



# NYACK SCHOOL DISTRICT REMOTE LEARNING GUIDE FOR PARENT/GUARDIANS 2020

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## CONTRIBUTORS

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## **OVERVIEW**

This document contains important information for our parents, guardians and school community to use as we strive to do our best to engage our students in meaningful learning experiences during the COVID-19 school closure. Our staff and administration have been working hard to adjust our teaching practices from traditional methods to a very new and untried virtual platform. We deeply appreciate the high level of professionalism displayed by our staff to deliver quality instruction in a difficult environment. Our District's investments in technology, professional development and technology-infused instruction has placed us in an advantageous position to carry out this new model of schooling. We ask for your patience as we confront this incredibly challenging task. There will undoubtedly be missteps and unintended outcomes, however, we are confident with all of us working together, our students will continue to achieve academically.

Please be advised that we continue to receive updates and new information from State and Federal officials related to public education issues. We are operating in a dynamic environment and anticipate revisions to this document. We will continue to update our school community as new information becomes available to us.

## **ASSISTANCE IN SPANISH OR HAITIAN CREOLE**

**Si le hace falta información traducida en español, llame a:**

- [Yesenia Polanco - District Community Liaison 845-353-7042](#)
- [Alexandra Sicher – ENL/Bilingual Dept. Secretary 845-353-7032](#)
- [Silvia Falcomer - Liberty Family Resource Center 845-353-7247](#)
- [Wanda Octaviano - Middle School Family Resource Center 845-353-7214](#)
- [Jessica Mislá - Valley Cottage Family Resource Center 845-353-7291](#)

**Si ou bezwen enfòmasyon tradui an kreyòl, rele:**

- [Doktè Elcie Douce - Director of World Language 845-353-7173](#)
- [Rachel Berlin - Upper Nyack Family Resource Center 845-353-7268](#)

## **REMOTE LEARNING SCHEDULE**

It is very important to keep a regular learning schedule during this period of school closure for your child's health and wellness for continuity of learning. It helps to minimize the stress of all the sudden and unanticipated change in routines.

Therefore, students should follow the schedule to which they are accustomed or the new daily schedule developed and listed on their teacher's class page.

Try to have your child(ren) involved with you in collaboratively looking at the teachers' daily/weekly schedule and merging it with your family's own weekly schedule to create a workable overview for the whole family. This gives students more ownership in the prioritizing and organizing of the learning process and will further build their belief in themselves as being capable and confident learners.

- In order not to overwhelm students with transitions, we recommend:
  - At the elementary level, no more than two activities/assignments per day within a given subject area or course.
  - At the middle school and high school levels, assignments are due multiple days after being assigned.
  - A weekly schedule will be posted by each teacher on Mondays. This should ensure ability to plan ahead for synchronous meetings, given each family member's commitments. Daily lessons and independent activities will also be available each morning by 8:30 am on the teacher's Google class page and via Schoology for the high school.
  - Special area teachers will be coming online in the coordination of at least one special (art, music, for grades 2-5, P.E.) each day in their lesson plans. We encourage families to also build in frequent wellness breaks
- Teachers will monitor student progress to ensure participation and check-in with students if they are struggling or non-participatory. Please reach out to your child's teacher to discuss this further so a collaborative plan may be made.

# **DELIVERY OF ASSIGNMENTS & INSTRUCTION**

## **Teaching Instruction:**

- Instruction for your child will continue to focus on the District's rigorous content area curriculum, which is already in place.
- Teachers will continue to share assignments and instruction on a regular basis with students and/or student families where appropriate.

## **A Blended School Day:**

- Students' school day will be a combination of live/synchronous lessons and independent activities to reinforce the learning and indirect/asynchronous instructions.
- Each teacher will provide a minimum of 150 minutes of live instruction per week in the Elementary and Middle Schools and 200 minutes per week in the High School, which should be broken down into smaller amounts of time across the week and day. Instruction will be delivered using the district's designated video conferencing platform/s and should focus on discussions, synthesis, summarization, and highlighting future learning.
- Actual learning activities can be delivered as remote assignments in the form of screencasts, videos, and websites, and accessed through the district's designated learning management platforms (E-Chalk, Google Classroom, and/or Schoology).
- Teachers will use their professional judgment in how they deliver live instruction across the week, ensuring that students are receiving the benefit of engaging with their teachers and with one another most days of the week.

