



SMART RESTART PLAN

Distance Learning

Dakota Memorial School

Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch Program Board Approved
August 21, 2020

The final months of the 2019-20 school year were a challenge for our entire Ranch agency since March, but together we found ways to cope and embrace this new normal. Dakota Memorial School (DMS) is thankful to the students, Ranch staff, parents/guardians, and community partners who helped us succeed in these difficult times.

Our new challenge was planning for the 2020-2021 school year. This is a daunting task as we all realize how the impact and response to COVID-19 has changed rapidly over the past four months. At Dakota Memorial School we have developed our DMS Smart Restart Plan (which will be available on the Ranch website once approved by the Ranch Program Board in August) to address these challenges, while providing a flexible framework to guide our response over the next school year for our unique students in Residential or Day Program.

For academic, social-emotional, and economic reasons, we are compelled to strive to return to an in-person traditional model. Yet, we cannot disregard that the health and safety concerns associated with the virus remain. The Ranch must consider all practical steps to keep our three (3) campuses from contributing to viral spread, as well as the sending schools we serve in Day Program.

This plan presents hundreds of hours of critical thinking, research, modeling, and work by our educators, staff, and leadership. We also reviewed input gathered from our employees and Day Program student parents/guardians.

We realize that reviewing this plan may not address every question you have. We recognize some concepts and actions may be polarizing, and there are strong opinions about what Dakota Memorial School should do or should not. But we must remain open to what is possible and consider all options so we can move forward in an everchanging environment. When we work together to solve problems, we can provide quality education to our children in a safe manner.

Yours in Education,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Marcia Bartok".

Marcia Bartok
Vice President of Education / Superintendent



Distance Learning (DL)

Dakota Memorial School is committed to providing the optimal learning experience to all learners. During the days of unexpected, yet necessary closure, DMS will provide opportunities for distance learning. Distance Learning will require students to access offline and online instructional opportunities from home or elsewhere to maintain instruction during school closures and the opportunity to continue the learning process. Teachers communicate directly with students and families to share school content, assignments, due dates, and more.

Distance Learning Attendance

Additional protocols for attendance are as follows with monitoring through:

- Google Classroom logins,
- Zoom sessions,
- phone conferencing,
- student engagement in both synchronous and asynchronous learning sessions,
- any combination of the above.

Teachers will monitor prolonged absences and disengagement; communicate with administration; and provide accommodations as needed.

Distance Learning Daily Schedules, Instruction, and Curriculum

- Distance Learning plans are developed using a district template and guidance to provide a framework and allow for flexibility and personalization. The schedule will determine when the learning will take place. Elementary, Middle School, High School, and Day Program schedules will be made available to students.
- Instruction will be provided through the district approved learning management system, Google Classroom. Guided practice (traditional learning activities within the campus school building) may be provided depending on the individual student's needs and Instructional Phase implemented on the campus.
- Curriculum, content, and daily lessons will be delivered in a variety of applications based on pre-existing classroom use and the personalization of books, documents, and learning activities.

Distance Learning Special Education Services

Educational decisions for students with IEPs will be made on an individual basis and consistent with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the North Dakota Department of Instruction's Office of Special Education guidelines.

Special education teachers will be in charge of their individual caseloads and will establish Zoom meetings, conference calls, and small group face-t- face meetings (if the health risk remains low). Paraeducators will assist special education teachers in providing support to students.

- IEP/504 meetings will take place through video conferencing.
- Building Level Support Teams will take place via video conferencing to assure students are still provided the opportunity for Special Education Services.

- A Contingency Plan will be developed outlining special education services that will be provided.

Distance Learning Student Preparedness

Students are expected to log in and be engaged in their work every day unless parent/guardian has communicated with administration. Attendance is compiled by teachers and administration. During distance learning it is suggested students have:

- Fully charged device
- Log in on time
- Camera optional
- Actively participating
- Fully dressed

Distance Learning Assessment and Grading

- Grading/Assessment determination guided by percentages of 60% Engagement with 40% Content Mastery (utilize rubric guidelines per campus).
- **DMS Grade Consideration Meetings:** Any student determined to receive a lower grade due to DL attendance **MUST discuss grade with principal** and/or identified school team determined by principal. IN STAFF HANDBOOK ONLY
- **PLEASE**, any questions on above DMS grading/assessment guidelines and procedures, contact your principal for clarification.
- Engagement and Participation Rubric:

1	2	3	4	5
-No contact with teacher through Zoom, email, or assignment completion -No contact with school staff at DMS - Teacher cannot use homework or participation for assessment of content knowledge	-Minimal contact with teacher through Zoom, email, or work completion -Student/Family reached out to DMS for assistance/support. -- Difficult for teacher to use homework or participation for assessment of content knowledge	-Sporadic contact with teacher through Zoom, email, or work completion -Student utilizes Zoom but does not use video or audio - Limited ability for teacher to use homework or participation for assessment of content knowledge	-Consistent contact with teacher through Zoom, email, or work completion -Student participates in classroom discussions greater that 50% of the week -Teacher uses homework or participation for assessment of content knowledge	-Daily participation with teacher through Zoom, email, or work completion (unless excused absence noted) -Student participates in classroom discussions greater that 80% of the week -Teacher uses homework or participation for assessment of content knowledge

Grades will be earned under the following guidelines:

- A = 100-92%
- B = 91-82%
- C = 81-72%
- D = 71-62%
- F = 61% and below

Distance Learning Technology Use

Laptops, iPads and all technology equipment associated with the device are on loan to students remain property of Dakota Memorial School.

- Technology equipment must support education and be used for teacher directed classroom activities only.
- Students may only log in under the assigned Dakota Memorial School Username.

- Students must not share their password with other students or individuals at any time.
- Students are expected to report any damage to their device no later than the next school day.
- Students are expected to keep the equipment in good condition. In the event computer privileges are lost paper copies will be provided.
- Students cannot loan DMS equipment to anyone.

DL Food and Nutrition

Well-balanced meals will be provided to all students as requested, regardless of Free and Reduced status.

- Home deliveries will be made available.
- Arrangements are confidential.

DL School Supplies

- Initially when a student begins DL, staff will provide school supplies.
- Teachers will periodically check to see if adequate school supplies are available for each student.