

Our Guide to Supporting Parents and Caregivers for Remote Learning

Step	Questions to Consider	Examples
<p>Step 1: Identify your school's educational values.</p>	<p>What values from your school's mission statement are the most essential to prioritize during remote learning?</p>	<p>For a district whose mission emphasizes contributing to a changing world, the priority for remote learning might be problem-based learning with authentic home-based tasks.</p>
<p>Step 2: Define the roles of students, teachers, and parents.</p>	<p>What are the roles for students, teachers, and parents and caregivers in successful remote learning? Are you all working toward a common goal?</p>	<p>Teachers will prepare authentic problem-based remote learning units. Parents and caregivers let teachers know the types of support their family is able to provide. Parents and caregivers ensure that their children know what is expected of them throughout the week. Teachers regularly reach out to families via methods families prefer.</p>
<p>Step 3: Consider the common barriers that may hinder some parents from fulfilling their role.</p>	<p>What might make it harder for some students, parents, or teachers to fulfill their roles? Are you assuming positive intent on the part of families?</p>	<p>Teachers have their own children at home and need some flexibility in their schedule. Students may feel isolated, especially if they do not have siblings or if their parents/caregivers are at work during the school day. Parents/caregivers may feel isolated, overwhelmed, or confused about the expectations for their children's learning. They may not have enough computers and WiFi access to accommodate all workers/learners in the home.</p>
<p>Step 4: Identify resources or practices to address common barriers.</p>	<p>What additional flexibility, choice, or resources can be provided for parents and caregivers so they can support their child's learning in a way that fits their family best? Are you demonstrating respect as you work to reduce barriers?</p>	<p>District provides mobile hotspots to families without access to WiFi. Administrators encourage flexible due dates to support families and students experiencing stress. Counselors check in with children of essential workers to provide support. Support staff are available to fill in when teachers have their own family obligations.</p>
<p>Step 5: Design instructional plans to emphasize your school's educational values with attention to defined roles.</p>	<p>How can you streamline remote learning to prioritize your values and set stakeholders up for success? Are you keeping lessons simple? Are you clear with families about what is essential and what is optional?</p>	<p>Teachers provide online and hard-copy problem-based learning modules. When possible, students participate in collaborative discussion groups to work on solutions. Final projects are presented in virtual class sessions and uploaded to class website. Students without computer access are provided with other ways to demonstrate their learning.</p>