## **Live Sessions:**

- For maximum student benefit, we expect that students will participate in the **synchronous sessions** when possible. However, we are aware that a student or their family's schedules may not allow for participation. If the student is unable to attend, there is no expectation for a teacher to make-up the session.
- Teachers will provide families a schedule for the week that allows parents sufficient time to plan the day around synchronous sessions. However, by having the schedule for the week ahead of time, families will be able to develop family-friendly schedules that take into account and prioritize when students should be participating in synchronous sessions.

## **K-5 Reading Academic Intervention Services (AIS) Instruction:**

- Students who receive AIS Reading Services will continue to receive services during remote learning. AIS reading students are receiving 60-90 minutes of synchronous/live instruction per week, scheduled by their teachers in addition to asynchronous instruction. Instruction includes strengthening skills in phonics, phonemic awareness, sight words,

reading comprehension, and writing in response to reading according to individual needs. In addition AIS reading instruction continues to be centered around guided reading.

### **K-5 Math Academic Intervention Services (AIS) Instruction:**

- Students are provided a blend of synchronous and asynchronous instruction weekly. This includes using research-based intervention programs as well as tools and strategies, word problems, and fact fluency practice/games.

### **Special Education:**

#### **Consultant Teacher Direct**

- Co-teach and plan with general education teachers in accordance with Individualized Education Plan (IEP) on how to modify, engage and accommodate remote classroom instruction.

#### **Special Class (Self-Contained):**

- Provide modified instruction in content areas in accordance with IEPs via Zoom and/or Google Classroom.

#### **Speech/Language Pathologists:**

- Students will meet with Speech and Language Pathologists using Zoom and/or Google Classroom in accordance with their IEP goals and instructional plan.

#### **Occupational Therapists/Occupational Therapy Assistants:**

- Students will meet with Occupational Therapists and Assistant using Zoom and/or Google Classroom in accordance with their IEP goals and instructional plan.

#### **Counseling/Psychological - School Psychologist/Social Workers:**

- A combination of Zoom/Google Classroom/Telephone will engage and promote skills in the areas of social, emotional and behavioral development as related to their IEP goals and services needs determined in the present levels of performance.
- Indirect consultation and activities are available to parents to support distance learning.

#### **Physical Therapy Services:**

- Students will meet with Physical Therapy Services using Zoom and/or Google Classroom in accordance with their IEP goals and instructional plan.

#### **Hearing Services Teachers:**

- A combination of Zoom/Google Meet are used to engage students to develop skills related to IEP goals and needs determined in the present levels of performance.

- consulting with the General Education/Special Education teachers as needed to support access to the curriculum

#### **Section 504 Teachers:**

- Section 504 accommodations and modifications will continue during remote instruction.

#### **CSE/CPSE & Section 504 Meetings:**

- During this time of school closing, we will be using Zoom for CSE/CPSE/Section 504 meetings. A link will be emailed by the CSE/CPSE Chairperson to connect to a virtual meeting on the scheduled conference date and time.
- If you cannot attend and need to reschedule, please contact your special education case manager or teacher.

#### **ENGLISH AS A NEW LANGUAGE (ENL) & BILINGUAL EDUCATION:**

- Teachers utilize various digital/virtual platforms and computer-aided instructional tools to modify and continue to provide the high quality exemplary education
- Teachers collaborate and plan with general education teachers and specialists to ensure that English Language Learners (ELL) receive mandated CR Part 154 minutes of instruction in an optimal virtual learning environment.
- Scaffolded lessons are provided to support the needs of ELLs. Bilingual materials are provided as needed. Co-taught ENL and general education classes are taught virtually.
- Contact Ms. Audrey Cabbell, Director of ENL and Bilingual Education to answer any questions at mailto: <mailto:acabbell@nyackschools.org> or 845-353-7032. Se habla español.

#### **PHYSICAL EDUCATION & HEALTH:**

- Lessons are posted to Google Classrooms to help students maintain a healthy lifestyle throughout this extended school closure.
- Parents/guardians are encouraged to join their children and participate in live Zoom sessions.

