

March 17, 2020

From Dr. Tara Terry Re: Update on Remote Learning Plan

Dear Parents,

I hope this finds you well. I am re-sharing an updated version of this past Friday's email to include key contacts for any questions or issues that may arise over the coming days/weeks as we enact our Remote Learning Plan.

As you have heard, remote learning is not a replacement for classroom learning, particularly for students with language learning disabilities and differences. We are committed, however, to continuing a school experience for our children as much as is possible during this temporary school closing. As such, we will:

- Continue teaching and learning in either live or recorded formats.
- Establish schedules, assignments, and collaborative opportunities to support a sense of normalcy around schooling. Teachers or Advisors will communicate specific daily schedules before online learning begins.
- Provide direct instruction, project-based learning, review, and independent practice depending on the age and grade level of your child.

To prepare, our teachers have reviewed with our Instructional Technology Coordinator the tools we already use including Seesaw and Google Suites (Gmail, Google Hangout and Meet, Google Drive, Google Classroom). Teachers have also been trained in the use of Zoom video conferencing as that may be appropriate for some classes. As always, our assistive technology tools such as Learning Ally will remain available and in use.

Our teachers have spent today testing the Remote Learning Plan, and we are ready to begin the Plan with students **tomorrow/Wednesday, March 18**.

Please keep in mind that teachers will take attendance each day, and make-up days will be determined in coordination with local, state, and national authorities and schools.

To best support your child's learning, we ask that you partner with us to:

- Set a place in your home for virtual learning. A desk or table in a quiet space is best.
- Stick to a regular schedule. It is helpful for students to follow their typical evening and morning routines so they log on ready to learn each day.
- Stress flexibility. We are breaking new ground as all of Metro Atlanta begins virtual schooling. We all have to expect technology hiccups, and we will do our best to anticipate and deal with those as they arrive.

As we all know, we are breaking new ground over the next two weeks, but we are committed to our strong Howard School partnerships and relationships. Reach out to your child's teachers and principals with questions, and keep checking your email to keep track of school communication.

### Questions?

Remote Learning/Technology: Your child's Teacher or Advisor  
Academic Program (overall): Dr. Tara Terry @ [tterry@howardschool.org](mailto:tterry@howardschool.org)  
Billing/Payments: Meredith Chase @ [mchase@howardschool.org](mailto:mchase@howardschool.org)  
Admissions: Anne Beisel @ [abeisel@howardschool.org](mailto:abeisel@howardschool.org)

You will receive updates via email as needed. Please also check the website @ <https://www.howardschool.org/about-howard/news> for the most up-to-date information.

I am honored to work with the amazing educators at The Howard School. I have faith that all together we will work through this new experience of virtual learning, and I know you join me in thanking them for their dedication and devotion to your children.

Thanks to all of you for your support of the school and your trust in letting us educate your children. We appreciate you, we support you, and we are in this together.

Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions. My virtual door is open.

Warmly,

Tara