

MOUNTAINSIDE SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parent Guide to Distance Learning



Beechwood School



Deerfield School

PURPOSE OF DISTANCE LEARNING

The Mountainside School District is dedicated to the continuity of instruction, especially when emergent conditions require alternate plans. In the event of extenuating circumstances, the Mountainside School District will enable a distance learning platform, which is a way for instruction to continue while students are unable to attend school due to campus closure. While the distance learning platform is not intended to replace the traditional classroom environment, teachers will still be able to deliver standards-based instruction to students through various web-based modalities until the normal school schedule can resume.

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE?



DISTANCE LEARNING STRUCTURE

- Students /Parents will receive daily assignments, no later than 9:00 am, through grade level emails or student Google Classroom.
 - *Your child's teacher will provide specific information regarding assignment delivery and timeline of assignments.*
 - *If your child receives special education services, his/her special education teacher will also be reaching out to you.*
- Students will have daily ELA (reading/ writing) and math assignments.
- Teachers will also include science, social studies, and related arts assignments such as Spanish, music, art, health, and library as age and grade appropriate.
- Students can complete the assignments in any order throughout the day.
- Students should take time for breaks and physical activity.
- Students/parents should reach out to teachers with any questions .
- Submit assignments within format and timeline requested.

PARENT EXPECTATIONS

- Monitor class assignments and check in with your child daily about the remote learning tasks and activities that they are working on.
- If your child is sick while home and cannot engage in distance learning, please report your student's absence no later than 9:00 am by emailing the school nurse
Mrs. Bruno (Beechwood) : libruno@mountainsideschools.org
Mrs. Branco (Deerfield): sbranco@mountainsideschools.org
- Designate a place where your child can work independently on his/her assignments
- Ask your child about their deadline calendar and support them, as needed, in submitting assignments in accordance with the established deadlines.
- Remind your child to email his/her teachers if they have any questions or reach out on their behalf as needed.
- Please assist your child in completing assignments as necessary. We understand many of you will also be working from home. Please reach out if you are struggling with the daily expectations or experiencing difficulty with the technology. We understand that it will not be a perfect system.

TEACHER/STAFF ROLE AND COMMUNICATION

- Your child's homeroom teacher and/or subject area teacher will share lessons with the class on a daily basis either through email or Google Classroom.
 - If your child receives special education services, AIM, or other services, these teachers will also be reaching out to you.
- All Mountainside staff will be available between 9:00 am and 1:00 pm daily to answer questions about assignments, respond to students/parents, and support direct instructional lessons.
 - Please understand that it may take a teacher a little time to get back to you as they may be helping other students or parents
- Telephones will be monitored daily from 8:00–3:00 pm. Any messages will be responded to as quickly as possible. *(Please see the following slides with additional contacts for MANY resources available to support you and your children)*

ADMINISTRATIVE CONTACTS

Mrs. Janet Walling

Superintendent, Mountainside School District

jwalling@mountainsideschools.org

Kelli Castro, Secretary -- (908) 232-8828 Ext. 100

Mrs. Kimberly Richards

Principal,

Deerfield School

krichards@mountainsideschools.org

Linda Lombardo, Secretary
(908) 232-8828

Ext. 300

Mrs. Suzanne Jenks

Principal,

Beechwood School

sjenks@mountainsideschools.org

Lynne Ciasulli, Secretary
(908) 232-8828

Ext. 200

Mrs. Sheri Rouleau

Supervisor,

Special Services

srouleau@mountainsideschools.org

Julie Goerlich, Secretary
(908) 232-8828

Ext. 400

IMPORTANT ADDITIONAL CONTACTS

School Nurses – Please contact if your child is sick or any health questions

Sonia Branco
Deerfield School
sbranco@mountainsideschools.org

Lisa Bruno
Beechwood School
libruno@mountainsideschools.org

School Counselors – Contact for any social or emotional needs / support

Kristen DalCortivo
Deerfield School
kdalcortivo@mountainsideschools.org

Ramona Ramesar
Beechwood School
rramesar@mountainsideschools.org

Case Managers, CST – Contact for any Special Education related questions

Amanda Somers-Guerrasio,
School Psychologist
Beechwood School
asomersguerrasio@mountainsideschools.org
Eileen D'Antonio, Social Worker
Deerfield School,
Grades 3–5
edantonio@mountainsideschools.org
Erica Bell, LDTC
Deerfield School,
Grades 6–8
ebell@mountainsideschools.org

ONGOING SUPPORTS

Please remember all our staff members are available to help you and your child during this time. The following staff members will also be available between 9:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. to answer questions and address concerns:

Beechwood School

Lynne Ciasulli, School Secretary, lciasulli@mountainsideschools.org

Laurie Wilson, AIM Coordinator, lwilson@mountainsideschools.org

Leila Morrelli, Speech–Language Specialist, lmorrelli@mountainsideschools.org

Carla Clausen, Occupational Therapist, cclausen@mountainsideschools.org

Deerfield School

Linda Lombardo, Secretary, llombardo@mountainsideschools.org

Denise Barone, Secretary, dbarone@mountainsideschools.org

Kathy Goldbeck, 3–8 Coordinator, kgoldbeck@mountainsideschools.org

Michelle Cruz, Reading/AIM Specialist, mcruz@mountainsideschools.org

Natalie Crisafulli, Math Specialist, ncrisafulli@mountainsideschools.org

TECHNOLOGY HELP

Support Contacts for Parents (Monday–Friday 8:00am – 3:00pm)

Email: support@mountainsideschools.org

Phone: 908–232–8828 x110 (*voicemail only, checked twice per day*)

Please include your child's first/last name, grade level, and a phone number to reach you. We will strive to respond to all support requests in a timely manner & appreciate your patience.

Technology Support Webpage (Under Construction)

<https://sites.google.com/a/mountainsideschools.org/dltech/>

How to Sign in to Google Classroom from Home

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1MI7erWouBOYAY5UUv4_W39ggCPUU_evstHcBh6zSukg/edit?usp=sharing

Link to the to Teacher Page Directory on the MSD Webpage

<https://www.mountainsideschools.org/Page/806>

Working with your child from home isn't always easy.

- Be flexible and set clear expectations
- Use a timer
- Work time does not have to be continuous, so provide frequent breaks
- Students have frustration levels, be mindful of this and try not to let it frustrate you as a parent



WE ARE HERE FOR YOU!!

As we embark on this change in structure for EVERYONE, please know that the entire Mountainside School community is here to support you! We know that there may be a few bumps along the way as we roll this all out, and will work diligently to solve any issues that arise as quickly as possible. Please reach out to your child's teachers and other contacts provided so that we can work with you as much as possible.



Looking forward to welcoming everyone back to school as soon as possible!