

USD 508 Remote Learning Tips and Tricks (Grades 7-12)

Remote Learning Parents/Students:

We know that remote learning often comes with more than its fair share of questions and potential hiccups. We are in hopes that this guide, meant for parents and remote learners in grades 7-12, will provide you with answers to many of your questions as you navigate through the remote learning experience.

- USD 508 Administrative Team

Basic Overview of Remote Learning:

- Remote learning requires students to work some on their own, which can be difficult for some students to manage. It is imperative that parents help direct students during a time of remote learning in order for the time to be successful.
- Remote learning requires sufficient, reliable internet service. It is expected that cell phone data plans may not be sufficient for remote learning.
- Daily communication with teachers is expected. This will take place via video conferencing (Zoom), phone, and email. Contact is required between teachers and students daily.
- During remote learning, a student should expect to participate in 410 minutes of learning activities each day. This includes the following:
 - Various content areas like math, science, language arts, social studies, PE, music, art, etc.
 - Working independently to master learning standards by reading, writing, researching, working with apps, developing skills, and working on projects.
- Not all remote learning time must occur between 8:00-3:15.

General Habits for Success:

- A designated workspace that is free of distractions is strongly recommended in order to assist with establishing a set space that helps students get set in a learning environment.
- School supplies or materials required for learning tasks must be organized and accessible during all courses or content area instruction to support the components of active engagement: guided instruction, collaboration with peers and independent work time.
- Routines should be established at home and in coordination with the assigned teacher in order to foster predictability and consistency during the designated school hours.
- Time management is the process of organizing and planning how to divide your time between specific activities and will be important in tracking completion of assignments. Procrastination is strongly discouraged and potentially adds stress to a student. Consider the helpful tips located in [this short video](#).
- Be punctual to online appointments, or scheduled times with teachers and/or peers.
- Students should dress appropriately during virtual interactions with teachers and peers.

Online Expectations for Classes:

- Students are required to follow their normal schedule of classes. For example, at 8:00 (sharp) on Tuesdays, the student should join his/her P1 course via Zoom. Following P1, the student will be required to join their P2 class at the regularly scheduled time via another Zoom meeting. The classroom teachers have provided the appropriate links for you to join Zoom meetings. The teacher will take role, just as they would for a face-to-face student. If a student is not present, he/she will be counted absent. Truancy guidelines regarding attendance continue to apply even in a remote setting.
- Teachers will be using a combination of Zoom meetings and information available via Canvas for learning to take place.
- Students should be prepared to participate in learning for a minimum of 410 minutes per day, which is equivalent to the amount of seat time a face-to-face student spends learning throughout the school day.

- **Zooming Guidelines:**

- Although you are in your private residence, please realize that you are providing a live feed to a virtual classroom that includes a teacher and a room filled with students. In an effort to ensure appropriate learning experiences we suggest the following virtual etiquette protocols.
- Be fully dressed as if you were coming to class face to face. This includes good hygiene practices and no pajama's. Quality learning starts with preparing yourself for school physically. This is true even in a remote setting.
- The student's learning space will need to be free of other distractions such the following:
 - Other people's conversation.
 - Minimize background noise by turning off the TV and radio.
 - Clear the room of playful pets or noisy siblings.
 - Turn off cell phones. (No multitasking during class!)
 - Get out of bed.
- Refrain from eating during Zoom meetings. Treat it just like you are in a classroom.
- If possible, position yourself in an area of your home with a wall directly behind you. This limits the possibilities that siblings and other house guests will be walking behind you, which may be a distraction to other class members.
- Plan ahead and join your Zoom meeting on time, as teachers will be taking role at the beginning of each class period. If you are substantially late, there is a good chance that you may be counted absent.
- Leave your device at your workstation when taking bathroom breaks.

Powerschool Information

- Powerschool is the district's student information system. It is where you will find your grades/schedule of classes/attendance history/etc. While each student has already been given training on how to access Powerschool, here are some helpful websites that might help navigate all things Powerschool:
 - How to Create a PowerSchool Parent Account: Click [here](#)
 - PowerSchool Parent Account Access Link: Click [here](#)

Canvas Information

- Canvas is the program that students in grades 7-12 use to access instruction and resources that teachers provide. It is also where the majority of assignments are submitted, as well last the location where tests and quizzes are taken. Students need to access Canvas daily to keep up to speed in each of their courses.
- Website For All Canvas Accounts (same for students and parents): Click [here](#)
- Setting Up An Optional Canvas Parent Account on iOS Device: Click [here](#)
- Setting Up An Optional Canvas Parent Account using web browser: Click [here](#)
- How to Get a Student code for an Optional Parent Account: Click [here](#)

Still Need Help With Technology?

If you are experiencing technology issues and need some assistance, please refer to the following in order to get your problem solved:

- Canvas issues? Check first with teacher of the associated course.
- iPad software issue? First try restarting the device.
- iPad hardware issue? Bring to HS Tech Office.
- Technical Questions? Message Technical Support in Canvas.
- Still need help? Call 620-856-3376.