

McKinley Distance Learning Information

- On March 17th teachers provided optional independent learning packets for 3 weeks of learning for the anticipated 3 weeks of school closure, and have been reaching out via technology platforms like Zoom for some social-emotional learning. As the school closure is continuing indefinitely (see Dr. Drati's 3/26 letter), beginning April 20 fully digital learning will occur for the last 7 weeks of the school year. In order to maintain the "Safer at Home" order and keep everyone safe, printed hardcopy instruction will not be provided; all instruction will be digital.
- Over 100 Chromebooks were provided to McKinley students who did not have access to technology at home. Families who needed a Chromebook were identified via the district survey, personal check-in phone calls from staff, those on free-reduced lunch, and via email request to teachers. Free internet is available to SMMUSD students via the organization Wander at Wander.net with code SCHOOL2020 or call (323) 457-2949.
- Teachers and staff will continue to be available via email during regular school hours, 8:00am-3:00pm and will respond to emails within 24 hours on business days. You can also leave a voicemail, which will be sent as an email voice message to staff. Numbers and extensions are available on the school website. We will return your call with 2 business days. Please be aware that as we are working remotely, phone calls from staff may appear as "blocked" numbers or Google Voice numbers.
- By Monday morning of each week teachers will provide parents with a week-at-a-glance schedule that identifies all instruction and assignments. It is important to note that distance learning is not a minute-for-minute replacement of the school day. Rather, it is an altered and abbreviated schedule that reflects the realities of school closures, social-distancing, the "Safer at Home" order, and other emergency orders intended for everyone's safety and well-being.
- In addition to email, teachers will utilize a communication platform to share information such as Google Classroom, Class Dojo, Padlet, or See Saw. If you need assistance with the platform, please reach out to your child's teacher. We will be careful to consolidate information as to not overwhelm parents with communication during this challenging time.
- Instruction and assignments will be included for each subject area (reading, writing, math, social/emotional learning, PE, science, social studies, art, and music). McKinley's partner organizations PS Arts, Music Rhapsody, PS Science, SMMUSD VAPA, and PE Coaches will be collaborating with teachers to share lessons. The amount of time for each subject area will be approximately 30 minutes a day. For the well-being of our students, our goal is that the amount of screen time (time a child is in front of a screen for any live, recorded, or independent learning) per day will be no more than 2-2.5 hours. In regards to teaching any new content, teachers will select the grade level content that will be the most comprehensible digitally, and will be the most beneficial preparation for the next grade level. Teachers will also focus on building core foundational grade level knowledge and skills in content areas. Special Education IEP services, 504 Accommodations, and Intervention will continue to be provided.
- The teacher may provide instruction in a variety of ways such as: teacher recorded videos, live sessions via platforms like Zoom, opportunities for guided practice and collaboration, and/or independent work such as assignments and projects. This allows teachers the flexibility to determine what works best for their students to ensure instruction is meaningful and accessible. Teachers will provide at least 3 live interactive learning experiences a week. This live learning will occur during regular school hours 8:30am-3:00pm, may be individual, small group, or large group, and may focus

on various subject areas including social-emotional learning. Teachers will reach out to schedule a live check-in with students on the Monday we return from break.

- McKinley's primary goal is the emotional health and overall well-being of our students, and we will keep this in mind as we collaboratively develop and provide lessons. Our intent is that the instruction we provide will give a sense of routine, continuity of learning, and positive social interactions.
- We understand that this is a very difficult time for families, and that many factors may impact a student's ability to access instruction at specific times. Therefore, we are working hard to be flexible by offering some assignments and learning that can be done at your convenience. If a family would like to do additional learning, please see our website coronavirus page for a list of some great resources, and see the very detailed resource page at <https://www.smmusd.org/Page/5539>.