

Dear Perea Families,

We have loved having 76% of our students back in the building four days per week over the past two months. Thank you for all the support you've given to make this an engaging, positive and safe experience for all! We have also been incredibly proud of the work that our remote students have done with your support.

As you know, we have unfortunately been seeing an uptick in COVID cases as a city. Given this context and prioritizing above all else the health and safety of our community, we will not be continuing with in-person learning in January. We know this is disappointing news for many, and it is certainly not how we hoped school would go for this part of the year, but we are committed to maintaining excellence no matter what model we're learning in. **Starting Tuesday, January 5th, students who have been learning in our Hybrid model will transition back to a fully remote model.** The first four days after the holiday break (January 5-8) will focus on remote Home Visits, where you get to meet and action plan with your child's teacher, and preparation for re-launching the remote program. Starting on Monday, January 11th, all students will log onto Zoom for live classes from 8 am- 12 noon every day on Monday through Thursday, with asynchronous learning and live elective classes in the afternoon. Fridays will continue to be focused on project-based learning and will be done asynchronously.

You will find more details on this decision and what to expect in the rest of this document. Please reach out with any questions you have.

In continued partnership,  
Mrs. Ussery & the Perea Elementary Teamily

## KEY DETAILS

- One family member for each student will need to pick up technology, packets and supply bin materials from school on either January 7th or January 8th between 9 am- 2 pm.
- The first day of synchronous remote learning will be Monday, January 11th.
- Remote Learning will last at least 4 weeks-- January 11th through February 5th. All students will be with their original teachers/classes from this August. This means that students who have been remote the past few months will be learning in different groupings starting in January.
- The decision about what will happen after February 5th will be communicated on January 22nd.
- During Remote Learning, all students will be on Zoom from 8 am- 12 noon on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Students will also have live Zoom classes in the afternoons for PE & Creative Arts. On Fridays, students will complete projects offline.
- Daily attendance will be taken during Morning Meetings, and students will receive grades for all work completed in the remote model.

We stand committed to our mission:

*To prepare all students academically, socially and emotionally for success today and tomorrow.*

## What will be different from fall's Remote Learning?



We were so proud of the work your students did in the remote setting at the start of this school year, with your support at home. We plan to build on this success from January 11th through February 5th.

- Our morning synchronous block on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays will be longer than it was in the fall-- 8 am-12 noon.
- Our electives will be offered "live" rather than being videotaped. Our PE & Creative Arts teachers will send your child's scheduled time and Zoom link through Google Classroom.
- You will have the option to upload your student's completed work packets and submit them via Google Classroom OR return them to school each week as you did in the fall. A video update showing you how to submit work electronically will be posted in your child's Google Classroom.
- Packets will be shorter and more intentional. You will receive the first packets when you pick up your laptop and supplies on January 7th or 8th.
- Fridays will be focused on project-based learning, as they have been the past few months of hybrid instruction.
- Additional supports that students with IEPs require will be offered remotely. Our team will reach out with individualized plans for each child this impacts.



## Decision-making process: now and in the future

We made this decision after consulting with a range of Perea community members and closely monitoring the COVID-19 statistics in our area. We believe that gathering in-person for school while the numbers of cases surge is not the safest decision for our school.

On January 22nd, we will announce the decision for what will happen for February 8th and beyond-- either staying remote or making Hybrid an option again-- based on the same criteria.





# Synchronous Learning Block Schedule

(Mondays through Thursdays)

Every morning, before logging onto Zoom at 8:00 am, please make sure:

- ❑ Your student has his/her bag of supplies. This should include a dry erase board with markers/erasers, math manipulatives, a Foundations kit, SEL tools, pencils, scissors and crayons.
- ❑ One family member is ready to sit with your student and monitor/support during the synchronous block; attendance will be taken during Morning Meeting.

Time	Activity	Purpose
8:00-8:30	<b>Morning Meeting + Settle Your Glitter</b>	To maintain our connections to each other, learn social and emotional skills and get the day off to a strong start.
8:30-8:40	<i>Restroom + Brain Break</i>	
8:40-9:40	<b>Math</b> (Eureka)	To learn new math concepts and practice applying them to a range of real-world contexts.
9:40-9:50	<i>Restroom + Brain Break</i>	
9:50-10:35	<b>Phonics</b> (Foundations)	To become decoding masters, understanding the building blocks of English so we can read fluently and spell accurately.
10:35-10:45	<i>Restroom + Brain Break</i>	
10:45-11:45	<b>Guided Reading</b>	To dive deep on reading comprehension.
11:45-11:50	<i>Brain Break</i>	
11:50-12:00	<b>Closing Circle</b>	To celebrate the work we accomplished and make sure we're in a great head space for diving into asynchronous learning time.

