



Dear Families,

Welcome to the 20-21 school year! We are so excited to get going with learning! As you may know, our school year will start out virtually for students not enrolled in the Coulee Region Virtual Academy. We are calling this approach a “hybrid” model meaning that students will learn outside of the building or “remotely” using their iPads at home until we can meet face to face. The purpose of this letter is to explain a little bit about what this virtual learning will look like.

Here is a sample schedule: (While the exact times may be different at each school, the general approach will be consistent from school to school and from classroom to classroom.)

Sample Schedule for Elementary Students		
Morning* (M,T,TH,F)	Afternoon (M-F)	Wednesday
8:00-8:15 Morning Meeting	Music, Art, PE Will follow the 6-day schedule that elementary schools follow. Grade levels will meet live with the designated teacher, watch a recorded lesson and then return live for some final follow-up/check-in. Independent activities can be completed off-line and the recorded lessons will be available in Canvas. “Class” will last approximately 20 minutes Classes will be scheduled between 12:00PM-3:15PM Office Hours--scheduled by teacher	Asynchronous instruction will be available for students to access. Office Hours--scheduled by teacher Individual/Small Group Conferences Art, Music, PE will hold a live class Wednesday afternoons per the 6-day cycle schedule.
8:15-9:00 Reading		
9:00-9:45 Math		
10:00-10:30 Science/Social Studies		
10:30-11:00 Writing		
Office Hours--scheduled by teacher		
<i>*Teachers will provide a live lesson at the beginning of each content area lesson.</i>		

On Wednesdays, we won't have “Live” or synchronous lessons from your child’s classroom teacher but your child will receive asynchronous or pre-recorded instruction. This is also a day where your child can get extra help or extensions of the lessons taught the other days or you can have a conference with his or her teacher.

What is really neat about this schedule is that kids can learn “synchronously” by attending lessons where the teacher is teaching “live” or the kids can learn “asynchronously” using recorded versions of each lesson. Your teacher will show you how to access both types of lessons during the first few days of school.

Each teacher will also hold “office hours” every day. This is a time that you can ask questions or your child can get a little extra help with his or her assignments. Your teacher will communicate those with you during the first few days of school.

What is the role of Parents/Guardians in Blended Learning?

Basic Considerations:

- Student work space - it will be helpful for students and families if students are provided a consistent place to connect with their teacher and complete their schoolwork. Not only does this help provide consistency, routine, and structure, it can also help eliminate potential distractions and provide some confidentiality for your family.
- Student daily schedule - it will be helpful to establish a daily schedule and routine for teaching and learning, just like they will experience when they return to face to face instruction.

Potential Parent Concerns:

Thanks to great feedback about what worked and what didn't in the spring, we learned a lot about ways we could make distant learning more effective.

- I don't know how to teach my child.
 - Your student's teachers will provide lessons five days per week accessible through the district provided iPad. Lessons on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday will be held live (with a recorded version uploaded for viewing at a later time). On Wednesday, your child will receive **all** pre recorded lessons. This will allow teachers to spend extended amounts of time providing one on one or small group instruction as needed in the morning
- I don't know what my child should be working on.
 - Your child's teacher will be sharing clear expectations of “must do” and “can do” assignments and activities.
- I don't know how to log-in, connect to a meeting, submit an assignment.
 - We will work with you and your child at our back to school orientation the first week of school so you and your student can be successful.
 - Additionally, there will be pre-recorded training videos made available.
- This work is too easy for my child.
 - Your child's teacher will be getting a sense for where they're at in their learning every day through the live teaching and submitted work to be able to differentiate and challenge as appropriate, both through the opportunity of “can do” assignments/activities, and through the possibility of individual or small group work on Wednesdays.
- This work is too difficult for my child.
 - Your child's teacher will be getting a sense for where they're at in their learning every day through the live teaching and submitted work to be able to differentiate and challenge as appropriate, both through the opportunity of engaging supplemental support (eg. Special Education, Title I, EL), and through the possibility of individual or small group work on Wednesdays.
- We can't be available in the mornings.

- All teacher core instruction will be recorded and automatically uploaded to Canvas for viewing later, or viewing a 2nd, 3rd, etc. time.
- My child is stuck with their homework and I'm not sure how to help them.
 - Teachers will have regularly scheduled office hours where they can get further help from the teacher. If you are unable to connect during office hours, email your teacher and set up a time to chat that works for both of you.
- How much time should my child spend on homework?
 - Your child's teacher will be sharing with you a daily schedule of live instruction times, as well as suggested amounts of time for independent work. While specific times may vary depending on the child, plan for approximately 45 minutes per day for Reading, Math, and Science/Social Studies, and 30 minutes per day for Writing.
- What happens if we need support with technology issues?
 - Your child's teacher may be able to help with minor problems, otherwise we will connect you with a representative from our IT department.
- What will specials look like?
 - Music, Art, PE will follow the 6-day schedule that elementary schools typically follow. Grade levels will meet live with the designated teacher, watch a taped lesson and then return live for some final follow-up check-in. Independent activities can be completed off-line and the recorded lessons will be available in Canvas. "Class" will last approximately 20 minutes each day.
- My child receives additional support through Title I, EL and/or special education. How will this happen during remote learning?
 - Students who get services from Title, English Language Learner or Special Education teachers during the school year will continue to receive programming. Teachers will communicate and schedule those times, generally happening in the afternoons, so that students do not miss any universal instruction.
 - All teachers (classroom, Title I, English as a Second language and special education teachers) will work together to make sure that lessons in the morning are differentiated to meet the needs of students.

Ongoing and additional school specific communication regarding the opening of school will be coming from your student's principal. Please contact your student's principal with any questions.

In Partnership,

School District of La Crosse Elementary Principals