

Remote Instruction (Due to Closure):

Castleton Elementary School and Maple Hill Jr./Sr. HS

Given the possibility that communities may experience spikes in COVID-19 cases at any point during the school year, which may prompt short or long-term school closures, our district has developed a hybrid/blended learning model and schedule that can continue as is in a fully remote environment (explained below).

Instruction will not only focus on “core” subject areas to the exclusion of elective courses. Consideration has been given to prioritizing hands-on and lab-based activities while students are onsite in school buildings. All instruction will continue to be aligned to the New York State Learning Standards.

As noted previously, student schedules will remain the same whether instruction is in-person or remote so that students do not encounter conflicts wherein synchronous lessons for different subjects are offered simultaneously. Attendance will be taken in all learning models.

Remote learning opportunities for secondary students will include a greater emphasis on synchronous instruction, with teachers finding ways to provide live instruction and lessons to students. While recording of live lessons is still essential for students unable to attend at a scheduled time, teachers will ensure that their students are directly engaged with them and their class peers in experiential learning on a regular basis.

To ensure high-quality remote learning experiences, we will standardize the use of a single online learning platform, to the extent possible, and develop a common, coordinated set of guidelines for teachers to follow when using the platform with students.

- Grades K-12 will utilize a learning management system that allows for students, teachers and parents to access and organize online learning resources, content and work, receive feedback, grades and communicate between students, teachers and families.
- Students will follow a provided schedule and routine that will closely align to the minutes of instruction required in school.
- Classes will be scheduled throughout their day to allow for structure and consistency.
- Students will be required to participate in all remote learning activities and classes and will be required to complete assignments. Student expectations will be determined by the teacher within parameters established by the District.
- Google meets will be utilized for full group instruction, small group instruction and one-to-one support.
- Attendance will be taken on all virtual learning days.
- Student work, participation and effort will be graded.

OPTIONAL FULL REMOTE INSTRUCTION

For parents and families not comfortable having their child/children return to in-person instruction, the Schodack Central School District will allow parents the opportunity to self-select a remote learning option. If this option is selected, instruction will not replicate the in-person, hybrid model of instruction. While classes will be taught by certified teachers, fully remote students may not be instructed by the same teacher(s) of the in-person or hybrid models. The component districts in the Questar III BOCES are exploring options to pool resources and assign certified teachers from across our BOCES to assist families who may elect this option. This means that your child could be assigned to work with a teacher from Schodack or be assigned to work with a certified teacher from one of the other component districts.

We are still finalizing the optional full remote instructional model that will be in place prior to the start of school. Based on the survey data received from parents, the Schodack Central School District will work to strike a greater balance between synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities. **Synchronous learning** is an approach where teachers and students are online at the same time with a set schedule. Learning resources and tasks are provided for students to work on during a set class time.

Asynchronous learning is an approach where teachers and students are not online at the same time. Learning resources and tasks are provided for students to work on at a time that works for them and their families.

Instruction will include, but is not limited to the follow:

- Students will be required to sign on to their devices/computers daily
- Students will be provided a schedule a meeting times
- Classes will be delivered through a mix of synchronous and asynchronous instruction