



# WOOD DALE

## SCHOOL DISTRICT 7

STRIVE FOR EXCELLENCE

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*Superintendent*

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April 4, 2020

Dear Wood Dale 7 Families,

Thank you for your extraordinary support over the past few weeks as we launched our Remote Learning Program (formerly called e-Learning). As I informed you on Tuesday 3/31, **Governor Pritzker ordered all Illinois school buildings to remain closed through April 30th. This means District 7 will resume Remote Learning on Monday, April 6th.**

The first two weeks of Remote Learning for District 7 were a success! I attribute this to our teachers and families working together to make the program meaningful for the students. Over the last week our staff has made a few minor changes to our Remote Learning Program but essentially, it is the same program your child(ren) used prior to Spring Break. Below are questions and answers to help guide you through what we have put in place to continue to provide for your child's academic, nutritional, and emotional needs during Remote Learning Days. Please remember to continue to visit the District 7 website daily during this time, as we are frequently updating and adding important information for you.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding Remote Learning, school meals, or the general well-being of your child or your family, please contact your child's school, the District 7 Office, or your child's teacher. We will do our best to help you. If we are unable to help you we will find another person or agency who can.

The transition to Remote Learning has been a big change for all of us and we are all learning together. We miss seeing and interacting with our students and their families, and we are looking forward to the day we can all be together again! It looks as if we still have some challenging days ahead, but I encourage you to focus on the positive and remember this situation will come to an end. We are all in this together!

### **What is the calendar for Remote Learning Days?**

**April 6th through April 30th\*** - Remote Learning will begin on Monday, April 6th. District 7 teachers will continue providing learning opportunities for your child via their chromebooks. Activities for Early Childhood students will be sent to parents via email and US mail. At the bottom of this document, there is a separate section that provides a **detailed** explanation of the Remote Learning Program.

**April 10th** - There will be no assignments on April 10th, as it is a designated non-attendance day. (Good Friday),

### **Can I receive breakfast and lunch for my child(ren) on Remote Learning Days?**

Yes, we will continue to offer breakfast and lunch to **ALL** District 7 students on Remote Learning Days. Meals may no longer be picked up at our schools, we will only provide meals through our bus delivery. Meals will be

delivered at the student's bus stops, on Monday and Wednesday from April 6th through April 30<sup>th</sup>. The times of delivery are listed here [FOOD BUS TIMES](#)

If families are interested in receiving breakfast and lunch, please complete the meal survey [CLICK HERE FOR MEAL SURVEY](#). This will give us an idea of how many meals we will need to prepare.

If you cannot pick-up meals at the bus stops, please contact Mr. Steve Wilt at [swilt@wdsd7.org](mailto:swilt@wdsd7.org) or call 630-595-9510 to arrange an alternate method of delivery.

**Will the school buildings be open on Remote Learning Days?**

Yes, the District 7 office and ALL schools will be open on Remote Learning Days. The administrators and office staff will be available to answer your questions. Office hours will be from 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. The hours may change so please check our website for updates.

**Will the use of Remote Learning Days extend the school year?**

No, students will be expected to be engaged with their teachers, learning, and completing assignments on Remote Learning Days. None of the missed days will need to be made up in June, and our current school calendar will remain the same.

**What do I say to my child if he/she is anxious about what is happening?**

Concern over this new virus can make children anxious. It is important to remember children look to adults for guidance on how to react to stressful events. If adults seem overly worried, children's anxiety may rise. Adults should listen to their children's concerns and reassure them that health and school officials are working hard to ensure that people throughout the country stay healthy. Make an effort to limit news exposure. If your child is experiencing anxiety, please call your school and we will have one of our social workers follow-up with you. Additionally, here are some resources for talking to your children about COVID-19:

[Resource Document Prepared by District 7 Social Workers](#)

[Talking to Children about COVID-19: A Parent Resource](#)

[Just for Kids: A Comic Exploring the Coronavirus](#)

[How to Talk With your Kids about Coronavirus](#)

**What is the best way for families to stay informed while Remote Learning is in place?**

We understand this is an unprecedented situation, and we appreciate your patience, flexibility, and understanding. We know unexpected situations and complications will continue to arise, and our staff will be available to help families navigate these situations. You are encouraged to call the schools when you have a specific question or concern. We will also continue to communicate regularly by posting updates and information on our [webpage](#) and via Twitter.

