Norwood Public Schools
Expectations for Remote Learning

The administrative team at the Norwood Public Schools has been working to develop the Norwood Expectations for Remote Learning. These expectations are based upon the guidelines set forth by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education as outlined below.

[DESE Guidance](#) for Coronavirus school closings as of 3/26/20:
Districts and schools must continue to focus on the holistic needs of the educational community: The safety and well-being of students, families, and staff has been and must continue to be our top priority as an educational community. We are focused not only on physical health, safety, and nutrition, but also on social-emotional and mental health needs, which could intensify during this time.
Recommended remote learning model:

- DESE recommends that districts support students to engage in meaningful and productive learning for approximately half the length of a regular school day. We expect this learning to take place via a combination of educator directed learning and student self-directed learning.
- DESE strongly recommends that districts and schools focus on reinforcing skills already taught this school year and applying and deepening these skills. We recognize that in some cases, teachers and students may wish to continue with new material, particularly at the high school level. In these cases, districts should consider equity of access and support for all students.
- The individual student experience will vary depending on student age, individual and family needs, access and capacity for remote learning (including access to technology and internet), and the ongoing health of students, families, and staff.

What is our district philosophy regarding remote learning?

Remote learning includes learning on and offline in locations other than in schools. Norwood Public Schools believes that remote learning cannot fully replace face-to-face learning with educators and other students. Nevertheless, remote learning provides students and adults with a powerful opportunity to learn when school is not in session.

What are our educational goals for remote learning?

Our educational goals when using remote learning are as follows:

- To assure that all students continue to advance their learning, especially the essential curriculum standards for their grade-level in the respective content areas (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Technology Engineering, History and Social Sciences, World Languages, Health & Wellness, Music, and Art). (Note: at this time we will not be formally grading students; rather, we will be using a credit or no credit system for the assignments until notified differently).

- To be attentive and responsive to students' social and emotional wellbeing.
- To assure that all students have access to remote learning resources (including but not limited to digital instructional materials, internet connectivity, age-appropriate hardware, software, and print materials if necessary).
- To assure that all students are able to access and stay in communication with their respective administrators, teachers, and support staff through online and/or offline means of communication.
- To develop and adhere to policies and procedures to protect student privacy and other rights.
- To provide our educators and administrators with the necessary access and training for using remote learning resources.
- To provide, where appropriate, the support services necessary for special education students to access FAPE consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities, teachers and staff.

What do we expect from educators during remote learning?
- To allocate a portion of your working day for professional purposes (curriculum development, communication with students, parents, and colleagues, professional development, etc.) as needed.
- To monitor that all your students have access to appropriate remote learning resources (including but not limited to printed and digital instructional materials, internet connectivity, and age-appropriate hardware and software) in order to complete their assigned work.
- To assure that all students are able to access and stay in communication with you through online and/or offline means of communication and please inform your supervisor if this is an issue.
- To collaborate with your colleagues for professional, and personal, support in developing lessons.
- To be attentive and responsive to your students' social and emotional wellbeing. This could include explicit lessons on SEL topics, check-ins with small groups of students, checking for anxiety, being overwhelmed, and other concerns during the pandemic.
- To develop and communicate (share out) appropriate differentiated lesson plans and learning activities on a weekly basis in order to advance your students' learning and mastering the essential learning standards for your content area.
- To provide your students with frequent, actionable feedback on their work by using a variety of assessments (*i.e.* formative and summative) as appropriate by class and level (Note: at this time we should not be formally grading students; rather, we will be using a credit or no credit system for the assignments until notified differently).
- To communicate immediately with your supervisors if you are concerned about a student emotionally or academically.

- To report any student misuse of remote learning resources immediately to the Director of Technology, your supervisor, and then the parent/guardian as appropriate.
- To adhere to [The Norwood Public School Technology Responsible Use Agreement](#) and protocols for remote learning activities as communicated by the Technology Department and others.

What do we expect from students during remote learning?
- To communicate with your parents/guardians, teachers, and administrators if you do not have access or the necessary remote learning resources to complete the work assigned by your teachers.
- To make every effort to complete the assigned work to the best of your ability in a timely fashion. Plan things out; don't put off your assignments.
- To communicate with your parents and teachers if you are having difficulty completing the assigned work.
- To do your remote learning work with integrity and strictly adhere to [The Norwood Public School Technology Responsible Use Agreement](#).
- To communicate with your parents and teachers if you are having a difficult time managing your emotions or feelings of well-being.
- For all students grades PreK-K: it is strongly recommended that students engage in remote learning plans every day.
- For all students grades 1-12: work assigned is required.
- For students in grades 1-12: please check your email and Google Classroom regularly.
- For students in grades 1-12, regularly attend online learning sessions and/or attend office hours.
- For students in grades 9-12: complete all assignments and view recorded lessons to receive academic credit.

What should parents expect from us during remote learning?
- That your child's teachers will show care and understanding of your child and your family during this challenging time. This will be the framework within which all other decisions will be made.
- That we will make every effort to meet our goals and expectations for remote learning as stated above.
- That we are partners in the process of remote learning and are here to support them.

What should we expect of parents/guardians during remote learning?
- To communicate with your children's teachers and administrators if your children do not have access or the necessary remote learning resources to complete the work assigned by their teachers.

- To communicate promptly with your children's' teachers and administrators if your children are having difficulty completing the assigned work this would include illness.
- To provide your children with support at home so that they can complete their assignments in a timely manner. Support includes providing time and space for your children to do their assignments and helping your children to plan or schedule the necessary time to do their work.
- To monitor your children's use of remote learning technologies and make sure they are being safe, protecting their and your privacy, and behaving respectfully while online. Make sure they are adhering to [The Norwood Public School Technology Responsible Use Agreement](#).