

St. Stanislaus Kostka School

Virtual Learning Plan

Implemented/ Revised: 3/13/2020

OVERVIEW

What is Virtual Learning?

Virtual learning, also referred to as digital learning or e-learning, is using technology for teaching and learning outside of the traditional classroom setting. It enables learning to take place any-time and anywhere, and does not require the instructor and the student(s) to be together. Virtual learning can be self-directed or guided by a facilitator and can take many different forms. These experiences may include:

- Video lessons and podcasts, self-generated by the teacher or generally available through resources such as Khan Academy, YouTube, and TED Talks
- Assignments utilizing online textbook and other online resources or assignments designed by the instructor/facilitator.
- Online assessments
- Other activities available through third-party web applications
- Remote conferencing via video/audio through services such as Google Meet or Zoom.

When will students participate in Virtual Learning Days?

Students will participate in Virtual Learning Days when it is deemed necessary by school administration. For the most part, this will be during extended school closures due to such matters as inclement weather and emergency situations.

How will students and parents be notified if a Virtual Learning Day will be used in the event of an emergency school closing?

St. Stanislaus Kostka School's administration will send out notification either written or via Honeywell Instant Alert and give explicit instructions on how to access online/distance learning and any available information as to why it is being implemented and any other information that is pertinent to the situation including but not limited to hours of operation for online learning as well as expected duration of online learning scenario.

How will attendance be taken on Virtual Learning Days?

St. Stanislaus Kostka students will be considered present for all online learning days with the exception of days that parents contact the school secretary via email to indicate they will not be participating in online learning and /or if no assignments for a given day are turned in.

In the event of an absence, a student is still responsible for completing the day's assignments.

What are the expected methods of communication between teachers and students on Virtual Learning Days?

Teachers and students are to follow the school's policy regarding communication which is as follows: *The school-sanctioned email address is the only authorized means of private communication between a student and a teacher.* Teachers and students may communicate in public forums such as discussion boards/blogs and Google Suite for Education.

What are the recommended methods of communication between/among students if a collaborative assignment is given?

If a collaborative activity is assigned, students are encouraged to communicate with one another via Google suite for Education.

What is the value of Virtual Learning Days?

An experience of learning that is more self-directed with flexibility regarding the time and pace of study and assignment completion, will give our students another opportunity to hone their organization and time management skills.

Additionally, tools such as discussion boards for interaction and communication within a group, with individuals at various locations, are being used more frequently in education at all levels. Virtual Learning Days that incorporate this method of communication will also provide students the opportunity to fine tune their expertise to provide meaningful contributions in this type of forum as our students become college and career ready.

THE VIRTUAL LEARNING EXPERIENCE

What will a Virtual Learning Day look like for students?

It will be a combination of virtual assignments, online discussions, online meetings with teacher and classmates, videos, website research, to name a few.

PreK one hour per day

Grades K-2 two to two and one half hours per day

3 through 8 three to four hours per day

Each teacher will post information about their virtual lessons on their Google Classroom Designated for online learning.

Each teacher will make a determination on how the lesson will be conveyed for each subject area and how the objective for each lesson will be achieved. Each lesson may be accompanied with some form of formative or summative assessment. Each teacher will determine what assignments are graded and how they will be graded. Additionally, upon returning to school, teachers may also assess students on material learned during the Virtual Learning Days. Students are expected to log in every Virtual Learning Day.

What will assessments/assignments be like on Virtual Learning Days?

Assessments/assignments may take many forms such as electronic tests, quizzes, surveys and polls, essays, Flipgrid, Edpuzzle, *meaningful contributions* to discussion boards, and WikiProjects, to name a few. Each teacher will provide information regarding the grading for each assessment. For example, will the assignment count as classwork, a quiz, or a test. When appropriate, teachers will provide a rubric to accompany a specific assignment.

Teachers will also provide a due date for each assignment. Many assignments will be due on the same day it is assigned. Some assignments will have a special identified due date. *It is the responsibility of each student to meet deadlines as established by the teacher.*

When will Virtual Learning Day assignments be communicated?

In circumstances in which a Virtual Learning Day is deemed necessary teachers will post lessons by 7:30am each day virtual learning is taking place.

How often does a student need to log in on Virtual Learning Days?

Students are expected to log in **every** Virtual Learning Day. This action is necessary for students to connect with his/her teacher each day. Teachers will be communicating with students in many ways, not just sharing assignments. Students are responsible for receiving that communication from their teacher.

What if a student has questions or needs assistance during a Virtual Learning Day?

If a student has a question regarding a virtual lesson or assignment, the student/parent should contact the teacher via email or Google classroom. Teachers will check emails between 8am and 2pm each virtual learning day.

Will accommodations be made for students with learning needs and/or an ISP?

In order for teachers to continue their work in helping a student meet their academic goals for the year, teachers will make appropriate modifications to virtual lessons for specific students as needed and offer small group on line instruction if necessary.

TECH SUPPORT ---

What if a student has a problem with their Chromebook, or technology in general during Virtual Learning Days?

If a student is having a problem with any software or hardware they should contact the classroom teacher for software and the technology department for any hardware issues.

If a student is unable to access the Internet due to lack of connectivity, electrical failure or other extenuating circumstances please email your teacher as soon as wifi is available to you letting them know the issue you had.

What if a student is having difficulty accessing their online textbook(s)?

If a student is having difficulty accessing their online textbook(s), contact the teacher first to verify that he/she is using the proper information regarding website address, username, and password.

WORTHY OF NOTE ---

Do Virtual Learning Days count as school days?

Yes, as long as Virtual Learning Days are conducted in accordance with Diocesan standards, Virtual Learning Days count toward the total number of school days and do not need to be “made up” throughout the year or at the end of the school year.

How does the Student/Parent Handbook apply to Virtual Learning Days?

The Student/Parent Handbook applies to all school days, including Virtual Learning Days. There is one policy exception on a Virtual Learning Day. Students do not need to be in school uniform when working from home or a remote location! Please be reminded that all other policies apply including: Academic Integrity, mutual respect, ethical use of technology as well as all items that are incorporated in the student/parent handbook.