

HCSD Remote Learning Plan

The Hudson City School District (HCSD) is committed to providing equitable access to Chromebooks and laptops and internet connectivity for those families in need. The District has sent surveys home to all families and staff in the district to determine level of access to devices and high speed internet.

The District will continue to provide instructional technologies and tools throughout the district for all students and staff by the first day of school, September 14, 2020, as follows

- A suite of instructional technology software will be accessible to students and staff to support teaching and learning.
- Chromebooks will be available to all students.
- Mobile devices (laptops) will be provided to all teachers and administrators.
- Mobile devices (laptops or Chromebooks) will be provided to other support staff as needed.
- Hotspots will be available for students and staff in need of Internet access
- Adaptive technologies will be provided to students as per IEP mandates.
- A technology helpdesk will be available for onsite and remote technology assistance.
- In collaboration with the Office of School Improvement, instructional technology professional development will be provided to all staff
- In collaboration with district and building staff, workshops will be offered to parents and guardians in the summer and throughout the school year.

For the 2020-2021 school year, the HCSD will be providing devices to any student and staff member who needs a device and will continue to do so as needs arise. Students will continue to have access to multiple modalities for learning. All students will be offered a Chromebook but for any student who may experience an issue with a Chromebook or internet access, the Information Technology department will provide them an alternate computer and internet device if needed. Paper format of assignments will be also made available for any student experiencing a technology issue and/or younger students who may require a paper assignment. Teachers and staff will continue to receive professional development and support on effectively integrating technology into all modalities of instruction. The building administrators, the Manager of Instructional Technology and the Assistant Superintendent for School Improvement will oversee most of this work and professional development with support from our local BOCES and vendor partners as applicable. Students will have all of the hardware, software and training they need to actively and successfully participate in in-person, remote, and virtual learning. Technology workshops for parents and guardians will also be available beginning in August and continue throughout the school year.





Students who choose the remote learning option will receive a combination of virtual educational opportunities and continuity of instruction. Virtual educational opportunities include a wealth of resources relevant to a grade level and/or course of study, ensuring students can be intellectually engaged and continue practicing skills already mastered. Continuity of instruction includes online learning opportunities designed and delivered by certified classroom teachers that allow students to move forward with virtual instruction in course content and skills. Students will have a full schedule of classes as determined for their grade level by the New York State Education Department. The remote learning option may include: Virtual Office Hours by teachers, Synchronous lessons (live session with teacher), Asynchronous lessons (pre-recorded lessons), videos, opportunities for independent learning and completion of assignments, small group work that are synchronous sessions with teacher and assigned students to focus on differentiated learning and project based learning opportunities.

Remote instruction will be delivered at the elementary and secondary level using Google Classroom as the primary platform. We will develop a common, coordinated set of guidelines for teachers to follow when using online systems with students. Teachers may deliver synchronous learning opportunities through Google Hangouts Meet only. Zoom is not an option as it is not Ed Law 2D compliant. Instruction may include the use of pre-recorded video (e.g., Screencastify, Recorded Google Hangouts Meet, or other options as approved by the Technology Department) to ensure all students have the benefit of learning from a content expert. New instruction will only be provided by a certified teacher with direct support provided by certified teacher assistants as appropriate. All instruction will continue to be aligned to the New York State Learning Standards. Teachers are encouraged to create meaningful learning opportunities for students through the use of short instructional videos and by providing small-group and one on one virtual support as needed. Teachers may use a host of supplemental tools to enhance their instruction.

All instruction will only be provided with direct support from a certified teacher. Students will have opportunities to interact with teachers and other students in a number of ways, including but not limited to the following:

- Emails using the district issued e-mail addresses;
- Discussion boards where teachers and students can participate with each other in real time; or during asynchronous opportunities;
- Google Hangouts/Meet for groups and meetings with individual students.

Please note, the district is prepared to transition to a model that is completely virtual in nature for all students, should the district be required to close if directed at any time by New York State to do so.