

BDOTE LEARNING CENTER DISTANCE LEARNING PLAN

COVID-19 DISTANCE LEARNING DETAILS

- **What is COVID-19 Distance Learning?**

Distance Learning involves planned online or teacher-prepared lessons that students complete when away from the physical school building. Using one-to-one devices and typical school supplies (books, paper, markers, etc), Bdote Learning Center recognizes that education can continue even when students and teachers are not in the same location. Along with emphasizing the value of learning, using Distance Learning encourages character growth in the areas of self-sufficiency, adaptability, and perseverance.

What are the goals of Distance Learning?

- To minimize the disruption to academic progress caused by **planned and extended school closures** by making those out-of-school days as educationally productive and engaging as possible.
- To allow students an opportunity to practice the kind of online learning that is increasingly part of both college study and workplace training.
- To maximize the use of our technology.
- To keep our students, staff, and families safe.

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

Bdote Learning Center will be making devices available for delivery or pick up for every student who does not have an appropriate device available at home to use. During the delivery or pick up meeting, the student and/or parent/guardian will be trained in using the device and ensuring the student has the ability to get log into Google Classroom. Any students who do not have wifi available prior to the deployment of technology will have assistance by Bdote technology staff in getting families online. Depending on the students' class they may be needing to enter into additional sites or applications such as SeeSaw, YouTube, IXL Math, or Ojibwe language programs. However, the classrooms will be based out of Google Classroom. Any traditional school supplies needed will be dropped off weekly or picked up. Students will continue to have the same classes and continue to have the Minnesota Graduation Standards delivered as well as be learning Dakota or Ojibwe language.

Student learning and progress will continue to be monitored through the submission and scoring of assignments, quizzes, in person communication, projects, online programs, and other assessments. Parents will be communicated with through formal quarterly reports and informal communications such as email, texts, and phone calls. School Social Workers, and other school staff will have posted daily office hours for Zoom times they will be available as well as via

email to set up talks/meetings. Students and their families will get these schedules before Distance Learning begins.

FOR STUDENTS

Students in grades K-8 will complete assignments posted Google Classroom, the district's online learning platform. All assignments and activities will be posted by 9:00am with teachers available to answer questions via zoom, phone or email during their office hours. It is understood that students might have a wide variety of responsibilities at home during Distance Learning Days. Staff members understand this and will be flexible with those situations. However, the expectation is that students will complete the work in a timely manner as developed between student and teacher.

Students with disabilities, as required under Chapter 125A, will have assignments designed to meet the needs of IEP/504 plans.

- Throughout Distance Learning, the classroom teacher(s) and Special Education Paraprofessionals will be the main resource for help on assignments and lessons. If a child ordinarily leaves the classroom and goes to another teacher for math, reading, or some other subject, then that teacher should design the online assignment for that particular area.
- When a Distance Learning plan cannot completely replicate an in-session school day, efforts will be made to provide the support needed by particular students. For instance, if reading is a challenge for a student and the student has online access, the teacher may assign tasks on sites that will read text aloud.
- All assignments will be posted by 9:00am with teachers available to answer questions via email throughout the day until 3:00pm.
- The online (via zoom) Special Education Resource Room will be available to ask questions and get help from 9:00 AM – 3:50 PM on all school days.
- The Special Education teacher will work with each student on their caseload in a separate Google Class. Minutes of services will be the same under the distance learning plan. If modifications in an IEP are needed they will be made prior to starting service.
- Special Education staff will communicate regularly regarding student progress with Parents/guardians via phone, email, and/or zoom. Staff will be available for questions and progress discussions during school hours.
- Services in IEPs will be available via distance learning including all special education modifications and services. All service hours will be met. All services will continue to be provided by the same practitioners as during the regular school when possible.

Students who are English Language Learners, will continue to have the EL teacher provide services in the students' Individual Learning Plans. Service time will not change nor will their EL teacher. Services will be provided via google classroom and zoom for daily check ins. Interpreters will be available to assist in communication with families that do not use English as a primary language.

Students receiving ADSIS services will continue to receive intervention services for math, reading and/or behavior. ADSIS coaches will be communicating with families to establish regular meetings to receive services.