## **SOCIAL EMOTIONAL LEARNING - GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT**

Guidance Counselors, Social Workers and School Psychologists remain available to students and families during this time. Children feel an increase in stress and anxiety during times of uncertainty.

The Guidance Department posts mindfulness activities, and SEL videos that can be used at home. Please visit the Guidance Department webpages for resources and SEL support during school closure due to COVID-19.

- [Elementary Guidance page](#)
- [Middle School Guidance page](#)
- [High School Guidance page](#)

Please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's guidance counselor for resources or additional support. Check in with us often:

- Jon Hogg, UN and VCE Elementary: [jhogg@nyackschools.org](mailto:jhogg@nyackschools.org)
- Marina Gomez, Liberty and UN Elementary: [mgomez@nyackschools.org](mailto:mgomez@nyackschools.org)
- Edgar Lambert, 6<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School: [elambert@nyackschools.org](mailto:elambert@nyackschools.org)
- Liz Battista, 7<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School: [lbattista@nyackschools.org](mailto:lbattista@nyackschools.org)
- Francesca Falvo, 8<sup>th</sup> grade Middle School: [ffalvo@nyackschools.org](mailto:ffalvo@nyackschools.org)
- Maggie Gershonovitz, High School: [mgershonovitz@nyackschools.org](mailto:mgershonovitz@nyackschools.org)
- Tara Heinemann, High School: [theinemann@nyackschools.org](mailto:theinemann@nyackschools.org)
- Sean Cavanagh, High School: [scavanagh@nyackschools.org](mailto:scavanagh@nyackschools.org)
- Alejandro Pena, Bilingual High School: [apena@nyackschools.org](mailto:apena@nyackschools.org)
- Diana Wright, High School: [dwright@nyackschools.org](mailto:dwright@nyackschools.org)
- Dornzella Milligan, Student Support Services Prevention Coordinator: [dmilligan@nyackschools.org](mailto:dmilligan@nyackschools.org)
- Lorraine Longing: Director of Guidance K - 12: [llonging@nyackschools.org](mailto:llonging@nyackschools.org)

# **TECHNOLOGY ACCESS & SUPPORT**

## **TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS:**

- are age-appropriate and designed to connect students and teachers at each grade level to allow learning objectives to be communicated to students with each lesson.
- allow content and skills to be introduced in a variety of ways, allowing for differentiation, feedback and self-reflection.
- support pre-recorded lessons that allow teachers to provide tutorials as needed. Video conferencing allows students to interact with their teacher and other students via video, audio, chat or discussion boards.
- allows teachers to monitor student progress and ensure participation.

## **TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT:**

If parents/students have trouble connecting, logging-in or accessing a required program, please call the **Technology Help Desk at 845-353-7075**

We understand that not all students have the same level of access to technology at home. If you do not have internet connectivity (WiFi), or a device, please contact your child’s principal who will inform the Technology Department of your concern.

## **DISTRICT- SUPPORTED TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS:**

<b>Elementary Schools (K-5)</b>	<b>Middle School 6-8</b>	<b>High School (9-12)</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Seesaw*</li> <li>● Google Classroom*</li> <li>● Google Apps for Education</li> <li>● Typing Club</li> <li>● Screencastify</li> <li>● Khan Academy</li> <li>● YouTube</li> <li>● Zoom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Google Classroom*</li> <li>● Google Apps for Education</li> <li>● Brain Pop</li> <li>● Ed Puzzle</li> <li>● Typing Club</li> <li>● Screencastify</li> <li>● Khan Academy</li> <li>● YouTube</li> <li>● Zoom</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Schoology*</li> <li>● Google Classroom*</li> <li>● Screencastify</li> <li>● Nearpod</li> <li>● Brain Pop</li> <li>● Khan Academy</li> <li>● YouTube</li> <li>● TED</li> <li>● Zoom</li> <li>● email</li> </ul>

**\*Learning Management System used for the coordination of learning activities.**

The **safety, security and privacy of our students and their data is a top priority**. Many web-based platforms are not compliant with educational privacy requirements. Teachers have been instructed that any platform which collects student information must be approved by the district to ensure adherence to student data privacy requirements.

