

Dear Tamarac Parents/Guardians of 6-12 Fully Remote Students:

All staff are now back in the building and we have been making final preparations for our remote learning students. If you are the parent/guardian of a high school student, please continue to be patient as the team finalizes its plans. We hope to have all of the high school information to you in advance of our two forums on Thursday afternoon. You are encouraged to reach out to the team leaders or teachers directly if you have any questions regarding specific information in each plan.

There is also a virtual 6-8 remote forum at 4:00 and a virtual high school remote forum at 5:00 on Thursday, September 10, 2020. We look forward to a great school year with your child!

Sincerely,
Ken Rizzo

MS Link for Thursday: meet.google.com/fix-tdif-cbh

HS Link for Thursday: meet.google.com/fsg-prnx-drg

6th Grade Remote Learning Parent/Guardian Letter

To the parents and guardians of 6th grade remote learners,

Your child will have an invitation from Merry Ducatte by 2:30 on Thursday, September 10th on google classroom. Go on to google classroom to accept this invitation. On the first day of school, Friday September 11th, your child will join that virtual homeroom and click on the google meet link at 8:20am. Students can find the link directly underneath the Homeroom title. Your child will join this google meet **every day at 8:20** for attendance and to go over their daily schedule with Ms. Ducatte.

Remote Learning Daily Schedule:

8:20- Remote learners log in for attendance with Ms. Ducatte

8:25-9:45: Office hours with Ms. Ducatte

- Get questions answered from the previous days lessons
- Make sure all work from the day before is complete
- Go over which classes will have live meets or independent work for that day

9:50- 10:25: ELA with Mrs. Bartczak (Only if she is your child's ELA teacher)

10:30 - 11:05: Math with Ms. Derby

11:15- 11:50- Science with Mr. Turner

12:45- 1:20- ELA with Mrs. Jewell (Only if she is your child's ELA teacher)

1:30- 2:05- Social Studies with Mr. Cipperly

Supply list for 6th grade virtual learners:

- Pens/Pencils
- Colored Pencils
- Highlighters
- 3 packs of index cards

Social Students:

- Two 2-pocket folders

Math

- 3-subject notebook
- A 2-pocket folder
- TI 30 XIIS Scientific Calculator

Science

- Composition notebook
- A 2-pocket folder

ELA

- A 2-pocket folder
- A 1-subject notebook

6th Grade Teacher Email Addresses:

ederby@brunswickcsd.org

ajewell@brunswickcsd.org

mcipperly@brunswickcsd.org

dturner@brunswickcsd.org

sbartczak@brunswickcsd.org

mducatte@brunswickcsd.org

Team leader: mmuckle@brunswickcsd.org

Thank you for your patience while this plan was developed!

7th Grade Remote Learning Information Letter

Hello 7th Grade Remote Parents/Guardians:

My name is Kevin Onorato and I am the new TEAM leader in 7th grade. I teach Social Studies and I've been working at Tamarac since 2007. On behalf of the rest of your student's teachers - welcome to 7th grade!

I understand that many of you are feeling anxious and maybe even apprehensive about your student returning to the school building - I would just like to let you know that ALL of your child's teachers are sensitive to your feelings, as well as your student's feelings. I, and many staff members, here at Tamarac, are concerned about how the school year is going to play out, too. Whether students and teachers are meeting remotely, in-person or in some hybrid form, we still have a job to do - and we plan to do it to the best of our abilities. When I say 'we' I am referring to the staff, but also to the students and their parents, as well.

"The Good Old Days"

For the time being - the days of school that you and I experienced as students are gone. In fully-remote and even hybrid methods of instruction, our students will need to exercise new means of independence and accountability in how they learn. As a parent of a fully-remote or hybrid learner, you may need to follow-up on your child's work on a more regular basis. 7th grade is usually the year we see many parents give their students a 'longer leash' as far as staying on them about their work at home and communication with the school. However, that was pre-COVID and "in the good old days." Back then, we as teachers would have more frequent face-to-face contact with our students to follow up. We are not living in those days anymore, so we are adapting how we approach instruction. *What does "follow up" mean?* We are asking you, as parents/guardians, to check-in with your learners more often (at least in the beginning) and make sure they are a) not struggling to keep up with independent work and b) their new schedule - at home. The 7th grade teachers are encouraging all parents/guardians to start email communication on a weekly or bi-monthly basis with teachers. PLEASE KNOW ... you are not pestering us when you just drop an email on how the past week or even 2 weeks went. We appreciate those "Friday Check-Ins" from you folks. If we feel that your child is doing well enough to 'loosen the leash' - or drop it completely - we all can determine that in the coming weeks and months, and let your child *RUN!*

Your Kid - At Home

We've got moody pre-teens, this year - BUCKLE. UP. Along with their school work, please keep an eye on your child's attitude shifts at home, as well. This past spring made it very clear to us: a kid will have a harder time with school if their mindset is not right. Just asking, "How was school?" may not give you enough feedback. We encourage you to, instead, ask *what* the kids did in school (maybe *show* you) or if anything *interesting* came up, that day. The kids will have to show more examples of understanding, this year, than just a unit test grade. There should be plenty of evidence for you to see, so the typical 7th grade answers of "Fine." and "Nothing." shouldn't be as acceptable to you.

Work out a schedule that fits your home and your family and let me know if I can help in any way. I don't think teachers are trying to make things feel 'normal' for students. We are way past whatever 'normal' was... However, in an effort to create a 'new normal', kids will be asked to follow newer schedules, while they are learning from home. More work will be done using technology than on paper. Students may have to be more proactive to get teachers' attention, if they have a question or concern.

