

September 8, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Horace Mann Middle School Remote Learning! Middle School is an important time in the lives of your children as they mature and demand more independence and self-discovery. During this time, The Middle School Department at Horace Mann School, is fully devoted to helping your child develop into a well-rounded young adult.

Our absolute first priority this year is to build trusting relationships across all levels of the class community.

- As a Class
 - Community building activities that value the class as a whole
 - Clear and co-constructed shared agreements about how we interact in this space
 - Take advantage of the digital space to get to know each other as individuals by sharing photos or personal objects that are meaningful

- Among Students
 - Provide additional opportunities for students to get to know one another as individuals; their values, cultures, experiences, interests, and hopes. Create small group opportunities where students might feel more comfortable sharing with one another

- Between Teachers and Individual Students
 - Ensure you share written communication with each student in the first few weeks of school.
 - Meet with families in “office hours”
 - Hold small group meetings with two students to get to know them
 - Write two-way journals where students receive personalized responses from their teacher

Our middle school staff's main goal is to guide your child's academic and social emotional well-being. We are fully dedicated to assisting your child develop study skills, social skills, and academic success. Our team will educate students about the numerous activities and clubs that Horace Mann School has to offer in hopes that at school your child may become involved in their area of interest. We are fully dedicated to the success of your child.

You play a large part in your child's education, and we are committed to keeping the lines of communication open. To ensure you are always aware of your child's progress, our team will communicate weekly through Google Classroom.

As partners, we share the responsibility for our children's success and want you to know that we will do our very best to carry out our responsibilities. We ask that you guide and support your child's learning by ensuring that he/she:

- 1) Attends remote classes daily and log in on time, ready for the day's learning experiences.
- 2) Completes all assignments given by teachers.
- 3) Reads daily to improve literacy and vocabulary skills.
- 4) Practice mathematics skills daily to improve efficiency
- 5) Keeps into account our motto; Growth Now! Growth LATER! Growth **MATTERS!!!**

We thank you for your support and look forward to a successful school year!

Sincerely,

Ms. Johnson ELA

Ms. Joiner ELA

Ms. Williams Mathematics

Mr. Brown Science

Mrs. Decuir Diverse Learners

Mr. Tovey Diverse Learners

P.S. During remote learning, STUDENTS AND PARENTS are expected to:

1. Use the Google Education Suite DAILY
2. Participate daily in remote learning that meets instructional minute requirements for all content areas or courses totaling 360 minutes per day (per class). Ensure students are available to receive live video instruction.
3. Encourage improved daily instruction and social-emotional behaviors.
4. Encourage student attendance daily.
5. Ensure all students have digital access.
6. Ensure clear communication with educators, administrators and staff.
7. Respect established remote learning structures set in place by staff and administration.

Ms. Johnson's Middle School Schedule

8:10 – 9:10 – Homeroom (Class TBD)

9:10 – 10:10 – Switch #2 (Class TBD)

10:10 – 11:10 – Switch #3 (Class TBD)

11:10 – 12:14 – Prep

12:14 – 12:34 – Recess

12:34 – 12:55 – Lunch

12:55 – 1:55 – Switch #4 (Class TBD)

1:55 – 3:00 – Homeroom/Writing