

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you are staying healthy! As we prepare to embark in the journey of distance learning there are a few things to keep in mind.

I have been getting many questions and concerns in regards to the 20 minute limit to gather your resources and materials from your classroom.

Many of you are worried and or anxious to not be able to get everything in the allotted time but please remember that you are not expected to bring your entire classroom. You are not expected to recreate your classroom or your instructional schedule while performing distance learning from home. There is flexibility in what and how you teach. For example, in reading that might mean that you continue to focus on promoting the love of reading by doing read alouds and or practicing and reviewing daily reading skills.

There is an understanding that we are going to deliver distance learning to the best of our abilities. The district does not expect students to sit on a computer for 7 hours and neither should we. Some students will not have a one-to-one on devices. Some upper grade students might be sharing the device with their younger siblings.

We also need to be mindful that we do not know what living situations some of our students are in. New learning might not happen due to their own personal struggles at home. We need to focus on letting students know that we are here for them and that we are in this together. Think: after all this is over, will your students truly remember the innovative lessons you did, or the fact that you helped relieve their stress and anxiety?

One suggestion I have when preparing your list of materials to pick up tomorrow, is to make your list by sections. For example, make a list of all the items that are by your desk, another one for the items in the back of the room and so on. This might help reduce the time you spend searching for items.

Professional Learning Opportunities

This week CTA's Instructional & Professional Development Department will be hosting free webinars for CTA members to sure we are ready for th challenges ahead. Click here to see the list of available webinars. Sign up for webinars and watch previous sections at HERE

SBUSD will also be providing professional development on Tuesday, 4/7 and Thursday, 4/9. Click here to see the list of available professional development.

Please continue to check our <u>SWTA website</u> and <u>SWTA Facebook</u> for updates and resources.

I know that you are all AMAZING educators and that you will do your best to deliver distance learning, support your students and support one another. Remember you are not alone, we are in this together! This situation can only make us stronger and more united!

United We Stand, Vanessa Barrera SWTA President