

Olga Hugelmeyer Superintendent of Schools

December 30, 2021

Dear Parents/Guardians,

The Elizabeth Public Schools will be transitioning to virtual instruction for all Pk-12 students, the first two weeks of school following winter break, January 3 – 14, 2022. Full in-person instruction will resume on Tuesday, January 18, 2022. We will take each step forward prioritizing the safety and health of our students and team members and the delivery of high-quality instruction to our students. Every step ahead is taken understanding that in normal times in-person instruction is the best way to deliver high quality instruction, but these are not normal times. The increased positivity rates in our school community have significantly challenged our ability to educate our students in-person.

We are ready both to provide an excellent education to our students and to be responsive in addressing any technical issues that may arise. As always, the support and patience of everyone in our learning community, including our students, families, and team members, is important and truly appreciated. We must continue to be there for one another as we navigate the ongoing effects of this pandemic. We have to continue to remind ourselves that we must give our students the highest quality education possible as they deserve, but also to do so in a responsible way that keeps our families, team members, and greater community safe and healthy.

Please keep in mind that students must log in to their computers every day starting at 8:20 a.m. for grades PreK-8 and 7:30 a.m. for students in grades 9-12. Attendance will be taken at the beginning of each instructional period, daily. Students will participate in teacher-led daily interactive on-line lessons using video conferencing. We recommend that your child practice logging in prior to the first day of remote instruction.

Below is some information to help prepare your child for virtual learning on Monday, January 3, 2022:

Resources

- PowerSchool Directions can be found here.
- o Login to Outlook mail here, using your child's district email and password.

Office of the Superintendent of Schools

- PowerSchool Unified Classroom Student will need to login to Microsoft using student email and password.
 - How to Access PowerSchool Unified Classroom
 - PowerSchool Unified Classroom Help and Support
- Free Internet provided by Altice/Cablevision. Please select "optimum WIFIemergency" as your WIFI connection. It will work on any device that has been provided by Elizabeth Public Schools.
- o For general help, please communicate with your classroom teacher.
- o For technology help, please email: <u>HelpDesk@epsnj.org</u>

Daily Classwork

- Each student in grades PreK-12 must login daily using their district username and password to complete their assignments.
- o If your child is unable to login independently, we ask that a parent/guardian assist their child with the login process.

Remote learning resources and all necessary information pertaining to our District Emergency Plan can be found on the Elizabeth Public Schools COVID-19 webpage (www.epsnj.org).

Grab and Go breakfast and lunch meals will be available beginning on Monday, January 3rd and Thursday, January 6th between the hours of 12:00p.m. – 2:00p.m. at all locations.

Thank you once again for your valued partnership, cooperation, and support.

Sincerely,

Olga Hugelmeyer

Superintendent of Schools