



Roseville Area Schools

*Quality Teaching & Learning for All...Equity in All We Do*

## **DISTANCE LEARNING PLAN FOR FALCON HEIGHTS ELEMENTARY**

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Dear Falcon Heights Families,

We know and understand there is a lot of change and uncertainty at this time. Your family's health and well-being is always our priority and we are committed to continuing your child's education while away from school due to COVID-19 (coronavirus). Governor Tim Walz has declared that all schools in Minnesota will begin offering distance learning this coming Monday through at least April 30. At this time, the governor is asking schools to prepare for students returning to school buildings on Tuesday, May 5. Please keep in mind that these plans could change. This message is to provide you with an overview of our distance learning plans.

### **Why distance-learning days?**

Our distance-learning plan provides students with new learning and sustains previous learning. Our task is to create meaningful experiences related to learning goals and outcomes, aligned with state academic standards. With your help at home, we can make instruction and learning as meaningful as possible.

### **About distance learning**

- Focuses on the most critical learning goals to make learning manageable for everyone.
- Requires less school time than a face-to-face school day.
- Establishes routines and structures that support students and families.
- Provides instruction that meets the needs of all learners to the best extent possible.
- Leverages digital tools that students are already familiar with.

### **How distance-learning days work**

- Elementary students should check either Seesaw or Schoology, depending on what your child's teacher has been using to communicate with you for a daily message from their teacher.
- For the first few weeks, Seesaw or Schoology will be used for two-way communication with teachers and families. Beginning March 30, by 9 a.m. each day, classroom teachers will post a daily message or question for students and families to respond to.
- If you have not previously used Seesaw or if you have not received an invitation via email from your student's teacher, please contact your child's teacher.
- Instruction will be both electronic and/or using paper and other materials during the first two weeks. Elementary students will use Seesaw or other platforms that students are already familiar with such as Google Classroom or Schoology.
- Materials for the next two weeks, March 30-April 10, have been distributed in different ways. There have been material pickups at schools and deliveries made to homes.
- Teachers will be available during the school day to answer questions and provide guidance as noted in the staff availability section below.



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- We want to ensure that students have the social and emotional support they need during distance learning. Elementary teachers will incorporate social and emotional support for students in their instruction daily. If you feel your child needs additional support, please contact Michael Stanefski (social worker), Julianne Larsen (psychologist) or another trusted adult. We want children to feel cared for and supported by their school community and trusted adults they have relationships with.
- Please review the distance learning [student/family checklist](#) as a way to be sure your family is ready for distance learning.

### **Staff availability**

Teachers will be available for students and families daily, Monday-Friday between **9 – 11 a.m. and 1 – 3 p.m.** We will be following the same school [calendar](#) regarding non-school days (e.g., April 10 is a non-school day). Elementary teachers will post online learning activities or guidance each day before 9 a.m. Teachers who specifically support special education, 504 plans, intervention, and English learner programming will reach out to students and families to provide support and learning.

### **Daily Time Commitments & Routines**

The guidelines for student time commitments are not to exceed 60% of a class period or school day:

- Grades K – 2: Approximately 1 – 2 hours per day.
- Grades 3 – 6: Approximately 2 – 3 hours per day; this includes homework.

If you are looking for a way to structure your child's day, here is an [Example of a Distance Learning Daily Schedule](#) you can consider.

**If students are not available during 9 – 11 a.m. or 1 – 3 p.m., they can do their learning another time.** Teachers and schools will communicate more with individual families regarding what this will look like for your child.

**In regards to families needing technology,** the district IT department is working on that at this time with more information to come shortly. Thank you for your patience.

We will improve our distance learning as teachers and students become more comfortable, so expect that distance learning may change overtime. We are doing all we can to set students and teachers up for success. We also want to gather feedback from students, families and staff to learn what is working and what is not. We will continue to work closely with students and families to review distance learning and your students' needs. Please visit [isd623.org/covid19](https://isd623.org/covid19) for the latest information about how our schools are responding to the spread of COVID-19.

Stay healthy,

Beth Behnke  
Principal