



Student Expectations

STEM Academy/Sandwich High School



During at Home Learning Time
Spring 2020

As we provide guidance, we want you to know:

- Sandwich Public Schools understands the serious impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic. We are sympathetic to the many challenges our faculty, families and students are now facing.
- Our faculty and staff are committed to providing your student opportunities for both academic stimulation and peer socialization via online learning platforms.
- While certainly not ideal, the environmental shift of learning at home does provide our middle and secondary students the unique opportunity to develop and exercise the valuable life skills of commitment, time management and self-discipline.
- Creating consistent, uninterrupted time and space for learning will not be easy, but efforts to do so will help structure the day for students and offer a much needed sense of normalcy during this difficult time.
- We encourage all students to spend time each day in ways that support emotional well-being: creative, physical and reflective/mindful activities.
- Never before has a school-family partnership been more essential. Please keep the lines of communication open and we promise to do the same. The health and safety of our students, families, faculty and staff continue to be our utmost priority.

What to expect:

- Given the reality that our homes are now crowded, busy, work/school/daycare stations, synchronous *In Real Time Group Learning* for direct instruction is not feasible for all.
- Google Hangout Meets, and the posting of videos for the purpose of instruction or friendly check-ins to support emotional well-being will be offered.
- Teachers may choose to offer opportunities to meet virtually in real time. Instructional videos/hangouts for students who may have been unable to attend in real time will be recorded and shared.
- Teachers will be visible, accessible and connected to students.
- Every effort will be made to respond to student/family inquiries within 24 hours via email.
- Teachers will provide a minimum of 1.5 hours and a maximum of 2.5 hours of independent at-home learning experiences each week for each class.
- STEM/SHS teachers will use Google Classroom to post assignments.
- At-Home Learning Experiences provided by classroom teachers have been developed in collaboration with special educators and EL teachers.
- Students with disabilities will continue to receive accommodations, modifications, and/or specially designed instruction as determined by their IEP or Section 504 Plan to the greatest extent possible.



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Parents are encouraged to communicate with Sandwich staff with any suggestions on how to increase student access to At-Home Learning Experiences.

- The SPS technology department will provide support to faculty, staff, families and students as needed. Email the Help Desk @ help@sandwich.k12.ma.us. Instructional videos and step-by-step instructions are available to students and caretakers @ <https://www.sandwichk12.org/students-families/learning-resources> - scroll down.....
- Teachers will log in to their classes on Google Classroom, be online and connect with students at least 3 days a week.
- Students will be expected to check in 3 times a week (per class for STEM/SHS students).
- Students are expected to submit assignments on-time, by the assignment due date.
- At- Home Learning Experiences will include activities that do not require a screen: physical movement, arts, outdoor exploration, etc.

[DESE Remote Learning Recommendations](#) 3/26/20

[DESE Components of a Remote Learning Schedule](#) 3/26/20

Grading

At this time, guidance from DESE recommends that courses will be “graded” as credit/non-credit. [DESE Guidance on Grading](#) 3/26/20

In order for SHS/STEM students TO PASS/RECEIVE CREDIT, the following criteria applies to work assigned during Term 4, which begins on Wednesday April 1, 2020:

- We expect students to show “Active Engagement”, which is defined as submitting work; connecting with teachers and classmates; and participation in collaborative discussions or projects.
- Students are expected to maintain 80% participation in Google Classroom discussions, Virtual Meetings, Discussion Boards and any other virtual platform that is hosted or assigned by teachers. Students unable to attend in real time must reach out to the teacher to make other arrangements to connect or view a recorded discussion. Parents will be notified by email regarding lack of participation or participation will be recorded in Powerschool.

This guidance will be in effect from April 1, 2020 - return to school and all or parts may be revisited upon request.



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- To earn Course Credit, students are expected to complete 80% of assigned work by the date assigned by the teacher. Missing Assignments recorded/tracked or will be recorded in Powerschool.
- Work submitted will receive consistent, timely, and specific feedback as follows: Exceeds Expectation, Meets Expectation, Working Toward Expectations, Has Not Met Expectations.
- The quality of submitted work will be considered. Only work that meets expectations will be counted as "Submitted."
- Students will be informally assessed throughout the term to determine their progress toward mastery of content, and feedback will be provided as described above.
- NEW: Teachers are not expected to "chase down" students who do not submit an assignment. If work submission is significantly lower than 80% over a two week period, an Assistant Principal will be in touch to learn why a student is not engaging in the class and meeting expectations.
- Caretakers will be contacted by school administrators or counselors to check on a student's well-being if they are not actively engaged and visible.
- Term 4 starts 4/1/20. Term 4 is considered an At-Home, remote learning term until the definitive return to school dates are set.

Term 1: letter grade

Term 2: letter grade

Term 3 (abbreviated, closing on 3/13/20): letter grade, to be posted in Powerschool by April 10, 2020

Term 4: Credit/No credit (starting on 4/1/20) until reopening or end of school year whichever comes first)

*It has not yet been determined how the Final Grades for the Year will be recorded on Report Cards or Transcripts. We expect some guidance from DESE in the coming weeks.