

DRRSD Remote Learning Plan (Phase 3)

With the closing of schools by Governor Baker on 4/21 for the remainder of the academic year, the Dighton-Rehoboth Regional School District is further strengthening distance learning for students with the development of a third phase to the [DRRSD Remote Learning Plan](#). Based on new guidance from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), and input from the Dighton-Rehoboth Teachers Association, district administrative team, and families, Phase 3 has been developed to provide continued learning for students and more opportunities for students to connect with staff. As stated, remote learning will not replicate the traditional school day, but DRRSD will use remote learning tools and instructional materials to provide students with teacher directed, student driven learning opportunities. Key components of Phase 3 include:

- The advancement of curriculum based on essential standards provided by DESE
- The addition of voluntary teacher “office hours”
- Providing direct, virtual services for students as appropriate

The DRRSD Remote Learning Plan was designed as a fluid document. Phase 3 has been developed to supplement the established DRRSD Remote Learning Plan currently in place.

Teaching Essential Standards

Based on curricula, student needs, assessment results, and scope and sequence documents, district staff including administrators and teachers have begun to identify essential standards to teach during school closure. Said standards are what the district determines as priority skills and content students need to know prior to the end of the year.

The Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) is supporting this practice and has released an essential standards document to guide staff in this work:

[Massachusetts Prerequisite Content Standards: Elementary Grades \(K-5\)](#)

[Massachusetts Prerequisite Content Standards: Secondary Grades \(6-12\)](#)

As a reminder, the expectation for time on learning in a remote learning setting remains 3-3.5 hours. DRRSD teachers will be working to create a balanced workload based on this recommended guidance.

Staff “Office Hours”

DESE’s latest guidance includes:

Provide supports to further engage all students, with a focus on meeting foundational student needs. Two way interaction is critical. Separate or small group check ins are highly encouraged.

To continue to build connections with students, as well as support students academically, DR teachers now have the option to use [Google Meet](#) to host video conferences with students. If teachers would rather host synchronous opportunities using a Google Doc, [this template](#) can be used. Students can log into synchronous learning opportunities to ask questions, receive extra help, get feedback, and share ideas.

Teachers also have the option to utilize video conferences as opt-in, interest-based peer groups, such as a book club, drawing workshop, sing-along group, etc.

How and when office hours are utilized is at the discretion of each teacher. At this time, office hours are optional for students.

Using Google Meet

[How to Join a Google Meet](#)

Reminders for Participants

- Do not post links to Google Meet on public webpages or social media. Links will allow participants to access the Google Meeting. It is recommended that links are posted to Google Classrooms that require a DR account, or sent directly to participants through email or the Remind app.
- Participants will not share the links to the virtual sessions with others or otherwise invite or allow others to participate in the virtual sessions, without the school districts expressed consent.
- Participants acknowledge other participants in the virtual sessions will see whatever is visible by the participants' webcam or other device, including but not limit to themselves, their children, and portions of their homes. Likewise, participants acknowledge that they will see whatever is broadcasted by other participants. Participants agree to participate in these virtual sessions in a quiet, private area free of distraction, to the extent practicable, to provide an environment conducive to learning and to protect student privacy.
- Participants agree not to disclose information about any other participant in the virtual session, other than the participants' own child or family member.
- Participants understand that certain information that may be protected under, among other laws, FERPA, the IDEA, HIPPA, and the Massachusetts Student Records regulations, might be disclosed in the course of virtual sessions.

- Participants agree not to record in any way (e.g., video or audio recording, screenshots, or photographs) the virtual sessions unless otherwise agreed to in advance in writing by all applicable parties. This prohibition applies to supports provided individually and in a group setting. The participants acknowledge that recording these virtual sessions without consent may be prohibited by law.
- Participants agree to behave in a manner conducive to learning, to the extent possible. Pertinent district policies and rules, including but not limited to those prohibiting cyberbullying and any acceptable use policies, apply during virtual sessions. Students and family members shall refrain from sharing inappropriate visuals or using inappropriate language during sessions. The school district reserves the right to remove from a virtual session any participant who violates these rules or is not acting appropriately.

Special Education and Direct, Virtual Services

As we move into Phase 3 we are exploring additional resources for students and families. Since the federal government did not allow for any modification to special education legislation, all components of the IEP continue to remain in place. As a result, students with IEPs must receive access to special education services in order to receive FAPE (free and appropriate public education). Services are documented through data collection captured in the mandated progress reporting forms associated with individual education plans. Direct, virtual services can be provided through options such as live video conferencing (Google Meet), phone conferences, communication software including Remind, Class Dojo, etc., and synchronous instruction on Google platforms within the DRRSD domain.

Please note, direct services address IEP goals and are above and beyond accommodations and modifications.

Virtual IEP Meetings

Virtual IEP meetings are being planned and being scheduled beginning the week of 5/11. DESE has recommended prioritizing meetings for students who are transitioning between buildings and/or programs.

Conclusion

As DESE continues to offer guidance, our plan will adapt and change to ensure consistency with DESE guidelines as well as to best fit the needs of our students. We appreciate your support as we continue to navigate through these uncertain times. Please continue to monitor emails for updates from schools and the district.