

Dr. Curtis L. Jones, Superintendent

#### March 16, 2020

Dear Parents,

In order to support uninterrupted student learning during our school closure, the District will provide home-based instruction with online and offline assignments.

# **eLearning (Electronic Learning)**

For students in grades 3-12 <u>that have access to the Internet and devices</u>, eLearning (electronic learning) will be provided through the student's ClassLink dashboard, Microsoft Teams or other platforms schools have been using with students and parents all year. Your child's teacher will communicate his/her method of providing electronic assignments to students.

ClassLink allows students to sign on once using their BCSD username and password to access everything they need for classes. The platform is loaded on all school-issued student devices and can be accessed by clicking its icon. It also can be found at <a href="https://launchpad.classlink.com/bibb">https://launchpad.classlink.com/bibb</a>. Teachers are given flexibility to use Microsoft Teams to receive completed assignments or administer class assessments. These are tools already in use at schools. In some special situations, such as a high school class, teachers might employ videoconferencing for a lecture or classroom discussion. Parents can access eLearning resources under "Parents" on the District website: <a href="https://www.bcsdk12.net">www.bcsdk12.net</a>.

# **Accelerated Reader**

Students will have access to Accelerated Reader (AR) tests in Renaissance Learning from home. In addition, students will have access to myON Reader, which gives students 24/7 access to more than 13,000 digital (online) books. After reading a book in myON Reader, students can navigate to the AR test. Both Renaissance Learning and myON are accessible using ClassLink.

# **Checking Out Electronic Devices**

For families who have Internet and need access to a device, each school has a limited number of devices that can be checked out on a first come, first served basis. Parents and students will have to sign a technology loan agreement, which outlines their responsibilities for the use of the device. Only parents can check out devices from the school on Tuesday, March 17 from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

#### **Non-Digital Learning**

Students in grades PreK-2 and those who do not have Internet access will not be expected to be online daily. For parents of PreK-2 students, learning assignments will be communicated through e-mail, Class Dojo, Remind or ClassTag.

For students without Internet access, printed assignments will be made available from the school that students can complete at home and turn in once they return to school. **Printed packets will go home with students**.



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# **Questions and Technical Help Hotline**

The District will communicate parent and student learning resources on the District's website, <a href="https://www.bcsdk12.net">www.bcsdk12.net</a>, under the Parents tab.

Beginning Wednesday, March 18, a Remote Learning Hotline (478-765-8659) will be live to answer technical assistance questions for students who have BCSD electronic devices. The hotline is open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the regular school week, Monday through Friday.

If students and parents have questions about class assignments, they can reach out to teachers from 9 a.m. -1 p.m. and 2 p.m. -4 p.m. Teachers are working from their homes and will be responsive to students' questions sent by email, Microsoft Teams or other communication channels they have used this year. Teachers will communicate their method of communication to parents. Staff e-mail information is posted on every school's website.

# Home as a Learning Space

Online students and families report that a key component of successful learning at home is having a place where the student(s) can work and that is conducive to learning. Below is a possible schedule for an elementary student during this flexible work time at home.

Time	Schedule	Activity
8:00 - 9:00	Morning Routine	Breakfast, Getting Prepared for
		Learning, Discuss the Learning for
		the Day
9:00 – 11:00	Academic Time	Work on Assignments
11:00 - 12:00	Quiet Reading Time	Reading, Puzzles
12:00 - 12:30	Lunchtime	Make Healthy Choices
12:30 - 1:00	Break	Activity of Choice
1:00 – 2:00	Creative Time	Legos, Drawing, Playing Music,
		Practicing Instruments, Writing
2:00 – 4:00	Academic Time	Work on Assignments
4:00 - 6:00	Afternoon Fresh Air	Physical Activity

# **A Special Thanks**

Thank you for your cooperation as we implement our eLearning strategy. We understand there is no replacement for quality face-to-face instruction with a teacher; however, during these extraordinary times, we believe our eLearning strategy will be an effective method to continue student learning. Thank you for your cooperation, and let us know how we can assist.