

Grant School

Ridgefield Park, New Jersey 07660

Mrs. Natasha Hernandez, Principal (201) 641-0441; fax (201) 440-9579
Email: nhernandez@rpschools.net



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A cooperative school & home newsletter for the Grant School community

Bulldog News

The past month has shown just how resilient our families, students, teachers, and administrators are. Adjusting to virtual learning environments can be a challenge for anyone, but we have shown that we are up to the task thanks to the tireless efforts of the Grant School Community. We are seeing many wonderful things happening in our virtual classrooms. Students are engaged, acting responsibly, and producing wonderful work. The results thus far have shown that even though we are not face-to-face, we can still be active and productive learners.

As of today, the district is still closed to all non-essential staff members for health and safety reasons as you all know from the letter that was sent out by Dr. Bender. We are still planning on beginning our hybrid instruction model on October 19. Look for more information to follow in the upcoming days regarding the change over and what to expect moving forward.

Despite the lack of in person instruction, your children have had an extremely busy start to the 2020-2021 school year. From assessments in both English/Language Arts and Mathematics, to Art Projects and Music classes, teachers have been preparing them for what is to be expected for the remainder of this school year. These foundational activities have helped our faculty not only get to know their new students, but also provide valuable information about the concepts and skills that your child may not have mastered yet.

We know that our students are working very diligently on the lessons and tasks that have been presented to them thus far. We want to ensure that our students are in the best environment on a daily basis for them to be active learners despite being at home.

Here are some tips parents can follow:

- Set up a dedicated learning area within the home where your child(ren) can work during the school day.
- Encourage small breaks throughout the school day if possible to get away from the computer for a few minutes.
- Keep lines of communication open so that all of us can do our jobs as students, parents, and teachers to the best of our ability.

Please avoid the following:

- An environment that is distracting. Be aware of the surroundings and what might be seen and/or heard on camera during live sessions.
- Adults conversing with the teacher or other students during instruction. The hours of 8:30-12:30 are for student interaction with each other and the teacher. If you need to speak to a faculty member please make an appointment via phone or email for after school hours.

- Completing the school work for your children. We understand that students may find some lessons more challenging than others, but their work must be a true reflection of their academic ability. Don't be disappointed if it takes some time to master a skill. Please know that teachers are taking note of students' strengths and weaknesses so that they can be addressed appropriately in the classroom. Please be patient and support your child by using encouraging words.

If we all observe these practices it will make the remote experience, however long that may be, much more beneficial for all parties involved.

Please check out the important dates in this newsletter for happenings at Grant School, as well as important district-wide information. Thank you all for your patience and support during these very unique times.

DATES TO REMEMBER

Monday	October 12	Columbus Day - School Closed
Wednesday	October 14	Board of Ed Meeting - 7:30 pm
Monday	October 19	Anticipated First Day of Hybrid Learning
Thursday	October 22	Professional Development Day
Tuesday	November 3	Election Day - School Closed
Thursday-Friday	November 5-6	NJEA Convention - School Closed

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Ridgefield Park Public Schools

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