

Distance Learning Addendum for 2020-2021

The need to shift instruction during this unprecedented time requires additional safeguards and acknowledgments. As challenging as the changes of distance learning may be, we are grateful to live in an age where technology allows us to continue teaching and learning safely at home.

Jurisdiction

While students are participating in distance learning, the jurisdiction of the Technology Responsibility Use Policy is expanded to include when students are at home participating in distance learning.

Safe and Responsible Video Conferencing and Live Streaming

Video conferencing is a powerful tool for distance learning. Through video conferencing, teachers may deliver instruction, support students, and facilitate connections between classmates. In addition, there may come a time during the school year when some students are able to return to in-person school, while others continue distance learning. This may necessitate the use of video conferencing to “live stream” the classroom. We recognize that connecting teachers, students, and families in their homes can lead to unintended consequences. In order to maintain a positive, safe “learning environment,” school personnel, parents, and students must adhere to the following guidelines for video conferencing:

School Responsibilities

1. The school will maintain a secure video conferencing system to the best of their ability
2. The school will obtain parent or guardian consent for video conferencing with students
3. Video conferences may be recorded for instructional or archival purposes. The school will obtain parent or guardian consent before recording video conferences. Recordings will be stored securely and not published.
4. Teachers and staff will not video conference 1 on 1 with students without a parent or guardian present.

Student Responsibilities

1. Students will not take photos or recordings of video conferences
2. Students will not share links or logins for video conference meetings with anyone outside of their class community.
3. Students will attend in uniform or school-appropriate attire as directed
4. Students will inform others nearby when they are conferencing, especially when the camera or microphone is on
5. Students will attend from common areas in homes, such as the family room, dining room, or kitchen.

Initial: ___ I give permission for my child to participate in video conferencing with school staff and classmates.
 ___ I give permission for my child’s video conferences to be recorded.
 ___ I give permission for my child to appear in live streams of his or her classroom.

Management Tools in Distance Learning

Some tools in use by the school can monitor or control devices. For example, GoGuardian can allow teachers to see a student’s screen or launch apps during a class session, and Chrome Remote Desktop can control a computer for tech support. These are valuable tools for educators, but they raise concerns when implemented in students homes, particularly on personal devices used for distance learning. To maintain student and family privacy, the school will not remotely operate devices without a student or parent’s consent for each support session. Monitoring data will be used only for educational purposes and to help students stay on task during the school day.

Initial: ___ The school may use tools to monitor, remote control, or update devices used for distance learning.

Internet filtering at home

Internet on devices provided by the school for distance learning may or may not be filtered. Even when filters are enabled, it is possible for these filters to break down or be circumvented. Parents or guardians are responsible for content accessible by the internet in their homes. We recommend OpenDNS Family Shield for a simple, effective, and free home internet filter:

opendns.com/home-internet-security

Student Printed Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____