



Family Update

Distance Learning – Week Four

April 12, 2020

Happy Sunday Newport Parents and Families!

We hope that you have enjoyed this long holiday weekend and have had some time to relax, recharge, and enjoy your family! Tomorrow begins Week Four of Distance Learning. Thank you to all that completed our survey and provided feedback on your Distance Learning experience. We will continue to make adjustments based on your feedback.

Please remember that teachers will participate in planning/professional development on Friday, April 17. There will be no school for students.

The Week Two survey showed us:

- 72% of families shared they heard from teachers more than 5 times within the week
- 85% shared their students were engaged with the assignments

Parents appreciated the most:

- Teachers doing a great job of keeping parents informed with consistent communication
- Students being able to work at their own pace
- High student engagement through video chat and zoom meetings
- Amount of teachers and staff available for questions
- Parents more comfortable with schedule and enjoying more time with their family

What we heard	How are we addressing this or what are we working towards
Teachers, Students and Families trying to create a balance	Parents shared that they are starting to get into a schedule and appreciate the flexible schedule while managing school and home. Our schools are working to create more flexible schedules and more teacher support times along with online teaching.
Parents shared that more teachers are using face to face platforms to deliver lessons.	Our goal is to increase the number of daily live chats or video tutorials to provide guidance and instruction for the posted work. It is still a work in progress and our teachers are at different learning levels with distance learning and are increasing these skills day by day. Many teachers attended professional development this past Friday, April 3 and more are scheduled for April 17 to review online tools and create live and recorded lessons.



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<p>Families are sharing that their access has improved.</p>	<p>Newport Public Schools have delivered 47 jet packs/hotspots. Families are sharing that access has improved and the response for help has been helpful. We continue to ask families to use the helpdesk@npsri.net for any tech questions. <i>A Spanish Technology Help number has been established that families can call for help. Please call 1-800-735-1775 and leave a message stating the problem, and a Spanish speaking engineer will call you back.</i></p>
<p>Students need a consistent way to deliver assignments and receive feedback on assignments.</p>	<p>Every school is working on improving how and when assignments are being shared and posted. Teachers are participating in professional development and attending daily meetings to streamline the work and delivery. We will be working this week on providing communication on confirmation of assignment submission and providing feedback.</p>
<p>Parents are asking for support with students who need accommodations.</p>	<p>Students or parents of students with IEP services should reach out directly to their case managers if they need any additional supports or accommodations. If you are not sure who your case manager is, you can contact the special education coordinator at your school to find out:</p> <p>Preschool, Nichole Bussiere Nicholebussiere@npsri.net</p> <p>Pell, Colleen Crotteau- colleencrotteau@npsri.net</p> <p>TMS, Holly Hebert - hollyhebert@npsri.net</p> <p>RHS, Tracey Hackley - thackley@npsri.net</p>

A survey for this week will be sent out by your building principal. Please help us by completing the survey as we continue to improve distance learning.

If you need anything or have questions, please feel free to reach out to your building principal, your child's teacher or this office. Please stay safe and continue to practice social distancing! Have a great week!

Colleen Burns Jermain, Ed. D.
 Superintendent of Newport Public Schools

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