Expect the Unexpected

With all the uncertainties, we will prepare as best we can for things to go wrong - but even then, there may be things that we can't plan for. Technology will fail: WiFi will stop working, assignments won't load properly or they'll get LOST, Google Meetings won't start (*and I'm just giving you teacher's anxieties). Despite these crazy times, I can speak for the other 7th grade teachers when I tell you how **EXCITED** we are to try and do this school-thing, in the way that we are planning to do it. Adapting. Trying something new. Seeing how it fits. Changing it. Trying again. Your child's teachers are going to learn a lot about themselves, in the coming months, too! I don't say that to make you more anxious, but say it so you can share in our *excitement*.

Dr. Maloney and our administration are constantly saying that "we are all in this together." That is so true. Never more so, than right now. Glad to have you on board!

Our New 'Normal' Schedule:

Day in Cycle	In-Person / Hybrid Learners	Fully-Remote Learners
RED Days	<u>IN SCHOOL</u> Student Drop off: 7:15-7:26	<u>AT HOME</u> 1. Check-in/email Mrs. Perfetti

	<p>(*Follow traditional schedule)</p> <p>Student Dismissal: 2:11</p> <p>*students will need to bring their school-issued chromebook TO school on these days*</p>	<p>between 7:30-8:15; 1st Period attendance is taken, at this time.</p> <p>2. Day’s lessons will be posted between 8:00-8:30am on this day for <i>CORE 4</i> classes</p> <p>3. Check in with teachers at <u>designated times</u>, for attendance purposes and additional engagement with teacher</p>
WHITE Days	<p><u>AT HOME</u></p> <p>(*Follow traditional schedule - ONLINE)</p> <p>*Bell Schedule - page 5 of Student Handbook</p>	<p><u>AT HOME</u></p> <p>1. Check-in/email Mrs. Perfetti between 7:30-8:15; 1st Period attendance is taken, at this time.</p> <p>(*Follow traditional schedule - ONLINE)</p> <p>**same schedule as hybrid learners</p> <p>*Bell Schedule - page 5 of Student Handbook</p>
BLUE Days	<p><u>AT HOME</u></p> <p>(*Follow traditional schedule - ONLINE)</p> <p>*Bell Schedule - page 5 of Student Handbook</p>	<p><u>AT HOME</u></p> <p>1. Check-in/email Mrs. Perfetti between 7:30-8:15; 1st Period attendance is taken, at this time.</p> <p>(*Follow traditional schedule - ONLINE)</p> <p>**same schedule as hybrid learners</p> <p>*Bell Schedule - page 5 of Student Handbook</p>
<p>Fridays (“Hybrid Home” Day)</p> <p><i>These will be instructional days!</i></p>	<p><u>AT HOME</u></p> <p>1. Call/Email in attendance by 9:00</p> <p>2. Day’s lessons will be posted between 8:00-8:30am on this day for <i>CORE 4</i> classes</p> <p>3. Teachers monitor student progress on day’s assignment in order to take attendance</p>	<p><u>AT HOME</u></p> <p>1. Call/Email in attendance by 9:00</p> <p>2. Day’s lessons will be posted between 8:00-8:30am on this day for <i>CORE 4</i> classes</p> <p>3. Teachers monitor student progress on day’s assignment in order to take attendance</p>

Remote Learners ONLY

Even though students will be learning from home, they are enrolled in specific class periods (*refer to eSchool for your child’s particular class period). It is the student’s responsibility to log in to Google Classroom each morning to receive direction and work from their respective

teacher. ***It will not be ‘traditional’ instruction***, however work may be consistent with activities and materials that classmates in hybrid models are participating in. Lessons will most likely be ‘asynchronous’, in which students will follow a series of directives from the teacher to set them off on the day’s learning activity. Remote students **MUST** check in with their teacher, **later in the day**, too, at their designated time slot. At that time, students can ask for clarification or get further direction from their teacher. They may be asked to prove understanding of content by their teacher, as well. Attendance is taken during these times, which is mandated by New York State. For specific assignments and “Office Hours” for teachers, students should check their Google Classroom. As it stands, your child’s CORE classes will meet ***on RED Days ONLY***, in the following way:

7th Grade Remote Schedule (for core 4) ***ON RED DAYS***:

7:15-7:30 am: 1st Period Attendance taken; check in (email) with school staff (Mrs. Perfetti)

by 8:00-8:30 am: the days assignments will be posted for all 4 classes on Google Classroom

11:20-11:40: ELA Office Hours (w/ Ms. Satalino)

11:40-12:00: Science Office Hours (w/ Mrs. Steele)

12:00-12:20: Math Office Hours (w/ Ms. Frank)

1:30-1:50: Social Studies Office Hours (w/ Mr. Onorato)

****on WHITE and BLUE days, remote learners will need to log on during “traditional schedule’s” class period time.***

8th Grade Remote Learning Letter

Dear 8th Grade Remote Learning Parents/Guardians:

Our Red Day Plan is as follows:

Remote students will have assigned office hours for each of their core subjects on those 11 days. We have divided the day so that we do not overlap. Here is the schedule:

12:20-12:40 Allison Maloy (ELA)

12:40-1:00 Becky Tennyson (Science)

1:00-1:20 BethConnor (Math)

1:20-1:40 Flex (team will use this for overflow or extra time as needed)

1:40-2:00 Eric Medved (Social Studies)

We will take attendance between 8:10-8:15 for remote students similar to the in-person cohort.

* Periodically, remote learners will need to log-in for live class during their scheduled class time that they are missing for in-person instruction. This will be explained to them in advance if it is necessary for them to be there to attend. This will establish rapport with the kids and prepare them in-case we do end up back together eventually.

* Our remote students will have one Red Day google classroom to check on Red Days and all of us are joining it as teachers so that we can post our remote red day instruction in one simple location with easy access.

* We are joining the Thursday meeting to explain things and answer questions that come up