**DISTRICT- SUPPORTED TECHNOLOGY PLATFORMS:**

The list below contains district-approved and commonly used technology tools.

Elementary Schools (K-5)	Middle School 6-8	High School (9-12)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Seesaw*</li><li>● Google Classroom*</li><li>● Google Apps for Education</li><li>● Typing Club</li><li>● Screencastify</li><li>● Khan Academy</li><li>● YouTube</li><li>● Zoom</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Google Classroom*</li><li>● Google Apps for Education</li><li>● Brain Pop</li><li>● Ed Puzzle</li><li>● Typing Club</li><li>● Screencastify</li><li>● Khan Academy</li><li>● YouTube</li><li>● Zoom</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Schoology*</li><li>● Google Classroom*</li><li>● Screencastify</li><li>● Nearpod</li><li>● Brain Pop</li><li>● Khan Academy</li><li>● YouTube</li><li>● TED</li><li>● Zoom</li><li>● email</li></ul>

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**USE OF VIDEOS OR CONFERENCING:**

- **Any videos or conferencing that may occur during remote learning are not to be copied, tampered with or disseminated in any way** (e.g. posting a video a teacher made on social media).

**DISTRICT’S MEDIA OPT-OUT PROTOCOL:**

- **The District’s Media Opt-Out protocol is being followed throughout this school closure.** If you placed your child on the Media-Opt Out List for the 2019/20 school year and thereby have not given parental permission for your child(ren) to be included in photo sharing, your child(ren) will still be able to participate in real-time video class room activities or conferencing. In this situation, teachers will activate the necessary tools to keep your child(ren)’s image from being seen in the virtual classroom (e.g. Zoom).

## **GRADING**

The District commits to a “do no harm” grading system during this period while students are continuing their education at home.

Teachers will assign work and provide meaningful feedback on student’s progress as they complete their assignments and projects. Support includes academics, social-emotional learning, health / safety, and physical and mental wellness.

### **ELEMENTARY GRADING:**

#### **End of School Year Elementary Grading**

Our goal is to provide a clear grading structure in the current remote learning environment without impacting students in a negative or unfair manner.

<b>Formative assessments, in addition to active participation in home learning activities (synchronous and asynchronous), will be used for Trimester 3, 2020. These will be used to monitor ongoing academic progress and improvement, <u>not final mastery of grade level standards</u>. Students will receive a 1, 2, or 3 in each individual subject area (Reading, Writing, Math, Science, and Social Studies).</b>	
<b>Remote Learning Grade</b>	<b>Explanation</b>
<b>3</b>	The student is <b>fully</b> engaging in meaningful synchronous and asynchronous standards-based learning opportunities and assignments, to the best of their ability during virtual learning.
<b>2</b>	The student is <b>partially</b> engaging in meaningful synchronous and asynchronous standards-based learning opportunities and assignments, to the best of their ability during virtual learning.
<b>1</b>	The student is <b>not</b> engaging in meaningful synchronous and asynchronous standards-based learning opportunities and assignments during virtual learning.

**SECONDARY GRADING:**

**Nyack Middle School & Nyack High School**

	<b>MIDDLE SCHOOL (HS COURSES AT THE MS WILL FOLLOW HS GRADING)</b>	<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>
<b>3rd Quarter Grades</b>	Based on students' work up to March 13th (Numerical grade)	Students' work will be graded until the end of the marking period. Students will receive a numeric grade.
<b>Grades</b>	Numerical grades based on completion (non HS credit courses only)	Numerical grades based on mastery
<b>Assessments</b>	Rubric driven, problem-based, timed assessments (Rubrics will include time on task and benchmarks)	Rubric driven, problem-based, timed assessments (Rubrics will include time on task and benchmarks)
<b>Special Education and ENL</b>	Teachers will work to offer modifications with the assistance of special education counterparts and with support of ENL teachers. Assignments and activities will be differentiated and reflective of the students' individual learning needs.	Teachers will work to offer modifications with the assistance of special education counterparts and with support of ENL teachers. Assignments and activities will be differentiated and reflective of the students' individual learning needs.

**Nyack Middle School** will be using numerical grades based on our rubric of completion:

<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>100</b>
Levels of Completion	Did not complete the assignment and did not turn it in.	Completed the bare minimum or less than half the assignment	Responses are very brief and undeveloped, or some tasks were left blank and/or not addressed.	Most or all of the tasks are answered/ addressed.	Fully completed and thorough.

