



South Park Elementary Center
2001 Eagle Pride Lane
South Park, PA 15129
412-655-3111 • Fax: 412-655-6540
www.sparksd.org

South Park School District

March 30, 2020

Over the past few weeks we have seen great changes in the landscape of education including right here at home. Times are difficult but there have already been so many silver linings. Our community has grown in love and respect for one another. We have had several story time events with the community as well as parent discussions about the future of education and how this event will impact all of us. These are things that may have never occurred if it wasn't for our current situation.

One of the greatest lessons we can teach our children is to not be afraid of change. Change brings about growth and can issue new experiences that make us who we are and who we will become. This experience is a teachable moment for all of us. We need to embrace the moment and use it to our advantage.

Beginning on Thursday, April 2, we will all engage in virtual school. Grades 3-4 will utilize Google Classroom as their primary platform, while K-2 will use online or hard copy workbooks. The teachers have been working diligently preparing for these virtual days. They are growing as educators through this experience as well. I cannot be more proud of our SPEC staff. They are spectacular at being flexible, being able to change, and learning from that change to better themselves and our students.

The instructional framework is attached below. For those students and families that are unfamiliar with this Google classroom, simply log in to your Chromebook, click Google Chrome icon for the Google Homepage, click on the “waffle” (pattern of 9 dots in the upper right-hand corner) and click on the icon labeled “Classroom.” It should then display all of the classes that students have been invited to. Finally, just click on the highlighted “Accept” button. Again, many of the students are already utilizing Google Classroom and may already be enrolled in various classes. Over the next few days, 3rd and 4th graders will be receiving an additional Google Classroom invitation for their specials classes. Please follow the above directions to accept the class.

Teacher availability:

Teachers will be available by email during the typical instructional day. Please be patient while waiting for a response. In addition to traditional methods of communication, teachers may opt for virtual class time where students can join up on a video chat to discuss classwork, enrichment, remediation and other issues that may arise that would need a video system to discuss. These virtual sessions will occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Please check with your teacher for more information on these “virtual office hours.”

Information for K-2

Students that do not have access to a device or internet will be given a hard copy of the workbook from which lessons will be shared. There will need to be arrangements made for the pick and/or delivery of the hard copy book. The school will reach out to those who we find do not have any internet service or devices based on the teacher phone calls and our knowledge of individual situations.

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For those who have email, the workbook will be shared through an attachment. The workbook can be either printed or simply viewed on a device. The student can work through the book as per the teachers' lessons and simply use another sheet of blank paper to work through the problems from the online attachment. There is no need to print the workbook if that is not possible.

Grading/Assessment

K-2

Workbook pages/answer sheets will not be collected. If the parent/teacher wishes for the information to be sent, then a picture of the worksheet page/ answer sheet may be sent via email. Grading will not be possible but feedback on work completed would be available at the parent's/teacher's request.

3-4

Digital work completed will be turned in as it has been for FID days as well as the typical usage of Google classroom in the school.

We all understand the odd situation we find ourselves in. From the superintendent to the principal to the teachers, we are all here to help and support you with this experience. We are always just a fingertip away if you need any one of us.

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Current Schedule

Tuesday, March 31

FID Day 4

StoryTime with Dr Furman 7pm Facebook Live www.facebook.com/FurmanEdu/

Wednesday, April 1

FID Day 5

Thursday, April 2

Virtual Day 1

- Grades 3-4: All information, content and activities will be in your Google Classroom. Assignment dates due will be determined by the teacher.
- K-2: You should have received either through email, Class Dojo or Classtag the virtual day activities from your teacher(s)
- Special: Art
- StoryTime with Dr Furman 7pm Facebook Live www.facebook.com/FurmanEdu/

Friday, April 3

Virtual Day 2

- Grades 3-4: All information, content and activities will be in your Google Classroom. Assignment dates due will be determined by the teacher.
- K-2: You should have received either through email, Class Dojo or Classtag the virtual day activities from your teacher(s)
- Special: Library

Saturday April 4

- StoryTime with Dr Furman 7pm Facebook Live www.facebook.com/FurmanEdu/

Monday, April 6

Virtual Day 3

- Grades 3-4: All information, content and activities will be in your Google Classroom. Assignment dates due will be determined by the teacher.
- K-2: You should have received either through email, Class Dojo or Classtag the virtual day activities from your teacher(s)
- Special: Music
- StoryTime with Dr Furman 7pm Facebook Live www.facebook.com/FurmanEdu/

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Tuesday, April 7

Virtual Day 4

- Grades 3-4: All information, content and activities will be in your Google Classroom. Assignment dates due will be determined by the teacher.
- K-2: You should have received either through email, Class Dojo or Classtag the virtual day activities from your teacher(s)
- Special: Gym

Wednesday, April 8

- Grades 3-4: All information, content and activities will be in your Google Classroom. Assignment dates due will be determined by the teacher.
- K-2: You should have received either through email, Class Dojo or Classtag the virtual day activities from your teacher(s)
- Special: Technology
- StoryTime with Dr Furman 7pm Facebook Live www.facebook.com/FurmanEdu/

This pattern will continue into the foreseeable future. Continue to follow the Framework below as needed.

K-4 Instructional Framework Continuity of Education

Student Role (Grades K-2)

- Gather your hard copy or online workbook
- Attendance will not be digitally mandatory for K-2. Attendance information may be garnered from certain requested assignments.
- Ask your parents to read the day's work from either their email, Class Dojo or Class Tag
- Work through the day's activities

Student Role (Grade 3-4)

- Access Google Classroom
- Assignment dates due will be determined by the teacher.
- Record your attendance for the day on the provided Google Form by 10 a.m.
- Pick your teacher's class according to the schedule for the day to see what they have waiting for you. This will include primary teachers, specials, and any additional teachers you may have throughout a typical day.

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Parent Role:

- Assist your child in accessing their Google Classroom or gathering their hard copy or virtual workbook.
- (Grades 3-4) Be sure your child records their daily attendance and help as needed
- Promise to support your child in the completion of online coursework.
- Contact your child's teacher(s) if you need assistance with anything. Office hours are designed to support you with home learning. Our faculty and staff are here for you!

Teacher Role:

- Create lessons and add them to the corresponding Google Classroom or hard copy/virtual workbook according to the Instructional Schedule.
- The lesson itself and any extension work related to the lesson should not exceed 20 minutes per subject.
- Be available to support families and students by phone or email during "Office Hours" as well as daily during the typical instructional day.
- Contact the family of any students not engaged in learning activities.

Teacher Office Hours:

Office Hours will be determined by each teacher. There will be both AM and PM times available on Tuesday and Thursdays. If you need immediate assistance on a day where office hours are not available you may still email the teacher/principal at any time.

Virtual Instructional Schedule

Students are expected to work through all the materials given by the teacher on a daily basis. Primary subject focus is Reading and Math. Specials Schedule is as follows:

Thursday, April 2 - Art
Friday, April 3 - Library
Monday, April 6 - Music
Tuesday, April 7 - Gym
Wednesday, April 8 - Technology

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