



# YCSD Remote Learning Frequently-Asked Questions

**Q:** What if I don't have a computer for my scholar or I have one computer and three scholars? What do I do then?

**A:** YCSD will be providing a device for each scholar. A parent or guardian may go to the district website, [www.ycsd.org](http://www.ycsd.org). Follow the link at the top of the page to request a device. **Parents/guardians must request a device for each scholar.** After completing the requests, you will get an email letting you know your request has been received. You must wait for a **second** email, confirming your request has been completed. After you get the second email, you can pick up your scholar's device at his/her school Aug. 31 or Sept. 1. The distribution will be 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 4 p.m.-7 p.m. both days.

**Q:** What if I don't have internet access at my home and I can't afford to get it?

**A:** YCSD will provide home internet access for the homes of scholars that don't have it. Go to the district website, [www.ycsd.org](http://www.ycsd.org). At the top of the page, you'll see a link to request home internet access. Just follow the instructions there.

**Q:** I don't have a computer or any way to request a device or request home internet access.

**A:** You can either contact your school's parent engagement coordinator for help or call the school to request a form to complete and return.

**Q:** I'm not good at technology. Is there going to be help available if we have technical difficulties at home or if I just need someone to explain something?

**A:** YCSD created a dedicated phone line to provide remote support. Parents/guardians may call 330-742-1900 for help. It's staffed Monday through Friday, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Another option is for parents/guardians and their scholars to open a help desk ticket for the district technology staff by visiting <http://www.ycsd.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=471673&pageId=27937048> and selecting the appropriate service area.

**Q:** When does school start?

**A:** Sept. 8 will be the first day for remote instruction for most of our schools. Youngstown Rayen Early College High School started earlier.

**Q:** What about breakfast and lunch for scholars during the school year? Is the school district going to provide those meals?

**A:** The Youngstown City School District Nutrition Services' weekly curb-side meal distribution will resume Aug. 31. **It will be for YCSD**

**scholars only.** Each scholar will be given an ID card which you may pick up when you pick up your child's device. That ID card will be scanned at food distribution to receive the meals for scholars. Meals can be obtained by a parent, guardian, and/or scholar as long as they have the Meal ID card issued from the Youngstown City Schools Nutrition Department. Food distribution will be from 12:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. each Monday at Paul C. Bunn, Harding, Kirkmere, Martin Luther King, McGuffey, Taft, Volney, Williamson and Wilson elementary schools; and East and Chany high schools. Five breakfasts and five lunches per scholar will be distributed each week. Parents, guardians, and/or scholars will be able to pick up meals for all of their scholars at one school meal distribution site.

**Q:** My scholar has a disability. How is YCSD going to make sure that his/her needs are met with remote learning?

**A:** All scholars identified as having a disability will have their IEP (Individual Educational Plan) reviewed with both the current teacher and the previous teacher unless they are one and the same. Building special education coordinators will work with the teacher(s) to review the progress across the entire "life" of the IEP with particular attention to the quarter in which schools were closed. Other school district personnel will be included in the process as needed. This review will be the springboard for a meeting with the scholar's guardian to review the goals and objectives and any related services.

**Q:** My scholar's first language isn't English. How is the district going to serve him/her if everything is remote?

**A:** All English Learners, based on their level of need, will receive language services from a Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL)/Bilingual-certified teacher. Each school has a designated TESOL teacher and an English Learner educational assistant that will be assigned to classes based on language level. The level of each scholar is measured by the Ohio English Language Proficiency Screener

(OELPS) or the results of the scholars's Ohio English Language Proficiency Assessment scores (OELPA).

**Q:** Remote learning in the spring was rough and I don't think my scholar got the same quality education that he/she would have in a classroom. What has YCSD done to make it better for the fall?

**A:** When we went to remote instruction last spring, it was very sudden. We've had time to prepare for the fall. We've developed a comprehensive Remote Learning Handbook you can find on our website, [www.ycsd.org](http://www.ycsd.org). Our remote learning will include both teachers conducting class live online and teachers providing materials, lectures and assignments that may be accessed later.

**Q:** What technology platforms will the district be using?

**A:** All teachers and scholars will use Google Classroom. It may be accessed by entering <https://classroom.google.com> in any browser and logging in with the user's current district-issued Google credentials. Each class being taught will have a corresponding Google Classroom created by the teacher. Scholars will either be invited to join the classroom by the teacher or can manually join the classroom by entering a code given to them by the teacher. The district will use Zoom as its video conferencing platform. It may be accessed through Clever for Teachers and Staff and individual links will be shared to scholars through their Google Classrooms.

**Q:** How will my scholar's teachers communicate with my scholar or with me?

**A:** Our teachers will communicate using the Remind app. You will be able to send messages and even call your child's teachers using this application.

**Q:** Will my scholar be expected to be on the computer all day, every day?

**A:** Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays will be instructional days. Wednesdays will be for office hours, scholar independent work and educator professional development.

**Q:** Is the district going to be remote for the whole 2020-21 school year?

**A:** When we return to school will depend on the virus, the development of a vaccine and the guidance provided by state and public health officials. We will assess the situation at least every grading period and determine how to proceed.

**Q:** How are schools taking attendance?

**A:** As in a typical school environment, attendance is expected and will be closely monitored. School buildings will be required to take daily attendance under all learning models. That means scholars will have to be present for in-person learning, logged in at the specified attendance-taking time for synchronous remote learning, and/or demonstrate engagement for asynchronous remote learning each day to be counted present for credit purposes. Attendance Educational Assistants will continue to track attendance and make phone calls home to inquire why the scholar was not logged into their synchronous classroom or have not posted required work into the Google Classroom. Attendance EAs will work closely with the district attendance coordinators who, in turn, will remain engaged in the Attendance Team meetings at the building level, ensuring that these continue regardless of the method of instruction.

**Q:** I work while my scholar is in school. Is the district going to do anything to help parents like me to help our scholars?

**A:** We are working with our educators to offer some courses later in the day/early in the evening. Those details are being finalized though, so that option won't be available for the first weeks of remote instruction.