*Each class will also have Creative Arts twice a week and PE twice a week. These classes will happen between 12:30-3:30 pm and the schedule/Zoom links will be shared via Google Classroom.*



## Expectations for Asynchronous Learning

Each afternoon between 12:30-3:30, in addition to attending their live elective class on Zoom, students are expected to complete the following:

- 30 minutes on iReady Reading
- 30 minutes on iReady Math
- 15 minutes of EPIC Reading
- 15 minutes of work on packet completion

## What commitments do we ask for from home?



We have always known that family support is crucial to student success and have strived to be in true partnership with Perea families. That support is even more critical during this pandemic. These are the steps we ask you to commit to at home. Please reach out to us if you have concerns and we'll work together to find solutions.

1. **Keep the communication flowing.** Make sure that we have your most up-to-date contact information. Let us know if your student is sick. Let us know if your internet isn't working. Let us know if you have questions about your student's academic or social-emotional progress. Google Classroom will continue to be used to share important updates, provide overview of the week and host information to answer questions. Zoom will continue to be used for conferences.
2. **Please pick up your student's materials on January 6th or January 7th between 9 am- 2 pm.** This will include a laptop and charger, a dry erase board with markers/erasers, math manipulatives, a Foundations kit, SEL tools and the packets for four weeks of remote instruction. These will stay at your home until we resume in-person instruction.
3. **Replenish your student's individual shoebox of supplies and make sure s/he has it each day at the start of synchronous instruction.** It is crucial that every morning when your student sits down to sign onto Zoom, s/he has everything from the list of supplies above that Perea will supply as well as pencils, scissors and crayons.
4. **Please ensure that one adult sits with your student throughout the 8 am- 12 noon synchronous learning block.** Support your student to stay engaged, follow directions and be their best selves.

Life during COVID-19 is incredibly challenging for all of us right now. We are here to support you and your family with anything you need, whether or not the support you need is directly about your student's school experience.

- If you are in need of support services from Universal Parenting Place, please contact Mrs. Molly Nelson at (901) 701- 2342.
- If you are in need of any community resources, please contact Ms. Hall at 901-203-6420.
- Individual social-emotional support will be available for students via telehealth. If your student is in need of support, please contact Mrs. Thomas at 901-203-6420.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## STUDENTS

1. *If I need extra help or tutoring, how will I get it?* Teachers will provide time after class hours to help achieve that extra support?
2. *Are there any fun things happening in the classroom?* We will continue to use our POUNCE system.
3. *How can I maintain my friendships?* Your teacher will set up lunch Zoom sessions and have a turn and talk during brain breaks.
4. *Why are we not still in school?* We want you to stay healthy and safe. We will miss you and look forward to you returning to our class.
5. *What if I get bored while I am online?* Take breaths and continue to try your best.

## FAMILIES

1. *How can I support my child at home with extra practice?* Ask your child's teacher for additional resources.
2. *Who do I contact for tech support?* Please call the main office @ 901-203-6420 or email [families@pereaelementary.org](mailto:families@pereaelementary.org)
3. *How do I communicate student absences?* Email your child's teacher or [families@pereaelementary.org](mailto:families@pereaelementary.org) with a copy of the doctor's note or reason for absence.
4. *Why is Perea ES choosing to return to remote learning?* We are taking the necessary steps to ensure we are all safe and able to safely return to in-person learning.
5. *Will food still be provided for families?* Yes, we can provide food to ALL children in the household on Fridays when work packets are returned and collected.
6. *Will Fridays still consist of Project Based Learning (PBL)?* Yes, we will continue as this supports your child's learning experience within the classroom.
7. *Do we know for sure when the students will be able to return to in-person learning (hybrid model)?* We will continue to monitor the positivity rates in our community. When numbers reach a level in which it is safe for students to return, we will make a plan and provide updates.
8. *I am not certain what is expected of my child when not online with the teacher.* Reach out to your child's teacher and review the information on Google Classroom and our website.
9. *How is my child being graded during remote learning?* Students will receive grades based on their performance during the live instruction (participating and completing/showing their work) as well as completion and submission of work packets and PBL projects.
10. *How can I have assistance with my child getting on the laptop?* Please work with a trusted adult to assist your child with logging into Google Classroom and staying engaged during all lessons.

## COMMUNITY MEMBERS

1. *Will there be virtual community meetings?* Yes, our Family Engagement Coordinator will be sharing information via email and social media on upcoming events.
2. *How can we raise the awareness of the importance of staying home even though students are virtual?* We must all do our part to follow the guidance of our local and state health department, wear a mask at **all** times when not in our homes and limit our gatherings to a few people.
3. *How are the faculty and staff of Perea ES staying safe?* Faculty and staff of Perea ES are exercising physical distancing themselves, wearing masks at all times, and washing their hands frequently.