

August 7, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I am writing to you regarding your decision to temporarily opt into Voluntary Remote Learning for your child. We are pleased that your child will be learning along with his/her in-school peers in this modified manner. Our program will include both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities with your child's teacher(s). This family choice, however, is not intended to be the same as the learning program that is provided for students attending in person or when school is cancelled and all students revert to Distance Learning should public health data require it. Please understand that access to classes and activities are more restrictive in this model.

There are certain limitations to Remote Learning that apply:

- Families are expected to supervise and support student attendance and engagement in the instructional activities.
- The voluntary remote learning programming may not result in the same offerings or matching instructional hours 1:1 with our in-person learning model.
- Westbrook's model includes synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Live streaming of classrooms and assignments will be offered as well as online assignments.
- Parents may opt their children into remote learning by notifying the school principal. Parents are asked to provide advanced notice of one week if the student will return to in-person classes so the schools may properly plan for the child's return. It is not necessary to wait until the end of a marking term to do so.
- Remote learning is a full-day choice. Students may not elect to do some classes in-person and others remotely.
- Westbrook Public Schools must track the attendance of students participating in remote learning. Attendance will be tracked consistent with the State Board of Education expectations. Additionally, attendance at synchronous lessons, virtual meetings, daily work completion and student participation with the camera on will be used to track student participation. Students are expected to attend school for the full 177 days required by the State Board of Education.
- Students will receive grades for their schoolwork completed in the remote model.
- Students participating in remote learning will be expected to access statewide assessments in-person unless the assessments are available remotely.
- The State Department of Education is planning to provide further guidance to districts regarding special education students who voluntarily choose temporary remote learning.

We understand that there are a variety of reasons why some students may not be able to return to in-person instruction at this time. We hope that your child is soon able to return to school in-person. How

wonderful it will be to welcome the day when we are no longer concerned about health consequences from normal interactions with each other.

Wishing you a safe and enjoyable time for the remainder of the summer,

Patricia Charles
Interim Superintendent