



# DISTANCE LEARNING GUIDE

November 2020



## **OUR MISSION**

The New Community School empowers bright, talented students who are challenged by dyslexia and related learning differences. The innovative and research-based college preparatory curriculum uses a customized educational approach to build skills in language and math to foster academic and personal strengths - igniting the passions and gifts of unique minds.

## **OUR VISION**

The New Community School launches students with the knowledge, skills, and resilience to pursue their passions, navigate the opportunities and challenges of their world, and live their lives with courage, compassion, and purpose.

# Distance Learning Guide

As The New Community School transitions to the Distance Learning model over the holidays, this guide is designed to provide an overview of schedules, contacts, roles, and expectations. Please reach out to your child's advisor or division director with any questions you might have.

## School Schedule

November 23 - 27	School Closed for Thanksgiving Break
November 30	Professional Learning Day, No Classes
December 1	Classes Resume, All Grades Distance Learning
December 18	Noon Dismissal, Winter Break Begins
January 4	Classes Resume, All Grades Distance Learning
January 18	Martin Luther King Day, No Classes

At this time, on-campus learning is scheduled to resume on January 19. We will continue to coordinate with the Virginia Department of Health and will update our community if there are any changes to the schedule.



# Student Distance Learning Schedules

TNCS is dedicated to supporting students' access to education. To provide flexibility for instructional delivery, separate class schedules have been created for Grades 5 and 6, 7 and 8, and 9-12. No matter the grade, our revised schedule allows dedicated time not only for core academic courses, but also arts, electives, wellness, and student life programs. The social and emotional health of our students remains a top priority. Morning Advisory allows for more individual check-ins, changes to the health curriculum to help students develop resilience, and a continued focus on faculty health and well-being.

GRADES 5 & 6	
8:00 - 8:20	Advisory
8:25 - 9:05	Period 1
9:05 - 9:15	Screen Break
9:15 - 9:55	Period 2
9:55 - 10:05	Screen Break
10:05 - 10:45	Period 3
10:45 - 10:55	Screen Break
10:55 - 11:25	Wellness - Health and PE
11:25 - 11:35	Screen Break
11:35 - 12:15	Period 4
12:15 - 12:45	Lunch
12:45 - 1:25	Period 6
1:30 - 1:45	Advisory Check-in
1:45 - 2:45	Synchronous Support: Extra Help/Student Life as Scheduled
2:45 - 3:30 (3:00 on Wed)	Period 5: Electives (*optional)

GRADES 7 & 8	
8:00 – 8:15	Advisory
8:20 - 9:00	Period 1
9:00 - 9:10	Screen Break
9:10 - 9:50	Period 2
9:50 - 10:00	Screen Break
10:00 - 10:40	Period 3
10:40 - 10:50	Screen Break
10:50 - 11:30	Period 4
11:30 - 12:00	Lunch and cleanup
12:00 - 12:40	Period 5
12:40 - 12:50	Screen Break
12:50 - 1:30	Period 6
1:30 - 1:40	Screen Break
1:40 - 2:45 (on Weds, 1:40 Advisory check-in, followed by study appointments)	Electives (*optional)
2:45 - 3:25	Extra Help Student Life as scheduled

\*In grades 5-8, Electives are considered optional to allow for a screen break or for study appointments with core content teachers.

GRADES 9 - 12	
8:15-8:30	Advisory
8:30 - 8:35	Class transition
8:35 - 9:55	Period 1 (9:15 - 9:55 on Wed: Office Hours)
9:55 - 10:05	Screen Break
10:05 - 11:30 (A block 10:05 - 10:45) (B block 10:50 - 11:30)	Period 2
11:30 - 12:00	Lunch
12:00 - 1:25 (A block 12:00 - 12:40) (B block 12:45 - 1:25)	Period 3
1:25 - 1:35	Screen Break
1:35 - 3:00 (A block 1:35 - 2:15) (B block 2:20 - 3:00)	Period 4
3:00 - 3:10	Screen Break
3:10 - 3:40	Extra Help & Student Life

## If Your Student Is Sick

If your child is ill and unable to attend classes, please notify your child's advisor. If your child tests positive for COVID-19 while distance learning, we ask that you please notify School Nurse Noel Raggio at [nraggio@tncs.org](mailto:nraggio@tncs.org).