- Each quarter counts for 25%
- There will be no final exams

## Nyack High School

The final average for full year courses at the High School will be calculated with this formula:

PREVIOUS WEIGHTING SYSTEM	ADJUSTED WEIGHTING SYSTEM (for COVID-19 Extended School Closure)
Semester = 40%	50%
Quarter 3 = 20%	25%
Quarter 4 = 20%	25%
Final Exam = 10%	0
Semester 45%	50%
Semester 45%	50%
Final Exam = 10%	0

- **GPA's will be calculated as usual**
- **There will be no final exams**

### STANDARDIZED ASSESSMENTS:

- **New York State Testing is cancelled including all June & August 2020 Regents exams.**
- AP Exams Updates:
  - The College Board will be posting updates regarding assessments here: [AP Updates for Schools Impacted by Coronavirus](#)
- SAT Updates:
  - The College Board will be posting updates regarding assessments here: [SAT Coronavirus Updates](#)
- ACT Updates:
  - ACT.org is posting updates here: [ACT Coronavirus FAQ](#)
- Seal of Biliteracy Updates:
  - Information regarding the Seal of Biliteracy will be posted here: [Seal of Biliteracy Updates](#)

# **ATTENDANCE, PARTICIPATION & WELLNESS CHECKS**

## **Attendance & Wellness Checks for the Elementary Level:**

- K-5 students are advised to log into a live/Zoom session and/or their teacher's class page each day and complete their lessons and assignments to be marked in attendance. K-1 parents are advised to support their children in this process as necessary.
- Each K-5 teacher will have a weekly schedule posted to their class page at the beginning of the week, allowing for families to more easily create a schedule.

## **Daily Attendance for the Middle and High School:**

- Students are required to complete a daily attendance form
- Teachers record the names of the students who have not been engaged weekly
- Teachers, counselors, administrators, and members of the clerical staff will communicate via phone or email with the parents of the students who have not been engaged weekly

## **Wellness Checks for the Middle and High School:**

Teachers will contact families after one missed deadline and submit student names to the Guidance Office using a Google Form after two missed deadlines. This information will be shared with the IST.

Weekly grade reports are run by the main office each Friday. This is communicated to the guidance counselors, school psychologist, social worker, and FRC who then contact parents of students who have multiple missing assignments. If we cannot reach parents after numerous attempts, we ask the S. Nyack Police department for a wellness check.

We are requesting that parents notify the school of their child's absence, in the same manner as when school is in normal session, if he/she is unable to participate in the lessons/assignments on any given day:

- *Nyack High School:* [mvalverde@nyackschools.org](mailto:mvalverde@nyackschools.org)
- *Nyack Middle School:* [EMcGee@nyackschools.org](mailto:EMcGee@nyackschools.org)
- *Liberty Elementary School:* [gsantana@nyackschools.org](mailto:gsantana@nyackschools.org)
- *Valley Cottage Elementary School:* [vbreshin@nyackschools.org](mailto:vbreshin@nyackschools.org)
- *Upper Nyack Elementary School:* [ldellolio@nyackschools.org](mailto:ldellolio@nyackschools.org)

# **SUGGESTIONS FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS**

**1. Create a space to work that encourages a routine. Set expectations.**

- Set aside a quiet area in your home that your children can use as their work space. This may be a desk area in a common room or another office area.
- Monitor our website updates and check in with your child daily about the remote/virtual school learning activities and assessments that they are working on.

**2. Develop a balanced schedule:**

- Develop an at-home work schedule that provides consistency and supports your child’s learning needs.
- Don’t forget to build in frequent breaks throughout the day and take a daily walk. If you are not able to go out, try some indoor activities.
- Find time to relax and provide self-care for each member of your family.

**3. On Attendance:** Encourage adherence to school check-in times

**4. Discuss learning together.** Do a daily check in. Ask: *How’s it going?*

**5. Support your child(ren) in managing and pacing their work:**

- Ask your child about their deadlines and support them in submitting assignments in accordance with the established deadlines.
- Email or call your child’s teacher or remind your child to email his/her teachers if they are struggling or have any questions.

