

Pocono Mountain School District

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Dear Pocono Mountain School District Elementary (K-5) Families,

Next week begins an exciting phase in our Pocono Mountain School District (PMSD) Continuity of Education Plan where our teachers will provide guided enrichment, learning activities, and assignments for all students of all abilities. During the first three phases of our COVID-19 Continuity of Education Plan, our Administrative team made increasing, extended online enrichment and review resources available to our students of all abilities. On Monday, our teachers will begin interacting with students regarding their educational needs on the same online distance learning educational platforms we use for our successful PMSD Cyber Program.

Moving to online teacher-guided enrichment and learning will be a new experience for the vast majority of our students in Kindergarten through grade 5. We hope you are excited to begin this online learning journey and are already familiarizing yourselves with our two online learning platforms, Edgenuity and Google Classroom. We use two online platforms to provide the most expansive online learning opportunities for students that cover all core curricular areas and related arts.

For parents of students in grade 6, we haven't forgotten your children. Edgenuity includes the coursework for grade 6 students in its online secondary platform for grades 6 to 12, so please refer to my letter for secondary students.

If parents and students in grades K to 5 have not yet completed the Edgenuity and Google Classroom orientation videos, please visit our grades K to 5 Edgenuity and Google Classroom webpages on the PMSD website (www.pmsd.org). We have provided quick links from the main page, located under the Home Learning section on the left side of the page, to the new Edgenuity and Google Classroom orientation pages and user manuals. You can access both online learning platforms from the links on these pages.

The first step to accessing either Edgenuity of Google Classroom is for students to log into their Chromebook, as follows:

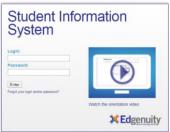
HOW TO SIGN IN TO THE CHROMEBOOK



1. STEP ONE: Log in to your chromebook EMAIL ADDRESS is studentID#@students.pmsd.org 123456@students.pmsd.org

PASSWORD.-First letter first name (capital), first letter last name (lowercase), = Equals sign, five numbers of your student ID#
Nw=12345

The Edgenuity and Google Classroom portals for grades K to 5 appear as follows:







https://classroom.google.com

Students will use their assigned user name and password to log into Edgenuity as follows:

USER NAME: studentID#pm (For example, 123456pm)

PASSWORD: pocono

Students who are not using a Chromebook will be asked to log into Google Classroom using their PMSD student email information:

EMAIL ADDRESS: studentID#@students.pmsd.org
PASSWORD: First letter of first name (capitalized) first letter of last name (lower case) the = equal sign followed by 5 numbers from the student ID (For example, Nw=12345)

<u>Learning Online</u>: Online learning is a very different learning experience for students than in a traditional classroom. Students are most successful at online learning when their parents participate in the online learning process and act as their home educational coach, encouraging them to complete their assignments, helping students to stay organized and assisting students when they run into difficulties.

We recommend that student's login to Edgenuity and Google Classroom each weekday by 9 a.m. to check their messages and assignments. Students can work on their assignments at their own pace at any time during the day. The amount of time students spend working on their assignments and online should be age appropriate. We do not recommend students spending 8 hours a day working on their computers. It's important for students to get exercise each day and unplug from their devices.

Teachers will be able to differentiate the learning experience for each student based upon individual student needs. Teachers will be giving students assignments to complete each week. **Students should submit completed assignments on or before Sunday of each week.** While assignments are not mandatory or graded for students until further notice, we strongly encourage students to complete their assignments and submit their completed assignments to their teachers each week.

Teachers will be available each weekday from 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. All communication between teachers and students will be accomplished by email using the Edgenuity Messages and pmsd.org student email accounts. Teachers will respond to email questions from students and parents within 24 hours on school days.

Our goal for the first two weeks of online learning is for all students and their parents to become familiar and comfortable with this new learning environment in Edgenuity and Google Classroom. From April 6, 2020 through April 19, 2020, we want our students to gain confidence in their ability to use the two platforms, and in connecting and communicating with their teachers and their peers.

We anticipate experiencing challenges these first two weeks, but are confident we can work together to make this a great learning experience for all PMSD students.

Sincerely,

Dr. Catherine Sweeney

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Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction