



Dennis-Yarmouth Regional School District

296 Station Avenue, South Yarmouth, MA 02664

Phone: (508) 398-7600 Fax: (508) 398-7622

April 8, 2020

REMOTE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES NOTIFICATION AND GUIDANCE

Dear DY Families,

As you know, our school district has presently closed its physical school buildings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. During this period of school closure, the District will be providing students with remote learning opportunities, which may include analog materials, telephone calls, video conferencing, pre-recorded lessons, and other online services. Students are expected to participate in these services, if possible. While we think we have been able to resolve most access issues please reach out to us as soon as possible if you anticipate or become aware of any issues with your child accessing the remote opportunities provided by the District.

In accordance with state and federal laws, including the Massachusetts Wiretapping Act and FERPA, parents and students must refrain from recording any and all remote lessons. Exceptions may be made on an individual basis due to special circumstances, and only with the consent of everyone involved in the lesson. In addition, while parents/ guardians are permitted to observe online instruction in a non-disruptive manner, to the extent that remote learning opportunities provide access to confidential student information, all participants agree, by participating in this remote learning opportunity, to refrain from disseminating any confidential student information about other student participants with any and all third parties. By participating in the remote learning opportunities, consent to this request is hereby provided.

Similarly, we ask everyone in our school community to recognize that video conferences and other online services will be taking place in the homes of the educators and students who participate in the calls, and to be mindful of everyone's right to privacy. To that end, we remind our students to dress appropriately and choose an appropriate location in their home from which to participate in any and all remote learning opportunities, particularly those with a video component. Parents/ guardians should take all precautions to safeguard personal or private information that they do not wish to be disclosed.

Students will be expected to behave in accordance with school rules of conduct while participating in remote instruction. Cyber-bullying, harassment, discrimination, and abuse of the remote learning process will not be tolerated and may result in suspension from remote learning, as well as additional consequences when school resumes. The District also encourages its staff and students alike to limit disruptions to remote lessons to the extent feasible (while also recognizing that sometimes pets, small children, and technical difficulties cannot be prevented from disrupting a lesson that happens at home).

Empowering each student to achieve excellence with integrity in a changing world

Special education teachers, ELL/ SEI teachers, and individual service providers will be in contact with parents/ guardians of students with specialized learning needs regarding necessary modifications to the remote instruction opportunities offered to other members of an individual student's class, as well as to discuss direct and group service provision.

The district will be using the following online service as part of our remote learning opportunities:

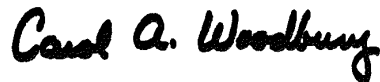
- Zoom

Parents/guardians may choose not to participate in live online instruction. In that case you may continue to use the resources that are posted on the District's website as a substitute to live online lessons to the extent feasible.

By accessing these services, the District recognizes that you and your child consent to access online instruction and agree to fully comply with the requirements of this letter. **Please send your child's teacher a response letting him/her know your child may participate.** As part of our security protocols, if the teacher does not receive your response your child will not be let into the session. We are taking extensive measures to be sure we can use this teaching tool safely for students and teachers.

We appreciate your time and attention to this notice.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Carol A. Woodbury". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Carol A. Woodbury
Superintendent of Schools