



## Reed News

April 3, 2020

Happy Friday Everyone!

As week 3 of Distance Learning comes to a close, I hope everyone is looking forward to a restful spring break. Based on parent feedback, we have been making revisions to our K-2 RUSD At Home Learning Model that we will begin to roll out after the break. Below are some of the key changes and revisions:

### **RUSD at Home**

Reed parents and caregivers have taken a primary role of instructional delivery during these first few weeks and we are all very grateful. Given the age and developmental needs of our Reed students we must continue to rely on parents and caregivers to support learning at home. That said, we are making adjustments to our model to **increase** student independence and **lessen the degree** of adult support required throughout the day:

- **Simplified Pages:** Grade level pages will be streamlined to be user-friendly for adults and students. Each page will include a simple list of activities and lessons. Recorded instructions and guidance will be included with **most** lessons.

- **Independent & Supported Lessons:** Lessons and activities will be coded as either Independent or Supported. This will enable parents to organize the day in a manner that fits the family schedule.



- **Independent Lessons:** Most children should be able to complete these lessons with independence or minimal adult support. You may want to begin each day with the lessons and activities in this category so you can attend to your own work or family needs.

- **Supported Lessons:** While recorded guidance from teachers will be included with most lessons in this category, your child will likely require and benefit from in-person adult support.

- **Seesaw:** Teachers and Specialists will be using Seesaw in a variety of ways. This may include classroom announcements, student recognitions, and/or classroom assignments. All teachers will use Seesaw to collect student work. Most K-2 students are familiar with using Seesaw. If you need assistance, please reach out to your child's teacher and they will be happy to support you.

- **Specialist Wednesdays:** Classroom lessons and activities will transition to 4 days a week and Wednesdays will be reserved for specialist lessons. Wednesday lessons will include PE, music, Spanish, library, and art. While these lessons and activities could be fun for the whole family, your child should be able to complete most lessons independently. PE also will be included on Mondays & Fridays.

*\* Classroom teachers will be using Wednesdays for professional development and will not be available to respond to email. Time will be spent learning new tools for best practices in distance learning. Specialists will be available by email in the event you have questions or need support.*

### **Disconnect to Reconnect**

During these past three weeks, iPads and other devices have become an invaluable conduit for information and learning. As you transition to spring break, I encourage students and families to **disconnect** from all technology and **reconnect** with the people in your home. Play games, build structures out of cereal boxes, create something with all those toilet paper rolls, learn an instrument, do family yoga in the living room, build a fort under the dining table and sleep in it. Be creative, be engaged, relish the simple moments. Give yourself permission to let go of worry and simply be.

### **Email Free Mondays**

While we know communication between parents and teachers is critical, especially at this time, I hope you will join me in committing to **email free Mondays**. Our hope is to establish an email free day to enable teachers, staff, and parents to focus their time on students, lessons, and preparing for a productive week. Of course, there will always be exceptions, but our collective efforts will benefit us all.

I wish you all a peaceful, safe, and relaxing spring break.

Warmly,  
Mary Niesyn