



DISTANCE LEARNING PLAN FOR BRIMHALL ELEMENTARY

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Dear Families of Brimhall Scholars:

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 will receive a daily message from their teachers. Some will use Seesaw and some will use Google Classroom. If you have not learned how to access the teachers' messages, please call our office at 651-638-1958 so we can let your child's teacher know.
- For the first few weeks, Seesaw or Google Classroom (depending on your child's grade), 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.
- Instruction will be both electronic and/or using paper and other materials during the first two weeks. Elementary students with electronics will use Seesaw or Google Classroom (depending on your child's grade).
- Teachers will be available during the school day to answer questions and provide guidance as noted in the staff availability section below.
- 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 your child's teacher who will connect with our school social worker, school psychologist, or principal.



Roseville Area Schools

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- 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 students are not available during 9 – 11 a.m. or 1 – 2 p.m., they can do their learning another time.

We will improve our distance learning as teachers and students become more comfortable with this new process. 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 for the latest information about how our schools are responding to the spread of COVID-19.

If you have any questions, please feel free to email me at mary.bussman@isd623.org or call at 651-724-6203.

Thank you for your continued partnership!

Together apart,

Dr. Mary Bussman
Principal, Brimhall Elementary School