

March 20, 2020

Dear Dodgeland Families,

We write to share information about Monday's launch of our offsite learning experiences. We know you have a lot of questions, and we want to help!

To begin, we do not expect you to replace your child's classroom teacher. We are in an unprecedented time and there are a lot of unknowns. This is why we want to continue to provide learning activities for our students that can be completed when it works in your home. While it is highly recommended to make a schedule in your home to create a routine, or your "new normal," students do NOT have to follow their regular school schedule. They can complete these activities at their own pace.

If you are using a school-owned hotspot/Kajeet:

Kajeets work from 7:00 AM - 8:00 PM. Please know there is a limit to the data, so students should only be using the iPad for virtual learning activities and communication with teachers and peers. This is to allow enough time for online learning access and encourage students to maintain good sleeping habits.

Internet Infrastructure:

While we are ready to launch virtual learning on Monday, we cannot anticipate the impact on the internet when millions of American students access virtual learning at the same time. Please be patient!

What about Third Quarter Grades?

Third quarter was scheduled to end today. If students still had assignments to turn in or want to resubmit assignments/assessments, they have until Friday, March 27th to do so.

Grade-specific Information:

- **Four Year Old Kindergarten (4K) and Early Childhood** - *Recommend 1+ hours of learning activities a day.*
 - Students in 4K and Early Childhood enjoy play-based learning activities infused with social and emotional learning (SEL) opportunities. Ms. Ganser, our Elementary School Counselor, will continue to provide SEL lessons via class DoJo.
 - Check out these great Vroom tips at www.vroom.org.

- **Five Year Old Kindergarten through Second Grade** - *Recommend 1+ hours of learning activities, virtual or paper.*
 - The District initially thought schools would be closed for a few weeks. With the Governor's order closing schools indefinitely, **we have decided to also provide iPads to all children in Five-year-old Kindergarten (5K) through 2nd Grade.** Having a district-issued iPad will allow all families access to virtually interact with their teachers, as well as the learning apps that they are accustomed to using in their classroom. Delivery of your child's iPad will take place soon.
 - If your child needs a hotspot, please call or text, (920) 392-9012.
- **Third through Fifth Grade** - *Recommend 2 to 3 hours of virtual learning each day.*
 - Students in 3rd-5th grade will receive a login code for an app called BlueJeans. This code will enable them to communicate with their teacher with video and audio in real time. Teachers will be available to answer questions and check in with students from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM and from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM. Again, the work can be completed at a time that is convenient for your family. Students are not expected to be online for the entire duration of these time periods.
 - Teachers will also communicate with students and families through Class Dojo and email.
- **Middle/High School** - *Recommend 4 to 6 hours of virtual learning each day*
**AP/Dual-Credit Courses: reach out to the teacher for guidance and requirements.*
 - Students will find learning activities in Schoology for each of their classes (6-12 students are already used to Schoology for each of their classes).
 - Teachers will have Office Hours from 9:00 - 11:00 AM and 1:00 - 3:30 PM. This is when teachers are available to connect virtually with students using BlueJeans (this is a face to face connection). The link for each teacher's BlueJeans connection can be found in their Schoology folder. This is a time for students to ask questions and just get to chat with their teachers. Teachers will also respond to emails.

- The week of March 23 - 27 will have activities to get students into the routine of virtual learning. We will be reaching out to students/parents if we notice that students have not been responding/checking in to the learning activities in Schoology.
- Teachers will not be entering grades in PowerSchool for these virtual learning activities in our 4th quarter. Teachers will be providing students with individual feedback in Schoology.

Parent Tips:

- Read aloud to - or with - your child every day. Students in 3rd through 12th grade have free access to the app SORA, which functions as an online library. Students can “check out” books on this app and enjoy reading on their iPads on a daily basis. Our Library Media Specialist, Mrs. Rollins (her new married name, your child may call her Ms. Abegglen) will distribute videos on a regular basis with tips and free resources. You can find a video of how this works here: <https://bit.ly/DSDSora>.
- Enjoy time together as a family - play board games, cook together, watch shows together, start your spring cleaning early.
- The district uses Common Sense Media as our digital citizenship curriculum. Parents can find a wealth of helpful resources at <https://bit.ly/commonresources>.
- Take advantage of the free resources the district will be providing to ensure learning continues.
- Talk with your student about the importance of learning and a routine during this time.
- Student participation in virtual learning is an expectation. Students may not “opt out” of virtual learning as that would be just like dropping out of school. In the grade band guidance provided above we offer suggestions for the amount of time your child should be online. We definitely want students to remain physically active and away from technology devices for periods of time.
- Enjoy these Top 10 Tips for Online Learning at <https://bit.ly/dsdvirtualtips>.

- Ask your child daily about their experience with their virtual learning and what questions or concerns they may have. Ask about what they learned and how they are progressing with their assignments.

Contact your child's teacher or principal if you have questions. We plan to frequently share information with you throughout the school closure. If you prefer to have information shared with you differently than we are currently doing (e.g., text and email only, no phone calls, etc.), please contact our Registrar, Mrs. Lynn Bentz at (920) 386-4404, 1010.

Working together, we can make certain learning can continue to happen for your child.
#WeAreDodgeland