FOR FAMILIES

- Parents/Guardians should visit with their students' teachers regarding the expectations on Distance Learning. If required, special arrangements for students must be worked out prior to the first online day. Families are asked to inform Bdote Learning Center staff if they need to acquire Internet access at home since access to Google Classroom and completion of regular assignments will require Internet access.
- Parents/Guardians, along with teachers and students, are asked to remember that online learning days are designed to be flexible: if a child struggles with a concept or assignment and is unable to complete the work that day, parents should remind their student to communicate with the teacher about how to meet requirements.
- Parents/Guardians should contact teachers directly with any questions, concerns or frustrations they may have regarding Distance Learning assignments.
- If any families are experiencing homelessness or housing instability, the Bdote Learning Center HHM team will continue to help you work through obstacles to your students' education. This may include providing meal delivery, guiding families to other resources, ensuring the internet and device are available for your student to use, and ensuring your student has access to other required education materials. Student participation and engagement of our homeless students will be monitored by the HHM team in partnership with classroom teachers. If a student is not "in attendance" for more than one day the HHM team will connect with families to determine needs and help families work through problems. The HHM team will communicate regularly with our families to ensure the distance learning plan is working for their situation and will consider alternatives or additional support as needed for student success.
- Bdote Learning Center Social Workers and School Nurse will maintain regular contact with the local public health departments, county and Continuum of Care planning bodies on ongoing or emerging needs and will connect families to resources as needed.
- Special education needs will continue to be met by Special Education staff. Contact information for parents/guardians will be provided with the start of distance learning. Child find meetings to discuss students potentially being referred for special education services will continue to take place Wednesday mornings via zoom. If any parents or teachers would like to bring up their students, they are welcome to attend. A link to each meeting will be shared weekly.

FOR TEACHERS

In preparation for COVID-19 Distance Learning Days, teachers have been asked to:

- Familiarize students with Google Classroom so they will be able to access and complete any online assignments.

- Provide a timely plan, posting work for the day by 9:00am.
- Plan and obtain any traditional teaching materials needed for the week to be delivered Monday mornings.
- Plan for self-directed, independent learning with specific consideration for age and individual learning needs.
- Anticipate time requirements recognizing students learn at different paces, especially in an independent setting.
- Customize learning opportunities with a focus on supporting troubleshooting for students with challenges.
- Communicate with colleagues to ensure common expectations, communications and protocols.

During contracted hours, all teachers have been asked to:

- Check their phone, Google Classroom, and email throughout the **Distance Learning days during the times they are scheduled to be available.**
- Complete the building specific google form tracking your daily plans by 9:00am each day. This form will allow district administrators and staff to better answer questions from parents on student assignments and will allow administrative staff to better support your own personalized growth on this day.
- **Preparation Time, Professional Learning Community, Meetings, and Language Learning time:** Contracted time should also be utilized to continue staff development goals, language learning, prepare lessons and communicate with co-workers:
 - **Google Classroom** -- Staff should use open time throughout the day to work on developing Google Classroom lessons.
 - Weekly staff meetings and PLCs will continue as previously scheduled.

SUPPLEMENTAL SERVICES

Food Service. All Bdote Learning Center students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch delivery service. School busses and vans will be used to deliver meals to students at least once per week along with classroom materials. Families will opt in to or out of food service in a form provided by Bdote Learning Center. Office staff will work to ensure all families have filled out forms before delivery begins. Lunch service staff will work to plan and individualize meals for delivery in the school kitchen.

Childcare. Families qualifying for tier 1 childcare will have children transported by van service to and from Bdote each day. They will be cared for by two staff members who volunteer to provide childcare at Bdote. This will happen in the school building following the CDC and Minnesota Department of Health's guidelines.

Mental Health. Bdote Learning Center will continue to work with our mental health partners to ensure services continue in a digital capacity. Bdote staff and Social Workers will communicate weekly about the potential impact these closures will have on the mental health and wellbeing of students, staff, and families. Bdote will continue to work with our mental health partners (Minnesota Indian Women's Resource Center, Indian Health Board, and Native American

Community Clinic) to meet the needs of our students, staff, and families. School Social Workers will train staff in how to talk with children about what is happening to change their school day.