**Communication Resources:**

District website: [www.wd7.org](http://www.wd7.org)

Twitter: [@wdsd\\_7](https://twitter.com/wdsd_7)

Early Childhood: (630) 694 -1174  
Oakbrook: (630) 766 - 6336  
Westview: (630) 766-8040  
Wood Dale Junior High: (630) 766-6210  
District Office: (630) 595-9510

**Additional information about COVID-19:**

[DuPage County Health Department](#)  
[Illinois Department of Public Health](#)  
[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)

**FAQ: Remote Learning Day**

**Students access assignments via the Otus platform on their Chromebooks.**

**What will my child do on Remote Learning Days?**

Children will receive assignments each day.

- Early Childhood activities for Remote Learning Days will be sent via email and U.S. mail.
- Kindergarten through 8th grade will access their lessons through Otus via Clever or by navigating to [my.otus.com](http://my.otus.com) and logging in with their WD7 Google account.

Students are expected to complete their assignments each day. In the event assignments cannot be completed on the Remote Learning Day follow the procedure below:

- If lessons are not completed due to lack of internet access, contact the classroom teacher or [support@wdsd7.org](mailto:support@wdsd7.org).
- If lessons are not completed due to sickness, parents must call their child in sick by utilizing normal procedures for absences by calling the school attendance number.
  - Early Childhood Education Center Attendance Line: (630) 694-1174
  - Oakbrook Elementary Attendance Line: (630) 766-2174
  - Westview Elementary Attendance Line: (630) 766-2094
  - Wood Dale Junior High Attendance Line: (630) 766-1839

Students in grades K-8th should be able to complete all assignments independently. If assistance is needed, teachers will be available to students through the Otus platform and email. If parents are experiencing difficulty, please [email the teacher](#), call the school's main office or email [support@wdsd7.org](mailto:support@wdsd7.org). You can also leave voicemails for the teacher using their [extension number](#). [Simply click on a staff member to expand and view their extension number](#). Your phone message will be sent to the email of the teacher. Teachers will check for messages at least once an hour to answer student/parent questions. Emails received at [support@wdsd7.org](mailto:support@wdsd7.org) will be forwarded to the necessary parties.

**When will Remote Learning Day assignments for K-8th grade students be posted?**

Assignments will be posted by the start time of the regular school day via the Otus platform. Consideration will be given to students who need additional time to complete assignments due to unforeseen circumstances.

**How will the teacher know that my child has completed the assignments?**

**EC:** At the end of each week, families will need to send a digital photo of the student's Choice Board initialed by the families indicating that the activities have been completed. Choice Boards and other activities will be sent to families by email, U.S. Mail, and posted on the teacher's webpage. Additionally, families will need to respond to the teachers' daily emails and make sure that the student is participating in Google Meets. If you have any questions please communicate with your child's teacher.

**K-8th Grade:** [As students complete the activities, they should check the COMPLETED button in Otus.](#) Parents should view the student's work to ensure that it was actually completed since students can mark "complete" without it being done. If students are not finished with an activity but need to leave a lesson or turn off the computer, [students can save their progress by clicking SAVE AND EXIT in the upper right corner of the screen. This will mark the lesson IN PROGRESS.](#)

In addition, both students and families will receive notifications in their [Otus feed](#) when a new lesson has been assigned to them. Family accounts will also receive a notification in their Otus feed when a student has completed a lesson.

**Will my child's learning be the same as in school?**

The District 7 staff will do whatever we can to minimize instructional loss; however, our first priority during this unusual time is to support the health and wellness of your child and your family. To simplify matters, especially for those with more than one child at home, the teachers have selected critical standards to focus on for Remote Learning. This should help to minimize stress for you and your child by reducing the workload. Also, minimally once a week teachers will be hosting live video sessions using Google Meet to provide your child the opportunity to ask questions and communicate with her/his teacher in person. The link for the K-8 Google Meet will be posted in Otus.

