

Dear Jefferson Families,

I hope you enjoyed your spring break! A big thank you to those who have sent photos for our next video slide show – you can still send them to me at ekelley@everettsd.org by Wednesday! **Now that we know we won't return to in-person schooling this year**, you may have questions about what this means for your child. A helpful [district FAQ](#) addresses questions such as “Will my child go to the next grade?” and “What if my child is struggling next year?”

Teachers and staff are excited to re-engage with students this week. If we were returning to our classrooms, we'd spend time refocusing on expectations and routines, and ensuring strong relationships for this last stretch of the school year. We encourage you to do the same at home. Take a little time to talk as a family about how at-home learning was going in the three weeks before spring break. What routines were working well, and which need to be adjusted? What will each person commit to in order to ensure the strongest possible learning environment at home?

One way you can support with at-home learning is to **be responsive to teachers' e-mails, calls, and Google Classroom postings**. It's a good idea to check your junk e-mail folder periodically for misdirected e-mails. Don't forget that teachers' phone calls will show as blocked numbers. You can leave voicemails on teachers' classroom phones for a call back later.

As you re-establish routines this week, please make sure students are **working in about 45 minutes a week of i-Ready time** in reading, and another 45 minutes in math. This is the ideal amount of time for students to make consistent progress. Check out the i-Ready Family Center [here](#). Attached are “fridge tips” from i-Ready in both English and Spanish.

Everett Public Schools' Equity & Access team has organized the following **spirit days** this week. Share your family photos on our [Twitter account](#). Our handle is @EPS_Jefferson. Or e-mail them to me for inclusion in a slide show!

- Monday: Sports Day
- Tuesday: Red, White & Blue Day
- Wednesday: Hat Day
- Thursday: Pajama Day
- Friday: Denim Day

Social distancing is challenging in many ways. Children and adults alike can benefit from helping others during this time. In [this post](#), you'll find a variety of **acts of kindness** that you and your children can do together. Kindness is part of the Charger Code, at school and at home! Share your acts-of-kindness photos with us on Twitter or by e-mail, too.

Stay safe and well,

Elizabeth Kelley, principal

Fridge Tips for Using *i-Ready* During School Closures

To Maximize Their Learning

1. **Make a weekly learning plan** and write it down or print it out where everyone can see it. Start with the work their teachers have assigned*, and decide with your child when, where and how they'll complete it—be as specific or general as makes sense for you.
2. **Create a structure** around each lesson, using any or all of these elements:
 - **Before** the lesson, ask your child to tell you or write down what they think they will learn or what they may already know about the topic.
 - **During** the lesson, ask your child to write down what they are learning, take notes on the content, or show their work as appropriate.
 - **After** the lesson, ask your child to tell you or write down what they learned and whether it was different from what they expected to learn.
3. **Review the lessons they've passed** in the My Progress screen—if they're passing at least 7 out of every 10 lessons, that's a great sign. Discuss any problem areas with them, and communicate with their teacher if you think they need more help.

To Keep Them Engaged

1. **Connect your child's learning to their interests**, neighborhood, or family when possible. Making connections like this is one of the most powerful ways to make learning stick.
2. **Let your child use *i-Ready* when and where they feel most focused.** Some students like to "get in the zone" for up to an hour, while others learn best in smaller, more widely spaced chunks of time.
3. **Celebrate and reward hard work as well as success!** If your child's teacher has a classroom ritual for celebrating progress, like putting a marble in a jar for each lesson passed, see if there is something similar you can put in place at home.

To Avoid Frustration

1. **Just like your child, you don't need to have all the answers!** Keep talking, ask lots of questions, and enjoy the conversation!
2. **Remind your child that mistakes are part of learning.** Applaud them when they stick with it. *i-Ready* can be challenging, but if your child doesn't pass a lesson at first, remind them that they will have a chance to take it again. Encourage them to take their time, ask questions and write things down.
3. **Stay connected** by sharing your child's progress with their teachers, using any methods available (email, text, Google Classroom, etc.), and talk to other families about what's working for them.

*Your teacher may have provided you a target number of weekly *i-Ready* minutes for your child. If not, we've increased our recommendation to a maximum of 90 minutes per subject per week, given these extraordinary circumstances. You can see your child's weekly minutes spent on *i-Ready* lessons on the My Progress screen.

Consejos Para El Uso de *i-Ready* Durante el Cierre Escolar

...Para Maximizar El Aprendizaje

1. Haga un plan de aprendizaje semanal, escríbalo o imprímelo donde todos lo puedan ver. Comienza con las lecciones que su maestro le ha asignado*, y decida con su hijo o hija cuándo, dónde y cómo completarán su trabajo – sea tan específico o general como tenga más sentido para usted.
2. Cree una estructura alrededor de cada lección, utilizando cualquiera o todos de los siguientes elementos:
 - a. Antes de la lección: pídale a su hijo o hija que le diga o que le escriba que piensan que aprenderá o lo que saben sobre el tema.
 - b. Durante la lección: pídale a su hijo o hija que escriba lo que está aprendiendo, tomando notas o demostrando su trabajo si es adecuado.
 - c. Después de la lección: pídale a su hijo o hija que escriba lo que aprendió y si fue diferente de lo que esperaba aprender.
3. Revise las lecciones que su hijo o hija pasaron en la pantalla de “My Progress” – si están aprobando por lo menos 7 de las 10 lecciones, puede estar seguro que el o ella esta progresando en sus metas académicas.

...Para Mantenerlos Comprometidos

1. Si es posible, trata de relacionar el aprendizaje de su hijo o hija con sus intereses, su vecindario, o con su familia. Es una de las formas más ponderosas de retener el aprendizaje.
2. Deje que su hijo o hija use *i-Ready* cuando y donde se sientan de lo más enfocado. Algunos estudiantes les gusta enfocarse por hasta una hora, mientras que otros aprenden mejor en varios pequeños espacios de tiempo.
3. Celebre y recompense el esfuerzo así como el éxito de su hijo o hija. Si el maestro de su hijo o hija tiene un ritual de celebrar el progreso académico, como por ejemplo poner una canica en una jarra por cada lección aprobada, trate de hacer algo similar en su casa.

...Para Evitar La Frustración

1. Como tu hijo o hija, no necesitas tener todas las respuestas. Sigue hablando, haz muchas preguntas, y disfruta la conversación.
2. Recuérdale a su hijo o hija que los errores son partes del aprendizaje. Apláudelos cuando son perseverantes. *i-Ready* puede ser desafiante, pero recuérdale a su hijo o hija que si no aprueba una lección en el primer intento, va a tener una segunda oportunidad. Anímalo a que tu hijo o hija tome su tiempo, haga preguntas, y tome notas.
3. Manténgase conectado con el maestro de tu hijo o hija, compartiendo el progreso académico, y usando cualquier método disponible como: correo electrónico, texto, aula de google, entre otros. Habla con otras familias acerca de que método funciona para ellos.

*Es posible que su maestra le haya proporcionado un número objetivo para tu hijo o hija de minutos de *i-Ready* semanales. Si no lo han proporcionado, nuestra recomendación es un máximo de 90 minutos semanales por asignatura, en estas extremas circunstancias. Puede ver los minutos semanales de su hijo o hija dedicados a las lecciones de *i-Ready* en la pantalla “My Progress”.