
Reeths-Puffer Schools

Tony Schmitt

Director of Virtual Learning

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Hello Rockets,

My name is Tony Schmitt and I am the Director of Virtual Learning for Reeths-Puffer Schools. You're receiving this email as you've either indicated an interest in virtual learning for your child/children for the 21-22 school year through your response to an earlier email from our Curriculum Director, Mr. Nate Smith, or your child was enrolled in virtual learning during the second semester of the 20-21 school year.

The purpose of this email is twofold. First, I'll be providing you with updated information on our new virtual learning platform through a partnership with the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District. Second, after reviewing this updated virtual learning program information, I'll be asking you to complete an online questionnaire to provide a firm commitment to either in-person or virtual learning instruction for the 21-22 school year.

Reeths-Puffer Virtual Learning Platform

Based on feedback from our families who participated in virtual learning during the second semester of the 20-21 school year, Reeths-Puffer Schools has made the decision to move away from Edmentum as our virtual learning platform for the 21-22 school year.

As stated earlier in this letter, our updated virtual learning program will be provided through a new partnership with the Muskegon Area Intermediate School District and the Muskegon County Virtual Academy (MCVA). A comprehensive FAQ on MCVA can be accessed at: [MCVA Frequently Asked Questions](#)

As a summary, here are some highlights of MCVA and why Reeths-Puffer Schools believes this is the best virtual learning platform for our students:

1. After review by curriculum consultants at the MAISD, MCVA will use K-12 Stride as its curriculum foundation for all full-time virtual students as it best fits student learning goals in accordance with the State of Michigan learning standards.
2. MCVA will use Brightspace D2L as its Learning Management System (LMS). For Reeths-Puffer full time virtual students, this replaces Edmentum as our LMS.
3. Reeths-Puffer Schools will remain as the primary education source with flexibility in decision making for the best interests of our students.
4. Instruction for our students through Brightspace will be provided by in-county school educators. This allows

our students to have direct access and support from Muskegon County teachers.

Reeths-Puffer Virtual Learning Performance Expectations

In order to be successful in a virtual learning environment, there are expectations that must be met to qualify as a virtual student. In choosing virtual instruction, you and your child/children agree to the following performance expectations:

- I. My child can do all of the following (or someone will be available at home if the child needs assistance):
 - a. Create and maintain a study schedule without continuous face-to-face interaction of a teacher.
 - b. Self-advocate to seek help within a virtual setting.
 - c. Independently use study habits needed to complete an entire course online without continuous direct supervision.
 - d. Read, write, and use math and computer literacy skills to succeed in a class that is completely online.

 - II. Virtual Learning support at home must include:
 - a. A home environment which is conducive to learning, including a quiet workspace with a computer and reliable internet service.
 - b. Ability to create a school centered schedule.
 - c. Setting goals for student learning, including regularly monitoring quality and pace of completed assignments.
 - d. Serving as a learning partner with your child by providing motivation, encouragement and continuous engagement for your child's learning success.
 - e. Confirmation of attendance on a daily basis.

 - III. Reeths-Puffer virtual learning history must include:
 - a. 80% or more completion of courses by students in past virtual environments for credit earned.
 - b. A history of working on our learning platform for 2 to 6 hours each day.
 - c. No documented truancy by Rocket Virtual Mentors or administration.
 - d. A history of responding to Rocket Mentor 2-way communication requests each week.
 - e. A demonstrated ability to communicate with teachers and willingness to ask questions when support was needed.
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