EC teachers will be sending daily video links and activities via email. The activities will also be sent weekly by regular mail.

**Will my child receive a progress report at the end of the school year?**

During these unprecedented times, we prioritize the connectedness and care for our students as we maintain a continuity for learning. All students will receive a progress report at the end of the school year. Depending on how long Remote Learning is in effect, more than likely the progress report will be based on the critical learning standards chosen by the teachers. The critical standards will be different than the standards the students would have learned at their grade level during the final trimester of the year.

**What if my child does not have the materials or supplies needed to complete assignments?**

All District 7 schools will be open on Remote Learning Days. Family members are encouraged to call the schools and arrange for a time to pick up any needed materials or supplies. If families find it difficult to pick up supplies, then the supplies will be delivered to your home by one of our bus drivers or staff members.

**What should I do if I have technology-related questions during a Remote Learning Day?**

If a student is having technology-related issues, please contact our Technology Support Center at [support@wdsd7.org](mailto:support@wdsd7.org).

**What if my child does not have internet access?**

[Comcast](#) and [Access from ATT](#) are offering 2 free months to new customers who qualify. There is nothing new applicants have to do to take advantage of the offer for two free months of service. If someone qualifies for Internet Essentials or Access using existing qualification criteria they will automatically receive their first two months of service for free (not including taxes). After two months they will continue to be billed at regular Internet Essentials/Access rates unless they disconnect their service. [You can apply here for Internet Essentials](#). [You can apply here for Access from ATT](#). This is not intended to serve as an endorsement, rather to provide access to information about connectivity options.

Xfinity WiFi hotspots across the country will be available to anyone who needs them for free - including non-Xfinity Internet subscribers. For a map of Xfinity WiFi hotspots, visit [www.xfinity.com/wifi](http://www.xfinity.com/wifi). Once at a hotspot, consumers should select the "xfinitywifi" network name in the list of available hotspots and then launch a browser.

**How will attendance be taken on Remote Learning Days?**

Attendance for K-8th grade students will be taken through the Otus platform as students complete assignments. If your child is sick or unable to perform class activities, parents should utilize normal procedures for absences by calling the school's attendance line. If students are unable to complete assignments on Remote Learning Days, the student or parent should notify the teacher through the Otus blog, email, or phone call.

ECEC families will need to reply to the teachers' daily email, this will let them know the student is participating in Remote Learning. If for some reason the student is unable to participate in the daily activity or Google Meet, please let the teacher know. ECEC families can also call the school at (630) 694-1174 to talk to Ms. Patti; if she is on another call make sure to leave a message.

If we do not have contact with you or your child, then the school will attempt to contact you. When two days have passed and we have not heard from you, then it is possible that we, or our liaison police officer, will conduct a well-being check at your home.

**Now that Remote Learning has been extended to April 30th will my child still participate in State Testing (IAR) and year end MAP Testing?**

The United States Department of Education has issued the State of Illinois a waiver for testing so your child(ren) will **NOT** participate in State testing (IAR) this spring.

District 7 will conduct MAP testing this spring ONLY if in-person instruction resumes.

**How will the Remote Learning Day impact after-school activities?**

All after school and evening activities are currently cancelled.

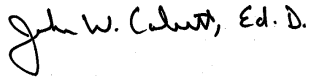
**What if my child's teacher does not have access to a device, or cannot correspond with us, because they have been adversely affected by the emergency event (ex. ill, lost power, internet, etc.)**

Parents/guardians will be notified via email if a teacher is unavailable due to the emergency circumstances. Please note assignments will be posted and completion will still be expected.

**What if my child has an IEP or 504 plan?**

Students with special needs will have assignments modified or provided based on their IEP goals from their special education teacher or related service provider. Otus allows teachers to provide differentiated learning opportunities for students based on IEP/504 requirements, accommodations, or best practices. Our special education staff will contact parents by email or phone in order to determine what services we will be able to provide for your child during the Remote Learning Days. Unfortunately, since we cannot work with your child in person, the special education services we will provide will not be exactly the same as those listed in their IEP.

Sincerely,



John W. Corbett, Ed. D.  
Superintendent