:30am Gr K-2 Headsprout for R	11:30am Gr 3-5Headsprouts for R 11:30am Gr K-2 Headsprout for R	11:15am FlipGrid with Kristina Ho 11:30am Admin & Coaches Heads 11:30am Gr 3-5 Headsprout for R	11:30am Admins & Coaches Raz F 11:30am K-1 Raz-Plus ELL Edition	12:30pm Nearpod with Lauren All	
26	27	28	29	30	May 1	2
	11:30am Gr 2-3 Raz Plus ELL Edit 11:30am Gr 4-5 Raz-Plus ELL Edit			11:30am Equatio PD with Jeff Gre		

Events shown in time zone: Eastern Time - New York

Google Calendar

Updated Curriculum Pacing Guides

	Marking Period 1										Marking Period 2										Marking Period 3 (See Priorities and Resources Below)																		
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39
Reading	We are Readers (Spiral Book 1)					Emergent Reading: Looking Clo					Super Powers: Reading with					Bigger Books, Bigger Muscles (Spiral Book 3)					Becoming Avid Readers (spiral book 3)					Growing Expertise in Little Books: Reading for Information					Giving the Gift of Reading (Curricular Calendar)								
Writing	Launching the Writers Workshop (Spiral Books 1&2, Bends 1&2, Sessions 18&19)					Show and Tell: From Labels to Pattern Books (NEW 2018)					Launching the Writing Workshop (Spiral Book 1 Bend 3) & Writing for Readers (Spiral Book 2)					How to Books: Writing to Teach Others					Persuasive Writing of All Kinds					All About Books					Crafting Stories Using All We Know								
Phonics	Making Friends with Letters (Book 1)					Word Scientists (Book 2)					Word Part Power (Book 3)					Vowel Power (Book 4)					Playing with Phonics					If...Then...Phonics					If...Then...Phonics								
Math	#0-5		Compare to 5		#6-9		Compare to 10		Addition			Subtraction			#11-19			20+		2D shapes			3D Shapes			Measurement			Classify/Sort										
Science NGSS	Weather & Sky										Living Things and Their Needs & Chick Embryology										Pushes & Pulls																		
Social Studies	Inquiry: Identity					Inquiry: Rules					Inquiry: Holidays					Inquiry: Needs & Wants					Inquiry: Maps & Globes					Inquiry: Civic Ideals													
Library-Media	K-5 Student Skill Development <i>Research & Information Fluency, Literature & Reading, Computer Skills, Keyboarding, Digital Citizenship, Coding and Robotics</i> https://drive.google.com/open?id=16wiC2QWZz5ZoOFP2ig77noVgevtx2JCA																																						
WL																																							
Art																																							
Music	Kindergarten Arts Integration Units																																						
PE																																							
Content Area	Third Marking Period Priorities																	Resources																					
Reading	Reading Unit as Planned with Staff Developer																	Teachers College Unit/Virtual Staff Developer Day																					
Writing	Writing Unit as Planned with Staff Developer																	Teachers College Unit/Virtual Staff Developer Day																					
Phonics	Teachers College Pacing or Foundations Pacing																	Teachers College Phonics Unit or Foundations Program																					
Mathematics	Measurement										Classify/Sort							Go Math/Think Central																					
Science	Living Things																	Carolina Science Unit and Elementary STEM Specialist																					
Social Studies	Maps and Globes																	Inquiry: Maps & Globes										Putnam BOCES Integrated ELA/SS											
Social/Emotional	Sanford Harmony Program																																						

Next Challenges with Online Learning

Attendance/Engagement Index

- Student engagement varies widely
- Core classes vs. specials and electives

Parent Support – [Online site](#) created to assist parents

- Navigating the New Normal ([resources](#))
- Power Struggles – managing student behavior ([video](#))
- Visual Schedule Tutorial – Building a daily schedule ([video](#))
- Good Behavior Chart – Building a rewards chart ([video](#))
- With questions or for additional support, syossetsupport@syossetschools.org

Student Mental Health ([NPR Story](#))

Messages From the Syosset Community

“

We are so grateful for all of your support for our students! In a time when kindness and understanding mean the most all of our Syosset faculty and staff have been a light in the storm. As Mr. Fred Rogers says we need to look for the helpers. How lucky our community is that YOU - our helpers - are you right here when we need you. We appreciate all the extra effort on the distance learning and helping keep normalcy in our students' lives.

"I think there should be a rule that everyone in the world should get a standing ovation at least once in their lives."

— R.J. Palacio, [Wonder](#)

Take care of yourselves and we look forward to a time when we see you in person and can give you the standing ovation you deserve!

Deirdre Dapice & Beverly Marmor
Co-Presidents
Syosset High School PTSA

I would like to thank all the teachers in the Syosset Central School District for embracing the challenge to continue to teach during this unprecedented time. Children need structure and more so now than ever! Complacency can take over easily and quickly so thank you for keeping our children engaged and active throughout this event!

Regards,
Kalpa Ved

I'd like to thank Syosset School District for all the wonderful and hardworking efforts everyone is putting in. So proud to be a part of this community!!

It really is remarkable how quickly both staff and students have adapted to this situation. It really is remarkable and once again demonstrates how important teachers and educators are.

”

Bright Spots

- South Woods 7th Grader Krishiv Shah invents a “Social Distancing App”.
 - Krishiv’s YouTube video gets over 1,100 views:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0lCKkNA1KBs&feature=youtu.be>
 - Krishiv gets interviewed on the Brian Aspinall podcast:
 - (Aspinall has over 60,000 Twitter followers):
 - <http://brianaspinall.com/the-social-distancing-app/>
- Syosset students send inspirational messages to first responders, nursing home residents, and hospitalized patients.
 - <https://flipgrid.com/+staystrongsyosset>
- SHS Robotics coaches Tim Governale and John Chae collaborated remotely with students to design and utilize 3D printers to create approximately 240 face shields for nursing homes and hospitals.

@SYOSTRONG