**6. Have a regular daily check-in with your child (regardless of grade level)**

<b>MORNING CHECK-IN</b>	<b>AFTERNOON CHECK-IN</b>
What are you learning today?	What did you learn today? Do you need help with something to make tomorrow successful?
What are your learning targets or goals?	What was challenging? You could come up with a way to deal with the same problem if it comes up again.
How will you be organizing your time?	Consider three things that went well today. Why were they good?
What resources & support do you need?	Are you feeling ok about this work? Do you need to ask your teacher for something?

## **SUGGESTIONS FOR STUDENTS**

### **1. Create a space to work:**

- Find a comfortable workstation in your house. You may need to be creative, but finding the right work space in your home is key. Do what works best for you and your family.

### **2. Discuss learning together:**

- Keep track of questions you may have if your classroom teacher is not immediately available.
- Discuss with your caregiver how you feel about learning this way and what you think you need to support you further in this process.

### **3. Look after yourself:**

- Stay positive and take brain breaks. After working for a while, take a break or go for a short walk.
- Stay hydrated and drink water whenever possible.

### **4. Be mentally prepared:**

- Take risks and challenges
- Take the initiative and ask questions, ask for help
- Be persistent and being consistent. Stay focused on what you need to achieve.

### **5. Be kind to yourself and others. Everyone is challenged at this time.**

### **6. Don't be afraid to reach out for help. We are here for you!**

## **ATHLETICS PROGRAM**

- Spring interscholastic athletic season in Section One has been canceled.
- Our athletic facilities are closed to all, as they are an extension of the school. We ask you to respect this condition.
- Our coaches communicate with their student-athletes via SportsYou, HUDL or Google Classroom sharing valuable resources to keep them engaged, motivated, emotionally and mentally well during this difficult time. A Google Classroom has been dedicated to continual training for all, **please use code raet5lt**.
- For questions regarding athletics please contact Joe Sigillo, Director of Physical Education, Health, Wellness & Athletics [jsigillo@nyackschools.org](mailto:jsigillo@nyackschools.org).

## **SCHOOL FACILITIES**

- All District facilities **are closed** for non-essential employees, students and parents.
- Health officials have asked that we communicate to our communities the importance of practicing social distancing. Please be advised that during this health crisis the playgrounds and ball fields located on school property will not be opened to groups. We ask for your assistance with keeping everyone safe and healthy.
- We recognize that students may have belongings in school that are needed during the school closing period. Students that need to pick up medicine, equipment, or other items of importance may make arrangements by emailing their school principals.

## **SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAM**

- We provide breakfast and lunch for our school age children in need while schools are closed due to COVID-19. Each student is eligible to receive one breakfast and lunch.
- Meals will be available for pick up at the following two (2) locations:
  - **Nyack Center:** Located at 58 Depew Avenue, Nyack. Pick up times are between 9:30 AM -1:00 PM, Mondays & Wednesdays.
  - **Waldron Terrace:** Meals will be distributed from a mobile unit in the apartment complex parking lot between 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM, Mondays & Wednesdays.
- Please contact Gloria Menoutis at [gmenoutis@nyackschools.org](mailto:gmenoutis@nyackschools.org) or your school's Family Resource Center representative if you have concerns about the ability to pick up meal. You may also contact Family Resource Coordinators, listed under Who to Contact.

## **DISTRICT COMMUNICATIONS & UPDATES**

We will keep our school community informed with all updates and announcements during COVID-19 school closure using a newly created webpage designed to house important information, provide accessibility with ease and improve District communications. Parent, guardians and students are encouraged to check this site on a regular basis to stay informed and connected using the following link:

[COVID-19 RESPONSE webpage](#), located on our District website at [www.nyackschools.org](http://www.nyackschools.org).

