

A Message From the Office of the Superintendent



A Message from Superintendent Dr. Nancy Lynch

April 10, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am hopeful this week has provided a well-deserved break for you and your families to spend time together and share new experiences during this unprecedented time. As I mentioned earlier this week and was announced [here](#), the Reed Union School District along with all other Marin County and Bay Area schools, will continue to provide distance learning through the remainder of the school year.

Our school principals, Dr. Niesyn, Ms. Cala and Mr. Lynch, have been working closely with our teachers and staff to make revisions to our continuity of learning program to lessen the reliance on parents and caregivers. Using data from the surveys that were administered in the third week of the program, new ideas and modifications are going to be made in the roll out that will begin on Monday. Expect to see the implementation of revisions over the next several weeks.

Your feedback has been invaluable and has helped us create enhanced plans in which teachers will provide recorded lessons, connect with students using apps such as Seesaw and Google Classroom as well as connect with their students in real-time. Teachers will continue to provide clear learning expectations, monitor progress and provide feedback to students. We also want to ensure that your children are happy and engaged in opportunities to interact with their classmates. Teachers will begin to implement face to face meeting sessions to create

socialization opportunities.

We know that this is a challenging time as parents, as professionals and as educators, and we are all in this together. Your children are our top priority and it is our job to ensure that they are learning, challenged and inspired to their fullest potential. Below are some of the revisions that will be integrated into our distance learning program across each of our schools:

Reed and Bel Aire:

- Teachers will follow the Continuity in Learning Plan each day
- Teachers will utilize resources such as recorded lessons, instructional videos, and Google Meet to engage with students
- Teachers will post lessons and collect student work through Seesaw or Google Classroom, and provide feedback to students on their progress
- Teachers will contact students and/or families who are not engaging in their learning activities
- Wednesdays will be dedicated to specialist's instruction with designated time blocks, which allows students to cluster their weekly specialist time into one day. Classroom teachers will use this time to continue their learning, creating lessons, and develop enhancements to the program
- Services/support will be rolled out for students who regularly receive intervention support
- Teachers will continue to hold daily office hours via email, conference call, or Google Meet
- Extension activities are available on the continuity of learning webpage so students can be engaged from 8:30 - 3:00 if parents choose to have students work for this length of time
- Principals will continue to engage with students via principal broadcasts, messages, or story reading
- For parents who would like more concrete structure during the day, a sample grade level daily schedule template will be created to help organize the day
- Teachers will continue to collaborate with administrators, reflect upon the program and refine best practices
- Administrators will continue to consider feedback to inform student-centered decisions

Del Mar:

- [The DM Distance Learning Website](#) is active and provides centralized information and resources, including the Family Handbook for Distance Learning
- [Mr. Lynch's Podcast](#) is a way to communicate directly to students each week
- Advisory check-ins are more important than ever as we build community remotely and bond as a group. Students discuss their challenges, check-in about workload and share
- Humanities, Science, and Math teachers now each have one day per week devoted to creating curriculum for distance learning and collaboration
- Teachers will be providing not only pre-recorded lessons (audio or visual), but also a least one Google Meet for each class per week, and are looking to further increase student contact moving into week 5
- Teachers have created a coordinated Google Meet office hour schedule to prevent overlap in students' daily schedules

Our distance learning program will continue to evolve and improve as we

implement best practices and discover new technologies. We greatly appreciate your understanding and support as we continue our transition to this new way of teaching.

Warm regards,

Nancy Lynch, Ed.D.
Superintendent
Reed Union School District

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