

# REMOTE LEARNING



**1. Q: When does the 2020-2021 school year begin for students?**

A: Tuesday, September 8, 2020

**2. Q: Will all students receive a district-issued device?**

A. Yes

**3. Q: If I don't now have a district-issued device, when will I receive one?**

A: The Office of Administrative Services will detail and communicate this plan prior to the start of school.

**4. Q: What do I do if I do not have an internet connection?**

A: Contact your building principal for further assistance.

**5. Q: How will students receive materials and supplies to support their learning?**

A: Building principals will communicate pick up instructions for these items.

**6. Q: What hours will school be in session?**

A: Students will follow their daily schedule in accordance to their school hours.

**7. Q: Are student schedules available?**

A: All student schedules will be available in Genesis before school starts.

**8. Q: What will the school day look like?**

A: Teachers will deliver instruction through Zoom livestream lessons. Classes will consist of a live direct instruction portion and students will be able to interact with their teachers each period/class.

- Students will not be “on screen” all day. We will include breaks within a mix of live instruction, independent work, and small group or 1:1 check-ins.
- Pre-K and elementary students will have their classroom teacher for the majority of instruction, with specials for music, art, PE, and technology; middle school and high school students will have a subject-specific schedule with multiple teachers.

- Students will participate in three types of virtual learning:
  - Synchronous—a teacher works with students real-time via an online video application.
  - Asynchronous—a student works independently of the teacher, either on or off a computer.
  - Blended—when students experience both synchronous and asynchronous learning in a lesson.
- Direct instruction portion of lessons (approximately 10-20 minutes) will be recorded so that parents may access later when providing assistance to their children.
- While students are doing individual or small group work, the teacher and paraprofessional if applicable, will be online to answer questions or provide assistance as needed.
- Remote instruction will include the same content and detail whether broadcast from the classroom or another remote location.

**9. Q: What if I have connectivity issues or I want to help my child later in the school day?**

A: The direct instruction portion of these lessons will be recorded and posted to access later for student review or parent assistance.

**10. Q: How will my child submit their classwork and homework?**

A: Work will be submitted through the online platform.

**11. Q: Will there be individual student support?**

A: Yes.

**12. Q: Will teachers differentiate learning to meet the needs of individual students?**

A: Yes, all individualized plans will be met.

**13. Q: Will my child have the same access to courses, curriculum, and instructional opportunities in a remote format?**

A: We will follow our expected curriculum to ensure our students learn at or above grade level.

**14. Q. Will students who are doing remote learning have opportunities to interact with their teacher and ask questions?**

A: Yes. There will be opportunities to ask questions in real time during Zoom sessions or chat functions, or during non-school hours via email.

**15. Q: Will students receive grades for virtual learning?**

A: Yes. Assignments will be graded and students will receive report cards and transcripts, as usual.

**16. Q: Will parents/caregivers need to sit with their students throughout the day?**

A: Our goal is for school day learning to be autonomous. All direct instruction will be recorded so additional review will be possible.

- For our Prek-3 students, we are making remote learning as accessible as possible, with dedicated time for creative play and movement breaks, as well as synchronous (live) whole-group instruction, and small-group activities.
- For students with IEPs, we will provide individual details.

**17. Q: Are school supply lists available?**

A: Yes. School supply lists for all schools except Piscataway High School can be found on school websites under the “Parent” tab. Families who have difficulty obtaining school supplies should contact their building principal.

**18. Q: How will Piscataway track attendance?**

A: We expect students to log in every day to meet attendance requirements. Any continued internet connectivity issues will be addressed by the building principal.

**19. Q: How will science labs be handled?**

A: Most remote labs are designed as “dry labs” – they will be completed in a paper/pencil format or through technology integration. Specific labs may lend themselves to more hands-on delivery, observing the proper safety precautions and the usage of alternative materials when and where appropriate. Students will also be using simulations through technology integration.

**20. Q: How will music classes be handled?**

A: Teachers will initially focus on the instructional component of the lesson and will provide real-time feedback and assistance as needed. In addition, ensembles will have small group lessons and procedures for students to obtain instruments will be available.

**21. Q: How will PE classes be handled?**

A: Teachers will initially focus on the instructional component of the lesson/activity followed by a live demonstration. Afterwards, students will actively participate while the teacher provides support and feedback.

**22. Q: How do I access my child's virtual learning materials and assignments?**

A: **Piscataway students in grades 4-12 use SCHOOLGY** as their learning management system (LMS). Schoology enables teachers to easily create, distribute, and collect digital assignments in one location.

**How does my child log on to Schoology?**

In order to log into Schoology, your son/daughter can navigate to <https://pway.schoology.com/> and log in with his/her username and password.

**How do parents access their child's information on Schoology?**

Complete information for accessing and using Schoology can be found [here](#).

**Piscataway students in grades K-3 use GOOGLE CLASSROOMS** to access learning materials and assignments.

**How does my child log on to Google Classrooms?**

This information will come from your child's teacher.

**23. Q: Who should I contact if my child cannot log in or has technology issues?**

A: Complete the [IT Helpdesk Form](#). Please note that this form should only be used for technology issues. For issues pertaining to specific assignments, please contact your child's teacher via email.

**24. Q: How will students with disabilities be supported during remote learning?**

A: Piscataway students with IEPs or 504 plans who typically receive support within the classroom setting will receive remote support during the first marking period. All programs and services dictated in the IEP or 504 will be followed to the greatest extent possible during remote instruction. Any additional programs or services will be put in place based on student needs. IEP meetings will continue to be held virtually.

**25. Q: How will families know if their students qualify for in-person, at-home services?**

A: Services are determined by a student's IEP, which is set by the IEP team.

**26. Q: How will special education students acquire social skills and life skills in a remote environment?**

A: Students with special needs are eligible for the same counseling services as their general education peers. IEP counseling will be provided remotely. Social skills training is also infused in classroom programs.

**27. Q: Where can families of students with IEPs obtain additional information?**

A: Contact your child's case manager for any questions regarding the students educational program.

**28. Q: What should I do if my child needs counseling services?**

A: Please contact your building principal or school counselor for assistance. For students experiencing a true emergency, call 911, or for immediate mental health assistance, call UBHC at [\(800\) 969-5300](tel:8009695300)

**29. Q: How will meals be distributed for students receiving free/reduced meals?**

A: This information will be available before the start of school.