- **Important messages from the District**, including letters and updates from the Superintendent's Office, will continue to be sent to District families via Infinite Campus Messenger, the District's emergency communications platform.
- **Text messages and robo calls** are sent as-needed in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole.
- The District's new YouTube Account allows for outreach and instructional videos to be posted, shared and accessible to the entire school community.
- **Let's Talk** remains open and available as a useful tool to stay connected to District administrators. Submit general questions and concerns you may have via *Let's Talk* at [www.nyackschools.org](http://www.nyackschools.org).
- **Translation of all website Alert Box updates is available** by clicking on the language button located in the top left hand corner of our website's home page. (see the Google Translate icon and "Select Language")
- **Communications Contact:** Lisa Mininger Retallack, District Public Relations & Community Outreach Office at [Lretallack@nyackschools.org](mailto:Lretallack@nyackschools.org)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION - WHO TO CONTACT?**

The following list is a quick reference of who to contact during extended school closure:

- **Please contact your child's teacher** if you have questions about a lesson or assignment or to discuss your child's progress. All teachers are checking emails daily.
- **Please contact your child's Principal if you have school-specific questions:**
  - **Ellen Rechenberger** at Liberty Elementary School- [erechenberger@nyackschools.org](mailto:erechenberger@nyackschools.org)
  - **Joe Mercora** at Upper Nyack Elementary School- [jmercora@nyackschools.org](mailto:jmercora@nyackschools.org)
  - **Lucrisha Addison** at Valley Cottage Elementary School- [laddison@nyackschools.org](mailto:laddison@nyackschools.org)
  - **Dave Johnson** at Nyack Middle School- [djohnson@nyackschools.org](mailto:djohnson@nyackschools.org)
  - **Nicole Saieva** at Nyack High School- [nsaieva@nyackschools.org](mailto:nsaieva@nyackschools.org)

- **Questions and concerns for the Superintendent:**

Dr. James Montesano at [jmontesano@Nyackschools.org](mailto:jmontesano@Nyackschools.org)

- **For curriculum-related, or remote learning questions:**

Dr. Winsome Gregory, Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction / Personnel at [wgregory@Nyackschools.org](mailto:wgregory@Nyackschools.org)

- **For Technology questions:**

Darleen Nicolosi, Director of Technology at [dnicolosi@nyackschools.org](mailto:dnicolosi@nyackschools.org)

- **For Special Education questions:**

Leo Macias, Director of Special Education and Pupil Personnel Services at [lmacias@nyackschools.org](mailto:lmacias@nyackschools.org).

- **For ENL/Bilingual questions:**

Audrey Cabbell, Director of ENL and Bilingual Services, at [acabbell@nyackschools.org](mailto:acabbell@nyackschools.org).

- **Technology Help Line** for district-issued devices: **845-353-7075**

- **For assistance from our Family Resource Centers:**

- Silvia Falcomer at LIBERTY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 353-7247

[sfalcomer@nyackschools.org](mailto:sfalcomer@nyackschools.org)

**Spanish-Speaking**

- Wanda Octaviano at NYACK MIDDLE SCHOOL - 353-7214

[Woctaviano@nyackschools.org](mailto:Woctaviano@nyackschools.org)

**Spanish-Speaking**

- Rachel Berlin at UPPER NYACK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 353-7268

[Rberlin@nyackschools.org](mailto:Rberlin@nyackschools.org)

**Haitian-Creole-Speaking**

- Jessica Mislá at VALLEY COTTAGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - 353-7291

[Jmislá@nyackschools.org](mailto:Jmislá@nyackschools.org)

**Spanish-Speaking**

# REMOTE LEARNING GUIDELINES FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS



## A space to work

- Find a comfortable place to work in your home.
- Finding the right space is key.

*Do what is best for you and your family.*

## Discuss learning together

- Keep track of questions you have for your teacher.
- Discuss with your caregiver how you feel about remote learning and if you need further support.



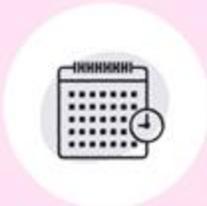
## Look after yourself

- Stay positive and take brain breaks.
- Stay hydrated and drink water whenever possible.



## Plan your schedule

- Look at the schedule your teacher posts and plan ahead for the week.



## Ask questions

- Take the initiative and ask questions.
- If you don't understand something ask your teacher or classmates online.



## Mentally prepare

- Take risks and challenges.
- Be persistent at being consistent.
- During calls with your teacher stay focused on the call.
- Stay focused on what you need to do during the day.



## Stick to your routine

- Eat breakfast, brush your teeth, and get dressed.

