# Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District

2020-2021
Remote Learning Plan
AUG 2020

## REMOTE LEARNING

**All schools of the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District (SEBRSD) have adopted the following four principles to guide the creation of its Remote Learning Plan:**
- The safety and well-being of students and staff is our top priority.
- The COVID-19 crisis disproportionately affects vulnerable students.
- The need to maintain connections between students and staff is paramount.
- Remote learning is a dynamic process, not synonymous with online learning.

**For the Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District the safety and well-being of students, families, and staff has been and will continue to be the top priority of all our staff members.** SEBRSD staff remain focused on students' physical health, safety, nutrition and learning needs, and also on their social-emotional and mental health needs, which could intensify during this time.

**Support**: All school staff (teachers, special educators, guidance counselors, therapists, English language teachers, paraprofessionals, interventionists, nurses, secretaries, food service workers, custodians, central office staff and all administrators are working together to provide for the needs of all our children during this disruption and preparing for our return to normal operations. These staff members have been making and distributing meals daily, distributing school and art supplies at drive-by stations and drop-off points, creating and conducting online learning, performing wellness checks, and maintaining and preparing facilities and plans for a safe return to normal operations.

**This crisis disproportionately affects our most vulnerable students in terms of their physical and mental health and also academically. Equity is a top consideration in our planning efforts, especially as we plan to manage an extended closure**. All district special education teachers, service providers, team chairs and administrators will continue to reach out to students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs). All online and remote learning lessons have been differentiated to take into consideration the various learning needs of our students. The district website also contains links to address the unique learning needs of English learners and students with other learning differences. Social-emotional services and learning opportunities are also available for students and their families to take advantage of independently or with support from school staff. Team chairs Ms. McColl (mccolld@sebrsd.org) or Mr. Gates (gatesd@sebrsd.org) are available for consultation regarding additional student services should the need arise with any child or family. More information can be found on the district's Student Services webpages.

**Communication**: Every student should have communication exchanges with one or more staff members daily. School staff members are using a variety of communication tools to keep lines of communication open and available to all; Email, Google Classroom, Class Dojo, Google Meet, Zoom meetings, website pages (SEBRSD Remote Learning and Learning@Home), and when appropriate, home mailings. District-wide SeeSaw (K-2) and Schoology (3-12) take precedence and are the recommended platforms for use.  School administrators will coordinate communication channels for families and students when notified a child is not responding frequently to classroom or support staff. The school district emphasizes the importance of ensuring all online learning platforms meet confidentiality and student privacy standards. Student-to-student and student-to-staff communications will use all available means to secure the identity of students and adhere to all appropriate protocols during exchanges.

## SEBRSD Remote Learning Plan: Teaching & Learning

**Student Learning Opportunities Goal**: All students will have access to dynamic learning opportunities to strengthen, deepen and enrich their academic skills and understanding of themselves and the world around them.

- Learning during this school disruption period is happening through a combination of educator-directed learning and student self-directed learning.
- The individual student experience will vary depending on student age, individual and family needs, access and capacity for remote learning (including access to technology and internet), and the ongoing health of students, families, and staff.
- K-2 students will have 1:1 access to iPads and grades 3-12 will have access to 1:1 Chromebooks.
- Schools will provide a total of two to three hours of specific learning opportunities per school day for each student in Grades 3 - 12 or a total of one to two hours per school day total for students in Grade PK-2.
- Schools may communicate learning opportunities to students using Google classrooms, ClassDojo, Email groups, the Remote Learning or Learning @Home websites, or any other communication channels that provide each student effective access to the learning opportunities. SeeSaw and Schoology is the district-preferred platform.
- The school district emphasizes the importance of ensuring all online learning platforms meet confidentiality and student privacy standards.
- Student-to-student and student-to-staff communications will use all available means to secure the identity of students and adhere to all appropriate protocols.
- Learning opportunities typically describe a task / challenge requiring a student to apply or further develop their skill, knowledge or understanding.
- Academic content learning opportunities exist at every grade level, at every child's learning level, and in every subject area the schools' teach; *Languages* (English, Spanish, & Latin), *Mathematics* (all domains), *Sciences* (all domains), *Social Sciences* (all domains), *Music*, *Visual & Fine Arts*, *Physical Education*, *Health & Wellness*, *Engineering & Technology*, and *Vocational Programming* (Early Childhood Education, Environmental Science, Marketing, and Criminal Justice).
- Students are provided access to multiple hours per day of academic content directed by educators, focused on skilled development and based on grade level standards.
    - 2-3 Hours per school day for students in Grades 3-12
    - 1-2 Hours per school day for students in Grades PK-2
    - Students should attempt to complete as many of the learning opportunities at their learning levels as they can. ***Students should stop and ask for staff assistance/guidance should they begin to struggle or feel stressed while completing opportunities.***
- Dynamic lists of online academic content activities are always available from teachers and are listed online using one of the many communication channels, which can be found by emailing a teacher or by visiting the Remote Learning website.
- Dynamic lists of remote learning opportunities that can be completed without access to technology are also always available. Remote learning opportunities provide students the opportunity to engage with resources in their everyday lives and in the natural world around them.
    - Remote learning opportunity lists can be found on the Remote Learning website pages or can be obtained by contacting a school staff member.

- Remote learning opportunities may include exploring the natural world, engaging hands-on projects, and artistic creations that stem from students' own passions and experiences.
- Students and families are asked to contact a school staff member to obtain remote learning opportunity lists if they are not able to access them using a smartphone or other technology.
- A wealth of supplemental online learning resources listed on the Learning@Home webpages can be used by all students and their families to extend and broaden learning from home.

- Most learning opportunities provide students a method of demonstrating to others their skill, knowledge or understanding.
- Learning opportunities will be regularly updated to maximize student growth, interest and motivation
- Staff will work collaboratively to ensure planning, units of study and assessments are consistent across grade levels.
- Students not engaged in any learning opportunity for more than 3 consecutive school days will be identified by their teachers or other school staff. Identified disengaged students will be contacted by building administrators and guidance staff who will work with students and their families to maximize the engagement of all students.

**School Feedback Goal**: Students will have timely communication with school staff that promotes interest, motivation and the development of skills, knowledge and understanding.

- Schools will be providing timely feedback on students' demonstration of skills, knowledge or understanding during this school disruption period.
  - Feedback will focus on identifying student successes and guiding students toward improvement
  - Students in grades K- 4 will receive trimester report cards, which will reflect academic performance, achievement and growth.
  - Assessments will be reflective of participation and performance in traditional and/or project based learning opportunities.
- Staff are encouraged to work in teams to ensure both the learning opportunities and feedback goal of remote learning are adequately met for each student.

**Student Engagement Goal**: Students should engage in learning opportunities every school day to strengthen, deepen and enrich their academic skills and understanding of themselves and the world around them.

- Students should be engaging in a total of two to three hours of specific learning opportunities per school day for each student in Grades 3 - 12 or a total of one to two hours per school day total for students in Grades PK-2.
- Students should communicate with school staff on a regular basis to remain updated on specific learning opportunities.
- Students should submit demonstrations of their learning in the format requested by school staff
- Students may enrich their learning experiences in a vast variety of ways listed on the Learning@Home webpage.

- Families are asked to support their children by helping them communicate with school staff, gain access to the learning opportunities prescribed, find time to dedicate to learning, and promote the highest quality demonstrations of learning possible.
- Any student unable to communicate with at least one school staff member on a regular basis should email their school administrator immediately.

- **See the list on the next page for appropriate contact information.**