

## Zoom meeting notes

April 15, 2020

2:30pm

- The past few weeks were designated skill practice, review and a time for teachers to check in/connect with their students.
- **Starting 4/20**
  - Students in grades PreK- 1 will begin new work using packets and online learning opportunities
    - K-1 teachers will also have Google Classrooms accessible to students in addition to their packets
  - Students in grades 2-5 will be learning online using Google Classroom as a “home base”.
    - Google classroom will allow students to communicate with their teachers to gain immediate feedback and will give access to learning materials from teachers.
  - Special area teachers will also have their own Google Classroom that students can access.
  - Teachers will be posting a formalized schedule for their class prior to the start of each week
  - Strict privacy laws are being followed by the district and schools regarding online learning. Zoom will not be used as a video conferencing tool for students and teachers
  - If your child has not been able to access Google Classroom you need to contact their teacher (via email) IMMEDIATELY.
- **Instructional Expectations starting 4/20**
  - Teachers will ease into this new phase of learning with a slightly “less demanding” first few days.
    - The goal is to have students into a routine by Wednesday.
  - Teachers are required to “meet” or touch base with students 2x a week.
  - Teachers are using Google Meets that allows discussions and a way for students to ask questions.
    - Google meets also allows students to chat and “see” their classmates which can provide a sense of normalcy to the children.
  - Teachers will be providing targeted feedback to students based on their participation and progress on standards.
    - There will be no letter or numeric grading. Teachers will be collecting progress data on students based on their performance and participating through distance learning activities.
  - Families are encouraged to give online learning their best try for the first couple weeks, but Ms. Lester understands that each family has different demands and situations right now.

- If your child is struggling or is overwhelmed during the new phase of learning, you must contact the teacher to work out a plan to help support the instructional schedule provided by the teacher.
    - Be open and honest with your child’s teacher with any concerns.
    - The recommended contact method is emailing the teacher to request a phone call for a 1 on 1 discussion.
  - Teachers may provide a variety; live lessons, video lessons, online resources/platform learning and Google tasks through Google Classroom.
  - On the Blasdell website, there is a link to “Classlink”. That is a central log-in for your child. It files their password and gives them automatic access to the learning platforms their teachers are using.
- **“Events” on Hold**
  - The PreK lottery is temporarily on hold while the district focusing on rolling out the new phase of learning.
    - Ms. Lester acknowledges that families need PreK information to plan next year and will keep everyone updated.
  - Kindergarten registration is in the process of being moved to the website. Documents will be scanned in and printable soon.
  - Kindergarten Screening and Orientation dates are on hold until further notice. Information will be posted as soon as it is available.
- **Communication**
  - The district purchased the full version of Bloomz and will push out district level notifications. Please see the invitation on the website.
  - The Blasdell website is becoming more active.
    - The school is having theme weeks where parents send in photos for Mrs. Santillo to post.
    - Important documents will be posted on the school website. Families will receive notification through Bloomz of recent posts.
  - CSE meetings will be done on Google Meets. Parents should watch for email invitations.
  - If your child receives services such as OT/PT, those teachers should be reaching out to parents. If not, you should email them.
  - No-one may enter the building. If school does NOT resume, arrangements will be made for personal item pickups when it is safe for people to enter the buildings again.
- **Technology/Devices Update**
  - On 3/12/20 teachers began to survey families about device access.
  - Yes, Spectrum is offering free Wi-Fi but it has been reported that it may be months before they can provide to everyone.
  - Families who indicated to teachers that they need devices in initial surveys or emails will be provided with Chromebooks.
    - Number of Chromebooks depend on number of children in the home.
      - 1-2 students = 1 Chromebook

- 3 or more students= 2 Chromebooks
- Parents should watch their mail for an invitation to pick up Chromebooks at school.
  - There will be additional paperwork to fill out before the Chromebook may be loaned out. Must have all paperwork at time of pick-up.
  - It will be a one-day pickup (approximately 4 hours) at the bus doors for Blasdel.
  - Chromebooks are organized by family invited to Chromebook pick-up.
- Tech support will be available to families. Email your child's teacher or the school librarian Beth Selig. Issues they cannot resolve will be handled by tech support.
- If you did not respond to a survey or email your child's teacher but need a device- you need to do so immediately.
  - There will potentially be a Wave 2 of device distribution but there are no details at this time.
  - The district is focusing on the transition to online learning this week of 4/20 and will hopefully have more information in upcoming weeks about "wave 2".