



SECONDARY VIRTUAL CONNECTION

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Dear Virtual Families,

It is hard to believe we are approaching Holiday Break (Dec. 23-Jan. 3) already. As we return from break there is only two-and-a-half weeks before the end of first semester (Jan. 19). If your student is behind in their coursework, please encourage them to reach out to their teachers and have a plan over break to get caught up. Teachers will be communicating with your student on dates/times for their final exams. The dates set aside for high school finals is Jan. 14-15 and 18-19.

In preparation for second semester, I am collaborating with the building principals to improve the "bell" schedule for Cohort C students. We are hoping at the high school level to have a schedule that would resemble the current times that our blended students are meeting. I am hopeful this will help to alleviate conflicts for both students and teachers for synchronous learning. This is a work in progress and when the times are finalized, we will communicate to families. If you have feedback on the first semester schedule or how we can improve the virtual learning experience, please reach out directly.

I hope you and your family have a safe, healthy, and relaxing holiday season. I am hopeful that 2021 provides some "normalcy" for everyone. If you or child needs any assistance please do not hesitate to reach out directly to your child's teacher, school counselor or myself. We are here to support you and your child on their educational journey.

Thanks for partnering with us in education,

Travis Hedtke
Virtual Secondary Programming Administrator
Eau Claire Area School District
715.852.3071



Holiday Break – Dec. 23 – Jan. 3

High School Exams – Jan. 14-15, 18-19

Start of 2nd semester – Jan. 21



SCHOOL LINKS

<http://www.ecasd.us/DeLong-Middle-School/Home>

<https://www.ecasd.us/Northstar-Middle-School/>

<https://www.ecasd.us/South-Middle-School/Home>

<https://www.ecasd.us/Memorial-High-School/>

<https://www.ecasd.us/North-High-School/Home>

IMPORTANT CONTACTS & RESOURCES

Virtual Learning Contacts: <https://www.ecasd.us/District/COVID-19/COVID-19-Virtual-Learning>

Technology Support/Resources: <https://www.ecasd.us/District/COVID-19/Tech-Support-and-Resources>

High School Student Services – Canvas page <https://ecasd.instructure.com/courses/34369>

Schedule for Virtual Pick-up Materials

Delong Material Pick-Up:

Cohort C students will be able to pick up materials on these dates: Jan 14 & 28, Feb 11 & 25, and March 11 from 7:00am to 4:30pm at door 1. Teachers will inform their students if they have materials to pick up. Items will be bagged and/or clearly marked with the student name in the door 1 lobby. Cohort C families may drop off library books and textbooks on material pick up days. These should be placed in the labeled bins.

Northstar Material Pick-Up:

Cohort C students will be able to pick up materials on these dates: Jan 14 & 28, Feb 11 & 25, and March 11 from 7:00am to 4:30pm at door 1. Teachers will inform their students if they have materials to pick up. Items will be bagged and/or clearly marked with the student name on tables within the door 1 lobby. Cohort C families may drop off library books and textbooks on materials pick up days. These should be placed in the labeled bins.

South Material Pick-Up:

Cohort C students will be able to pick up materials on these dates: Jan 14 & 28, Feb 11 & 25, and March 11 from 7:00am to 4:30pm at door 1. Teachers will inform their students if they have materials to pick up. Items will be bagged/or clearly marked with the student name in the attendance office. Cohort C families may drop off library books and textbooks on material pick up days. Place in labeled blue bin just inside the attendance office door.

Requesting Library Books at DeLong, Northstar, and South

Cohort C students may request books to be picked up on scheduled pickup days: Jan 14 & 28, Feb 11 & 25, and March 11. See your school's library website for instructions. We are happy to send home up to 6 books for you to enjoy reading. Those are also the days to return books you have finished. Email Mrs. Nord at mnord@ecasd.us with questions and happy reading!

MHS:

The next 100% Virtual/Cohort C pickup will be from 2-4PM on FRIDAY, Jan. 15, be outside of door 15 (the main entrance/attendance office). Pull up to the door and someone will come out. Students should send requests no later than 12 noon on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, to kroffers@ecasd.us. Your teachers will post the title of any book, workbook, or other materials you need to pick up that week in Canvas. Nothing posted, nothing to pick up. You will only get a response if there's a question. Study Sync workbooks do not need an e-mail. Please pick up previous requests or they will be checked back in. See you next Friday!

NHS:

The next 100% Virtual/Cohort C pickup will be from 2-4PM on FRIDAY, Jan. 15, outside door #7, back of the school off of Mercury Avenue. Students should send requests no later than 12 noon on TUESDAY, Jan. 12, to rbruchert@ecasd.us. Your teachers will post the title of any book, workbook, or other materials you need to pick up that week in Canvas. Nothing posted, nothing to pick up. You will only get a response if there's a question. Study Sync workbooks do not need an e-mail. Please pick up previous requests or they will be checked back in. See you next Friday!

Future Pick Up Dates:

Email request by:	For pickup on:
Jan. 26	Jan. 29
Feb. 9	Feb. 12
Feb. 23	Feb. 26

Overcoming the BIGGEST Challenges with Virtual Learning

AVOIDING DISTRACTIONS

- Emphasize personal accountability
- Celebrate when you reach your goals and other milestones
- Set goals and deadlines and stick to them
- Be specific about what work needs to be finished



FEELING ISOLATED

- Participate in discussions online, ask questions and be an active member of your online classes
- Socialize virtually with friends outside of school hours
- Join virtual clubs or programs offered by your school
- Join a study group or learning pod with other classmates and families

FINDING BALANCE

- Create a family schedule with specific goals and expectations
- Include and embrace taking breaks, especially from screen time
- Focus on self-care by embracing a new hobby or revisiting something you love to do
- Reach out to your teachers for additional support and resources



TECHNOLOGY ISSUES

- Familiarize yourself with the tools and technology used in the classroom and ask questions
- Review the rules for using technology safely and practice good digital citizenship
- Test out your equipment before class, including microphones, headphones, internet connection and passwords
- Contact your teachers or school if you run into any technical issues



ECASD SCHOOL MEALS

Free breakfast and lunch can be picked up at the following locations Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 9:30am:

- Delong (Parking lot entry from Moholt Drive – Door #7 in the back)
- Northstar (Parking lot entry from Abbe Hill Drive - Door #5 on the right side)
- South (Parking lot entry from Mitscher Ave – Door #7 facing Mitscher Ave)
- Memorial (Pull-up at Keith St. -- Door #4 facing Keith Street)
- North (Parking lot entry from Piedmont Street – Door #1 under the Husky)

Pick up areas will be outside each school listed above and will be served in a “grab and go” fashion.