



Pilgrim Area Collaborative Pandemic 2020 Learning Plan

The health and well-being of students/families and staff will continue to be our top priority. Communication is key and maintaining connections with students and staff is paramount.

As you know, Pilgrim Area Collaborative has presently closed its physical school buildings due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. We are committed to responding to this unprecedented moment in history and will be providing communication via telephonic and/or remote learning systems in adherence to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) guidelines.

This document addresses expectations for how we, at Pilgrim Area Collaborative, can best provide continuity of learning for our students during prolonged absences and/or school closures. Our goal is to support student's well-being and academic progress, while fully understanding the conditions for teaching and learning are not like anything we have ever experienced before. As such, we know that we will need to all come together to best support our students and each other through these challenging times.

Pilgrim Area Collaborative is a vibrant environment led by expert staff who bring daily dedication to servicing our students, our families and our districts. Each student is recognized and valued for the unique gifts and abilities they bring to our programs. Our prime objective is to tap into each student's inner strengths and expand those strengths to allow everyone to reach their highest potential. We strongly believe that educating our students is not limited to the classroom setting, rather educating students means fostering connections between school, home and the community.

General Expectations for Students and Families

Since March 16, 2020 students/families have engaged in optional educational enrichment opportunities. As of tomorrow, April 1, 2020 all Pilgrim Area Collaborative programs will be

launching the official telephonic and/or remote learning systems. Given that students and staff will be learning how to operate remotely and that there are anticipated technological hurdles, we expect that this will be a work in progress adjusted, as needed, based on feedback from staff and students/families.

Group or individual connections and educational opportunities are encouraged to the extent of the staff and families' comfort levels. These can be used through various platforms such as Google Classroom. Staff are expected to regularly reach out to students/families in order to establish mutually agreeable plans to support students' needs.

All staff will schedule educational and emotional supports for 15 hours of service per week based on total assigned student caseload (3 hours per day) for individual and/or group engagement with each of their students. Virtual lessons provided by staff may vary in format from teacher created materials, instructional videos or assignments. Staff will collaborate with the student/family to determine the most effective way to meet the child's needs such as: phone calls, emails, office hours, virtual meeting platform.

In accordance with state and federal laws, including the Massachusetts Wiretapping Act and Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), parents and students must refrain from recording any and all remote lessons. Exceptions may be made on an individual basis due to special circumstances, and only with the consent of everyone involved in the lesson. In addition, while parents/guardians are permitted to observe online instruction in a non-disruptive manner, to the extent that remote learning opportunities provide access to confidential student information, all participants agree, by participating in this remote learning opportunity, to refrain from disseminating any confidential student information about other student participants with any and all third parties. By participating in the remote learning opportunities, consent to this request is hereby provided.

Similarly, we ask everyone in our school community to recognize that video conferences and other online services will be taking place in the homes of the educators and students who participate in the calls, and to be mindful of everyone's right to privacy. To that end, we remind our students to dress appropriately and choose an appropriate location in their home from which to participate in any and all remote learning opportunities, particularly those with a video component. Parents/guardians should take all precautions to safeguard personal or private information that they do not wish to be disclosed.

Students will be expected to behave in accordance with school rules of conduct while participating in remote instruction. Cyber-bullying, harassment, discrimination, and abuse of the remote learning process will not be tolerated and may result in suspension from remote learning, as well as additional consequences when school resumes. The Pilgrim Area Collaborative also encourages its staff and students alike to limit disruptions to remote lessons to the extent feasible

(while also recognizing that sometimes pets, small children, and technical difficulties cannot be prevented from disrupting a lesson that happens at home).

This is the free and appropriate public education (FAPE) remote learning environment that Pilgrim Area Collaborative will be providing to students and families, at this time. While we will strive to provide the best education, given the circumstances, students/families will be responsible for accessing the options available to them.

By accessing these services, the Pilgrim Area Collaborative recognizes that you and your child consent to access communication via telephonic and/or remote learning systems and agree to fully comply with these requirements.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to your child's teachers and/or administrators. We are all here to assist you!

Show your Pilgrim Area Collaborative pride by continuing to shine on through this historic school year! You are fortunate to be students, parents/guardians, educators and leaders during the extraordinary 2020 Pandemic Crisis!

Stay healthy!

