

Starpoint Central School District Remote Learning Plan

Grades K-5 Parent and Student Handbook

2020-2021



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INTRODUCTION

The Starpoint Central School District is committed to providing engaging learning experiences that are equitable for all students. This handbook is designed to support students and parents/guardians through transitions for a remote learning model. We acknowledge that there is no replacement for face to face teaching, however we believe that a high level of instruction and learning can still occur in a remote learning model.

As we embark on this new model of instruction, we know that there will be many questions and concerns. We look forward to a collaborative partnership between students, parents, teachers and administrators.

This handbook is a fluid document and the District will continue to add information throughout the school year as needed.

DIGITAL CITIZENSHIP & EXPECTATIONS FOR STUDENTS AND PARENTS

Appropriate behavioral expectations for remote learning are very similar in the virtual setting as they are when we are in the physical classroom. Students who are not following these expectations, will be addressed by building administration. I have included below the expectations for students during virtual learning:

We are all adjusting to new learning experiences and new types of interactions. We all benefit when everyone shares the same expectations. Everyone is expected to adhere to all [District Acceptable Use Policies](#), whether they are using a District-provided device or a personal device.

Students are expected to continue to give their best effort on assignments. They will submit their own work and use online tools appropriately. They will also keep their login information and passwords private, with the exception of sharing them with their parents, guardians, or teachers when necessary.

We will all respect the intellectual property of others. Work created by a student is his or her own intellectual property. Work created by an educator is his or her own intellectual property and/or the intellectual property of the Starpoint Central School District. No work, whether printed, audio, or video, should be shared, published, or duplicated without the author's permission.

There are expectations when interacting in a digital environment that apply to everyone participating in the conference as well as those who may be in the vicinity during the conference.

Participation in video conferencing experiences is contingent on adhering to these expectations. Participants in video conferences and everyone in the vicinity of the video conference will:

- Wear clothing that would be appropriate for school.
- Use language that would be appropriate in a school setting.
- Be on time and ready to participate.
- Be in an environment conducive for learning, such as at a desk or table.
- Keep themselves and their devices stationary during the conference.
- Respect the direction of the organizer of the conference regarding whether video is on or off and whether mics are on or muted.
- Use their own name when signing in to the conference.
- Check that the background appearing on screen is free of any items that would not be appropriate in a school setting.
- Ensure that a parent or guardian is aware they will be participating in a video conference.
- Notify any household members in the vicinity that a video conference is occurring and that their image may be seen and their voices may be heard.
- Be mindful that the chat feature may be visible by other participants. Comments must be related to the remote lesson. Complete all work assigned by teachers.
- Respect the privacy of others by not recording or taking pictures of any portion of the conference.
- Be aware of background noise and use a headset when necessary to prevent disrupting the conference.
- Make their teachers aware of any concerns they have about online interactions.
- Be mindful of the attire of any small children who may be in the vicinity of a video conference
- It is important to be visible at times and engaged during the conference at all times.
- Follow the set schedule for accessing the learning experiences.
- Reach out to teachers and other staff with questions.
- Check-in with teachers.
- Students and parents are not permitted to take pictures or videos of the meeting.
- Students are not allowed to create their own Google Meets including using teachers' Google Meet codes without their permission.

Important Note for Parents/Guardians

In order for virtual learning to be successful, we must work together so that all students are learning, happy and supported by the adults around them. We encourage independent thinking in our students during their math/reading session. This will better prepare us to plan instruction for future sessions.

Please remember to be sensitive and considerate of all children in the group. Commenting on other students' behaviors or learning needs is unacceptable. Our teachers will manage student behaviors and interactions as they normally do in the classroom on a daily basis. All students have different learning needs, and learning online can be easy for some but challenging for others. We have absolute trust in our teachers' ability to manage their new online classrooms and only ask that parents/guardians assist by supporting the needs of their own child. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact your child's teacher via email. Parents, we appreciate your support in advance in discussing and reinforcing these expectations with your children.

DISCIPLINE

In order to create a digital learning environment which allows all students to achieve academic success while experiencing the same support and safety they would in the physical classroom, all students will be expected to follow the digital classroom expectations set forth by their teachers and treat all teachers, staff members, and students with respect and care. In addition, we ask for your partnership of support from home to ensure that all students have the best digital learning experience possible.

Students who are found to have violated the [District's Code of Conduct](#) may be subject to the following penalties or other penalties deemed appropriate by the building principal or their designee, either alone or in combination, consistent with the student's right to due process.

1. Verbal Warning - Student/s can get "muted" during a conference
2. Parent Notification
3. "Time out period" (student is removed from a conference and a special assignment may occur related to a particular incident)
4. Removal from a conference by the teacher.
5. Suspension of chromebook privileges
6. Restorative Justice Intervention with student/s
7. Short-term (five days or less) suspension from virtual school conferencing
8. Long-term (more than five days) suspension from virtual school conferencing
9. Permanent suspension

TEACHER ABSENCES

The goal of the district is to provide daily interaction with students. However, we may have a time when teachers become ill or need to be out of the classroom.

If a teacher knows they will be out for a day, the district will make every effort to have a substitute teacher take over the classes. If a substitute teacher is not available, the teacher will be directed by administration to cancel their synchronous (live) teaching sessions and assign asynchronous (independent work) to the students via Google Classroom or Seesaw.

If a teacher has an extended absence and is not able to instruct their students, the district will provide a substitute teacher who will take over the class, until the teacher is able to return to instruction.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORT

The district is aware that there are many technical difficulties that may come from participating in all remote instruction. In order to support our students and families with these difficulties, the district has developed a [Tech Help for Families](#) website. When possible, please take time to review this resource.

If you are having issues with your child(s) Chromebook, there are some resources on the Tech Help for Families page that can help with troubleshooting. After reviewing the website, if you still are having difficulties, please reach out to your classroom teacher.

CONTINUITY OF LEARNING PLAN

At the beginning of the year a presentation was shared with all families which summarizes the Continuity of Learning Plans. This plan contains additional information for student learning expectations.

[Continuity of Learning Plan Presentation](#)