# Roles And Responsibilities

SCHOOL PERSONNEL ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
<b>COVID Response Team</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Use data to determine appropriate learning model to implement</li><li>• Establish clear channels of communications between faculty, staff, families, and students</li></ul>
<b>Leadership Team</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Support faculty, students, and families shifting between learning models</li><li>• Help teachers implement high-quality learning experiences for all students</li><li>• Support teachers and teams as they design new methods to assess student learning</li></ul>
<b>Teachers</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Collaborate with grade team and department members to design engaging learning experiences for students</li><li>• Communicate frequently with students and their parents</li><li>• Provide timely feedback to support your students' learning</li><li>• Implement the Guidelines for TNCS Teachers</li><li>• Focus on student-teacher relationships</li><li>• Keep Schoology page current and link assignments to the Schoology calendar</li><li>• Communicate with advisors, directors, and parents as issues arise</li></ul>
<b>Wellness Team</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Implement a comprehensive Health and Wellness Plan to support students, employees, and their families</li><li>• Provide resources, experiences, and guidance for students and employees to support their physical and emotional wellbeing</li></ul>
<b>Advisors</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Serve as liaison for communication with students and families</li><li>• Use virtual platforms to conduct advisory check-ins with students</li></ul>
<b>College and Career Counselor</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Continue to host virtual office hours at set times for students and parents</li><li>• Oversee Dual Enrollment</li><li>• Liaison with the College Board</li></ul>
<b>Tech Support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Review and develop how-to tutorials for teachers, students, and parents</li><li>• Continually monitor the needs of teachers, students, and parents and troubleshoot their challenges, as needed</li><li>• Be available to provide on-demand tech support help</li></ul>

STUDENT ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Establish daily routines.</li><li>• Identify a space in your home where you can work effectively and successfully.</li><li>• Complete assignments with integrity and academic honesty, doing your best work.</li><li>• Do your best to meet timelines, commitments, and due dates.</li><li>• Communicate proactively with your teachers if you cannot meet deadlines or require additional support.</li><li>• Collaborate and support your TNCS peers in their learning.</li><li>• Comply with TNCS's Handbook and Acceptable Use Policy, including expectations for health and safety and online etiquette.</li><li>• Proactively seek out and communicate with adults at TNCS as different needs arise (see below).</li><li>• When in online classes, have video on and show full face.</li><li>• Attend all classes, including Advisory, Extra Help, and study halls.</li></ul>	

## PARENT / GUARDIAN ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Provide support for your student by adhering to the Guidelines for TNCS Parents as well as you can.

- Establish routines and expectations.
- Define the physical space for your child's study.
- Monitor communications from your children's teachers.
- Begin and end each day with a check-in.
- Take an active role in helping your children process and own their learning.
- Establish times for quiet and reflection.
- Encourage physical activity and/or exercise.
- Remain mindful of your child's stress or worry.
- Keep your children social, but set rules around their social media interactions.
- Help limit your child's exposure to COVID-19 while outside of school by practicing physical distancing and by wearing a mask in public.



# Contacts

General Questions or Concerns	Student's Advisor
Divisional Questions	MS Division Director: Julie Oliver, <a href="mailto:joliver@tncs.org">joliver@tncs.org</a> US Division Director: Adam Rothschild, <a href="mailto:arothschild@tncs.org">arothschild@tncs.org</a>
Academic Questions or Concerns	Course Teacher
Technology-Related Problem or Issue	Jessica DelMonte, <a href="mailto:jdelmonte@tncs.org">jdelmonte@tncs.org</a>
Social-Emotional Concerns	Kevin DiFazio, <a href="mailto:kdifazio@tncs.org">kdifazio@tncs.org</a>
Health Concerns	Noel Raggio, <a href="mailto:nraggio@tncs.org">nraggio@tncs.org</a>

## Thank You For Your Partnership!

This year is off to a great start thanks to the diligence of our families, the dedication of our faculty and staff, and the resilience of our bright, talented students. Please continue to monitor school communications and our website for updated and detailed information about any changes to school plans.

If you have any questions, please send them to [info@tncs.org](mailto:info@tncs.org).

Stay Safe, Sabers!

