

Technology and Connectivity

Access to technology is essential for the successful roll-out of this plan. The Schodack Central School District has been committed to ongoing planning and implementation of district technologies to ensure equitable access for staff and students. The team has initiated plans that are mindful of student home access to reliable internet and computers.

- The Schodack Central School District recently gathered data and asked teachers and families to identify their level of access to devices and high-speed broadband from their residence. In the event, students and/or teachers do not have access, the District will take the necessary steps to meet their needs where plausible.
- Conduct and/or maintain an inventory of equipment and other assets. Identify which students, families, and staff have district assets in their possession.
- Procure, manage and/or maintain hardware, software, licenses, learning management systems, etc. to support and improve virtual instruction.
- Identify professional learning needs for teachers and continue to support their development of skills and pedagogy in a virtual learning environment.
- Arrange a helpdesk system for parents/students/teachers to report technical issues that might be experienced during remote learning. Communicate protocols to these stakeholders to inform them in advance of how to gain assistance in such cases.

The Schodack Central School District will provide all students with access to learning materials and resources in multiple formats, wherever possible. Further, the district will support teachers through professional development and coaching on pedagogical methods that enable students to participate in multiple ways, so that they can demonstrate mastery of the New York State Learning Standards in remote or blended models through the use of both synchronous (i.e. Google Meet or other web conferencing tool) and asynchronous technologies (i.e. Google Classroom or other LMS). In the event students do not have sufficient access to devices and/or high-speed internet, the District will provide the students with alternate methods to access materials and instruction, i.e. pick up materials at school, drop off materials to students' homes, use of parking lots for internet access after hours, etc. The District will also schedule opportunities to connect with families to educate them on how to use the technologies and connect to the instructional activities.

Teaching and Learning

In an effort to assure high-quality teaching and learning, this continuity of learning instructional plan has been developed for the 2020-21 school year. This plan considers and outlines teaching and learning through the three models of instruction: in-person, remote, and a hybrid approach. Our plan assures that in all models, the instruction is equitable, accessible, engaging and aligned with the New York State Learning Standards. For all learners, equity is at the heart of all school instructional decisions. All instruction will be designed so that in the event of a school closure, there is a clear, comprehensive, and accessible continuity of instruction for all students.

Our teaching and learning plan emphasizes routines, communication, and maintains a high quality, standards-based instructional program that includes core classes, academic intervention, electives, and modified physical education, music and art opportunities that meet safety guidelines. Our