

Zion Lutheran School

Distance Learning Committee Report Optional Online and Morning-Only Plans 2020-2021



[Jesus said] "I have said these things to you, that in me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation. But take heart; I have overcome the world."

--John 16:33

08/07/2020

Subject to change without notice.

Preface

These are certainly trying times. The world has changed and is changing, and we know that through this storm, God remains unchanged and unchanging. He is our Rock and our Foundation, our Refuge in times of trouble. Zion of the Old Testament, our namesake, was God's holy hill upon which His people found safety, strength, comfort and peace. We hope to provide these for you--that our school may be a source of safety, strength, comfort and peace.

The following document is the result of Zion Lutheran School's Distance Learning Committee meetings. In our meetings we discussed best practices for distance learning, while remaining committed to our mission of providing quality Christian education. Our goal was to write a plan that is comprehensive and addresses a wide variety of issues, yet remains responsive and adaptable for our school community. We reflected on feedback from our school community this spring when our school initially engaged in distance learning.

This feedback was as diverse as our community: some said we provided too much work, some said there was not enough, some said we had too many online meetings, and some said not enough, some were overwhelmed and others desired more. The following document presents a plan that is true to our educational objectives, provides a reasonable amount of work, and focuses on teacher engagement with students and families. It also provides some latitude for all involved--a framework is in place for every class, and can be adjusted as needed.

We believe this is the finest online experience your children can have because of our solid curriculum and our dedication. Our teachers and staff are here to walk with you and your family, to aid in being the calm and the strength in the storm of this world for our children. We hope you see the value in these enduring relationships.

In Christ,

Zion Lutheran School Distance Learning Committee

Peter Martin, Principal and Parent

Melissa Hackmann, Pre-through-2nd Grade Department Head, Teacher, and Parent

Jennifer Hayter, Teacher and Parent

Online Plan

For families who opt in to full-time distance learning

- Tuition and fees are the same as on-campus rates.
- Teacher intentionally plans for recording/streaming of particular lessons for online viewing. Streaming and/or pre-recorded video supplements the distance learning.
- Intentional planning includes teacher staying on schedule for daily live online lessons.
- Math and Language Arts are required, other classes are subject to individualized learning plans.
- Online students are welcome to participate in special activities (chapel, class projects, etc.) by arranging with teachers in advance.
- Printers are recommended for home.
- Teacher scans work for posting online in Google Classroom, and for emailing to parents.
- Teacher pre-arranges procedures for worksheet distribution and turn-in. The preferred method is all-online. This method involves the teacher scanning and emailing work, followed by the student printing, scanning and emailing completed work.
- Students in this plan are guaranteed a spot in the classroom if you choose to resume on-campus learning.
- Students in this plan are guaranteed a spot in next year's class, and will be considered a re-enrolling student.

Morning-Only Plan

For families who want the best of both online and on-campus learning

- Tuition and fees are the same as on-campus rates.
- These students attend morning classes and go home prior to lunch.
- Students in this plan receive in-class instruction during our academic-heavy mornings.
- Grading, workload and expectations for morning classes are the same for students in this program as for full-day on-campus students.
- Teachers work with parents on an individual plan for workload and grading for afternoon classes.
- Math and Language Arts are required classes, even if they are normally scheduled for afternoons.
- Science, Social Studies, and Religion are subject to individualized learning plans.
- Students in this plan are guaranteed a spot in the classroom if/when you choose to resume full-time on-campus learning.
- Students in this plan are guaranteed a spot in next year's class, and will be considered a re-enrolling student.