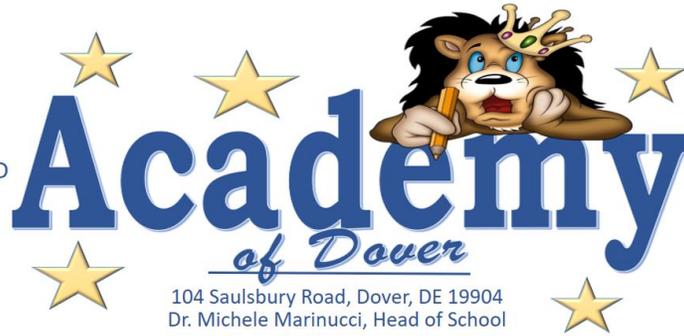


Schoolchoicede.org/ApplyInfo/AOD
www.aodcharter.org



High Expectations
Personalized Attention
Student-Centered Instruction

As you know, the Academy of Dover has been carefully monitoring all the guidance from federal, state and local officials. In today's press conference, Governor Carney announced that schools in our state will not reopen for in-person learning this school year—we will continue providing remote learning just as we have been doing. The Governor's stay-at-home order remains in place as do federal guidelines around social distancing. Find below a statement from Dr. Susan Bunting, Delaware's Secretary of Education:

Today the Governor announced that students will not be returning to school on May 18th as originally hoped. Due to the continuing COVID health crisis, school buildings will remain closed through the end of this school year. Students will continue to engage in remote learning following their own district- and charter-designed plans, which include individual closing dates for the '19-'20 school year.

The Delaware Department of Education will convene a team of stakeholders to collaboratively plan for the remainder of this school year, assess transition, and then continue to adjust and transform practices for the return to school for the '20-'21 school year once public health officials determine it is safe to return.

We know that not reopening schools this year may be upsetting and difficult for many families—it is hard for us as well—we miss YOU! We believe however, that our remote learning plan is working well and that it will provide our students with the resources they need. While we know that this is not the perfect situation, we are hopeful that working together as a community, our students will make it through this time stronger and with the knowledge that they need to move forward in their academic career.

We continue to focus on finishing up this school year strong, while we also turn our attention to what summer and next fall plans could look like. We encourage you to think long-term as well.

As always, we want to make sure that you have the resources that you need. Here are some that may assist you:

- There are many sites across our community set up to provide school-aged children with breakfast and lunch. The site list gets updated regularly. You can find the sites listed on our website (aodcharter.org) as well as the Delaware Department of Education website at <https://www.doe.k12.de.us/page/4149>
- We have digital resources available that we encourage you and your student to use while schools are closed. These resources are within our Google Classrooms.
- We are launching some additional supports for our families, including one for parents and caregivers. Mr. Jones and Mr. Yoder are preparing material and will be sharing the information to join their discussions shortly.
- To help our families during this time, we loaned out devices at the start of our remote learning time. If you are still in need of a device, please contact your child's teacher. As well, if you need information about how to access Internet services during this time, you can contact us, or you can find information here: https://www.doe.k12.de.us/domain/599#internet_resources.

- We encourage you to continue to remain informed about the situation by regularly checking updates from the [Delaware.gov COVID 19](#) page and the [CDC website](#) for information about COVID-19.
- We have attached a resource guide for you.

If you have any ideas or suggestions, please let us know. We intend to remain the village—even if we are doing it in a remote way.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time. We will continue to communicate regularly as we learn new information. In the meantime, if you have questions, please contact me by email at Michele.marinucci@aod.k12.de.us or by telephone 302-364-2345.

Stay Safe and Healthy,

Dr. Marinucci
Head of School
Academy of Dover

Charter Community,

We recognize that this is a challenging time for families/caregivers and are offering the following resources to help address some common concerns, as well as provide some tools for helping families navigate challenges during this time. The National Association of School Psychologists, in the referenced [guide](#) and echoed by others in the field, offer the following thoughts for families:

- Stay calm, listen, and offer reassurance
- Monitor television viewing and social media
- Take time to talk with children
- Be honest and accurate
- Keep explanations age-appropriate
- Stay connected to school
- Maintain health and hygiene habits and know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19
- Be aware of children's mental health. (From NASP Online: [Helping Children Cope with Changes Resulting from COVID-19](#))

Please know that we are here to help. If you or your family need immediate assistance to address a crisis situation, please call 1-800-969-4357 or if you have safety concerns for you or your child, please call **302-762-6110** for New Castle County or **302-422-8058** for Kent & [Sussex Counties](#) , or the U.S. National Domestic Violence Hotline at 1-800-799-7233 and TTY 1-800-787-3224.

General Parent/Caregiver Support

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention: Managing stress during COVID 19:
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>

PBS: [Parenting During Coronavirus: You are Enough](#)

National Association of School Psychologists: Resources (in multiple languages) supporting families and youth <https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/helping-children-cope-with-changes-resulting-from-covid-19>

American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry: Includes resources on supporting children, teens, and parents through COVID19
https://www.aacap.org/AACAP/Families_and_Youth/Resource_Libraries/covid-19/resources_helping_kids_parents_cope.aspx

American Academy of Pediatrics: <https://www.aap.org/en-us/about-the-aap/aap-press-room/Pages/AAP-Offers-Parent-Tips-and-Resources-for-Dealing-With-Covid-19-and-Its-Stresses.aspx>
(includes resource [Positive Parenting & COVID19: 10 Tips to Keep the Peace at Home](#))

Mental Health America: COVID-19 family resources
https://mhanational.org/covid19?mc_cid=87f848e5b2&mc_eid=a04f4729e7##ForParents

Save the Children (includes tips for coping and activities for kids):
<https://www.savethechildren.org/us/what-we-do/emergency-response/coronavirus-outbreak/resources>

Prevent Child Abuse America (includes resources for supporting parents, teens, and children):
<https://preventchildabuse.org/coronavirus-resources/>

Common Sense Media (includes a range of suggestions for managing online time):
<https://www.commonsensemedia.org/resources-for-families-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic>

Why Try: [The Parent's Guide to Resilience](#) ("The purpose of this Parent's Guide is to help you increase resilience in yourself as well as in your children.")

The Clay Center for Young, Healthy Minds: [Self-Care for Resilience Resources](#)

The Family Dinner Project: [Pandemic 2020 Stuck at Home Guide to Food, Fun, and Conversation](#)

Be Strong Families: Including daily webinars for parent/caregivers to develop and maintain protective factors and other resources, also available in Spanish: <https://www.beststrongfamilies.org/covid-19-support>

California Surgeon General's Playbook: [Stress Relief During COVID-19](#)

California Surgeon General's Playbook: [Stress Relief for Caregivers and Kids During COVID-19](#)

New Jersey Department of Children and Families: [Tips for Families to De-escalate Tense Situations](#)

Podcasts:

- LifeKit from NPR: [Coronavirus and Parenting](#) (March 13, 2020)
- The Happiness Lab with Laurie Santos (Coronavirus Bonus): <https://www.happinesslab.fm/>

For Kids, A Comic Explaining Coronavirus:

<https://www.npr.org/sections/goatsandsoda/2020/02/28/809580453/just-for-kids-a-comic-exploring-the-new-coronavirus>

Supporting Young children

PBS: <https://www.pbs.org/parents/thrive/how-you-and-your-kids-can-de-stress-during-coronavirus>

Zero to Three (includes tips for parents): <https://www.zerotothree.org/resources/3210-tips-for-families-coronavirus>

First Things First: [Parenting in the Time of Coronavirus and Social Distancing](#)

Sesame Street Resources: [Caring for Each Other](#)

Supporting Adolescents

Your Teen Magazine: <https://yourteenmag.com/coronavirus>

[Quaranteenagers: Strategies for Parenting in Close Quarters](#) (article by Lisa Damour)

INCLUDE LIST HERE OF COMMUNITY BASED ORGANIZATIONS THAT ARE STILL DOING OUTREACH W YOUTH VIRTUALLY

Parenting Children with Special Healthcare Needs

Child Mind Institute: <https://childmind.org/coping-during-covid-19-resources-for-parents/>

- [Facebook Live video chats with expert clinicians \(10am and 4.30pm\)](#)
- [Remote evaluations and telemedicine](#)
- [Phone consultations for follow-up about Facebook Live events and other questions about the best way to manage kids at home](#)
- [Daily tips for parenting during the crisis, via email](#)
- **Comprehensive resources for parents on coronavirus topics**

American Academy of Pediatrics: [COVID-19: Information for Families of Children and Youth with Special Health Care Needs](#)

Other Parenting Support

Delaware WIC: <https://www.facebook.com/GetUpAndDoSomethingWIC>

