
On-Line Instruction

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Wed, Jun 10, 2020 03:34 PM

Subject : On-Line Instruction**To :** schoolboard@philasd.org

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As a SDP teacher, I am writing to provide written testimony about on-line instruction. If full or a hybrid model on on-line instruction is going to occur next year, SDP needs to work closely with PFT to create clear criteria and job expectations. As part of this, one thing I think SDP should insist on is that teachers be required to hold "virtual check-in meetings" with families. These can be conducted on-line, by phone call, or by text, but the must occur at regular and on-going intervals for our students to succeed. Frankly, it broke my heart that some teachers bemoaned their students' lack of participation in on-line learning; yet, they also never reached out to families to assess barriers and challenges. This is inexcusable, and in my opinion, it means that we have failed to teach our students. A calendar of when these meetings should occur needs be created, and if we are teaching on-line, following this calendar should be part of our REQUIRED professional expectations and responsibilities.

And, as an SDP parent, I am gong to be brief: do not approve any non-essential expenses at this time. This includes spending and/or external contracts for professional development, wellness, and some of the other items I am seeing on this agenda. Please do not approve these expenses. We do not know what next year will bring, and all district funds need saved for the "unexpected".

Thank you for your consideration,
Kathleen Butts
SDP Parent and Teacher

Please excuse typos (sent from my phone due to a power outage)
