

How Can Teachers Advocate for a Sound Remote Learning Plan?

Last March, CFT leadership encouraged the Superintendent and her team to develop a plan that provided options for students to receive remote learning from their home school this academic year, and the idea was dismissed. We are outraged that, NOW, they are dumping the responsibility of developing a plan into the laps of the school staff! The Superintendent even admitted at the Board of Education meeting that there is not capacity for every teacher to livestream students into their classrooms.

We are calling on all teachers to stand together, speak up, and demand a plan that meets the needs of their students and is respectful of the work they do!

The Remote Learning Plan:

Must include an effective and engaging learning environment for students that provides opportunities for the teacher to assess and provide feedback on their progress. **Would you want your child to just sit and watch learning each day or participate in learning?**

Must **NOT** require double work for teachers (planning for in-person and remote instruction simultaneously). **If you agree to a plan that is not reasonable, how will this impact your students' learning and your evaluation?**

Must be informed by teacher teams and approved by ILT. **Is your team's representative on ILT taking a position that reflects the perspective of the team, or their opinion?**

Must request the resources (material or human) needed to implement the plan effectively. **If your building principal tells you that your requests cannot be considered, will you just settle for a plan that doesn't meet the students' needs or will you work with your principal and/or CFT leadership to find a better solution?**

Must communicate a deadline for students to opt-in to remote learning and communicate that their selection is final for the remainder of the year. **Do you have the staff allocated to go back and forth between blended and remote learning and wouldn't there be a loss of instruction time with so many transitions?**

As you develop the plans, please remember:

*The email from Deputy Superintendent, Tianay Amat, said to **customize** the plans based on your classroom needs and resources and it could include streaming, video, packets, etc. She also said the plan is fluid meaning you may have to change it after November 12.*

There was also mentioned in the Deputy Superintendent's email that the current CDA students were informed they can NOW return to their home school for remote learning. You will need to know the final number of students who are participating in this option to develop a plan.

Dedicating staff to work with these students via live Google Meet sessions may be the best plan in many buildings. Instead of staff being removed from your building via the Teacher Allocation Committee process, couldn't they be assigned to provide instruction to the remote learners?

Do you have a small number of students in each grade level desiring the remote option and you would like to consider combining with other schools to create one remote learning class? If so, email Kendra Phelps with the number of students per grade level or course at kpHELPS@cft-aft.org for guidance.

Please let the CFT staff know if you have developed a plan and it is not being acknowledged and/or you are not getting the support needed to implement it. We will stand with you and help to elevate the matter!