



Marlborough Public Schools

Transforming Education

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Date: September 14, 2020

Dear Marlborough Remote Learning Parents, Caregivers, and Guardians,

Thank you for your continued patience as we navigate the changes and challenges of school reopening during these uncharted times. Our highest priorities are two fold, to provide the exceptional education our students and their families are accustomed to and to keep our students, teachers, and staff safe as Marlborough Public Schools prepares to welcome back our students in the hybrid and remote models. We are committed to partnering with you this year to ensure a successful academic experience for our remote students.

You and your children have made the decision to continue your learning remotely and it is our goal at Marlborough Public Schools is to continue to provide an excellent remote learning experience on par with our in person schooling, none of which would be possible without our creative and dedicated educators. Throughout the summer and over the past three weeks, our teachers have been attending Professional Development courses and workshops to ensure they are ready to teach their students using technology to recreate their classrooms in a virtual world.

Over the past two weeks, K-12 remote teachers reached out to their students and families via email. They are working to connect with families through phone calls and Zoom meetings before school starts. During the school year, if issues arise, please contact your child's homeroom teacher. Just as in a regular school year, they are your first point of contact and know your child best.

Your children are used to schedules and structure during in person learning. Our remote classrooms will be following a set schedule, including school day start and end times, lunch and body breaks. Daily attendance will be taken at the start of the day, just as with in person learning. At K-5, a daily schedule will be shared with you and your children by the teachers. 6-12 schedules will be available through Aspen as usual.

We are confident that our remote teachers are ready to teach our students through a variety of platforms, using a combination of best practices that will include live, whole class instruction, teacher-led small group work, specials and independent student work.

Many families expressed challenges around technology in the spring. In an effort to ensure our students have access to the best educational experience they can have, Marlborough Public Schools continues its commitment to the students of MPS and will be providing a device to all students. If you are in need of an

internet hot spot, please reach out to, Mark Gibbs, Director of Information Technology, mgibbs@marlborough-ma.gov. If at any time you are having difficulties using your device or finding your way around teaching and learning platforms, please reach out to Tom Plati, Director of Instructional Technology, tplati@mps-edu.org.

Digital devices are being distributed at each grade. Students who need devices grades 6-12 have been contacted by their schools. Beginning on Wednesday, September 16, digital devices will be distributed to our K-5 remote students at their “home” schools. You will receive a communication from your child’s school about the date and time to pick up devices. Remote teachers will be at the schools to welcome your children to the new school year, with a mask and a socially distanced greeting and wave!

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| <u>Wednesday 9/16</u> | Jaworek 12pm - 3pm | Remote K-2 Students |
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| <u>Wednesday 9/16</u> | Richer 12pm - 3pm | Remote 3-5 Students |
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| <u>Thursday 9/17</u> | Jaworek 12pm - 3pm | Remote 3-5 Students |
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| <u>Thursday 9/17</u> | Richer 12pm - 3pm | Remote K-2 Students |
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| <u>Friday 9/18</u> | Goodnow 9am - 11:30am 12:30pm - 3pm | Remote K-2 Students Remote 3-5 Students |
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| <u>Friday 9/18</u> | Kane 9am - 11:30am 12:30pm - 3pm | Remote 3-5 Students Remote K-2 Students |
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We are committed to frequent communications to our families to ensure that we are transparent in our decision making and are providing families with information as soon as it becomes available. You can also expect regular communication from your child’s teacher(s) to ensure you have a clear understanding of your child’s learning expectations for the school year. It is important that we hear your perspective regarding your child’s learning needs as well as his/her/their social emotional development in order to put a plan in place for your child’s continued growth.

We thank you for your continued patience and look forward to seeing your children in our virtual classrooms!!

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