FREIRE
CHARTER NEWARK

FCSN Remote Learning Plan

1. Start Date for Teachers: August 9th, 2023
2. Start Date for Students: August 24th, 2023
3. Student Hours: 1106
4. End Date for Teachers: June 10th, 2024
5. End Date for Students: June 7th, 2024
6. Overview of Delivery Model by Grade Span

Since COVID, all Freire schools have moved to 1:1 computing. That means that all students are given a laptop that they bring to school and bring home each day. In order to assess whether students have internet at home, in the summer and early fall the school does intensive outreach, including multiple phone calls and a paper mailing, to survey families. Those who indicate that they have no wifi or unreliable wifi are provided with a plan that is free to them. Students who live part time with two different guardians are able to receive free internet for both locations. Students who do not have secure housing will receive a hotspot that can travel with them.

All staff are given a laptop to use at school and at home. Professional development is provided so that all staff are comfortable with the tools available to support virtual instruction. If staff members struggle with reliable internet access, the Head of School and IT coordinator will help troubleshoot and can purchase wifi boosters or other technology to ensure the staff member has access.

When the school is using a remote learning model, students will log on to Zoom every morning and will participate in synchronous lessons following their standard in-person schedule. Synchronous learning uses many of the same instructional strategies as in-person learning, such as direct instruction, shared instruction, independent practice, whole group discussion, small group discussion, and assessment, but incorporates additional technology tools in the process. For example, when a teacher asks a question, students might be directed to answer verbally, or to enter their answer in the chat function, or to write in the virtual slide using a tool like Pear Deck. Students may be asked to complete assignments in a Google form or doc using instructional software like Google Classroom. Teachers take attendance as they normally would.

Approximately once per month, there will be an asynchronous day. Asynchronous learning refers to any form of teaching where teaching and learning occur at different times. For example, a teacher can pre record a video lesson for students to watch at a later date and then work on an assignment based on what they learned in the video. Asynchronous days provide a break from the drain children and adults often feel from continuous use of Zoom. They also provide the flexibility to take on co-curricular or thematic projects that cross subject matter and for staff to work one-on-one with students or in small groups. On an asynchronous day, students will log into Google Classroom to mark themselves present. Following that, they will complete all posted lessons/assignments independently and at their own pace.

On an asynchronous day, students will be able to reach out to teachers with questions or to request support by email, phone, or Zoom at any time.

In the event that a student is temporarily unable to access wifi for any reason, they may use a phone to dial into the synchronous Zoom meetings and they can complete their work on paper and take a picture that they can email their teacher from a cell phone.