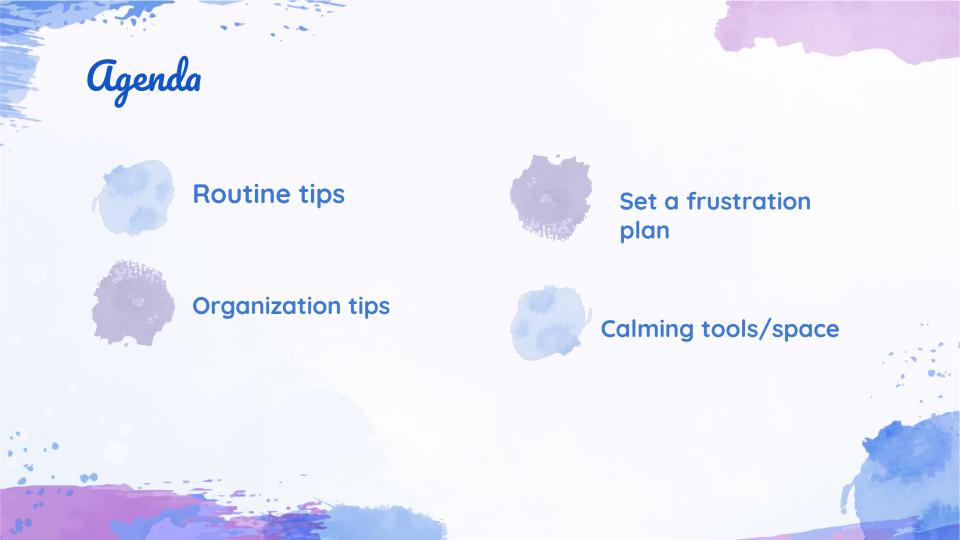


Jill Schindler, School Psychologist Amanda Lewis, First Grade Teacher Jameelah Jefferson, First Grade Teacher



"Beginning the day with a positive routine instills confidence that enables them to take risks and develop their potential with greater focus."

Specialized Therapy for Children & Families, LLC

Routine

Set a consistent wake-up time and morning routine that includes getting dressed for the day, eating breakfast, and "going" to the learning space that is not in bed

- Consider talking to your child about why this is important and allowing them to be a part of the decisions of what the morning routine will look like
- Make visuals, post schedules, to do list







Routine

If there is a lack of motivation, try spending time each day to discuss the daily schedule and highlight events to look forward to

- A special snack, preferred lunch, a certain class, or a preferred activity at break time
- Keep it fun: Set family spirit days like "sports day" where the family wears jerseys & does sports-related activities during break







Organization

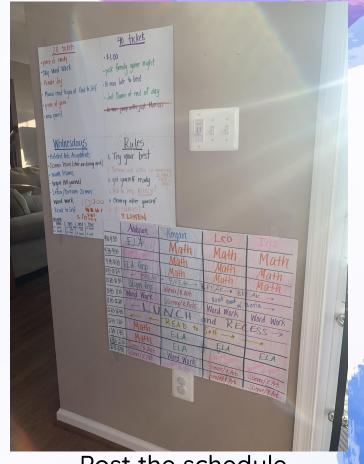
- Explain to your child what it means to be organized and why it's important
- Similar to the classroom desk, help your child organize a place for all school supplies
- Revisit your child's desk <u>often</u> to reorganize and refill
- Use labels to help keep things organized
- Clean up at the end of class/day
- Journal Organization: date each page, don't skip pages, use the back of each page, use the correct journal, use a sticky note/paper clip to mark current work

Quick at home tips:

Create a bin with all school supplies.

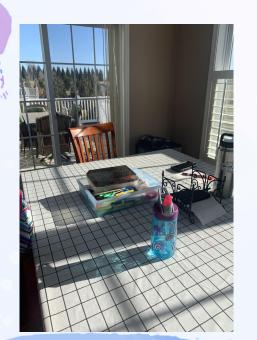






Post the schedule, rules, rewards in view.

Have a quite, designated Learning space away from distractions









Set Expectations

Help your child see a connection between expectations at school & expectations in the virtual learning space

Complete the DIVE Chart together



DIVE Expectations

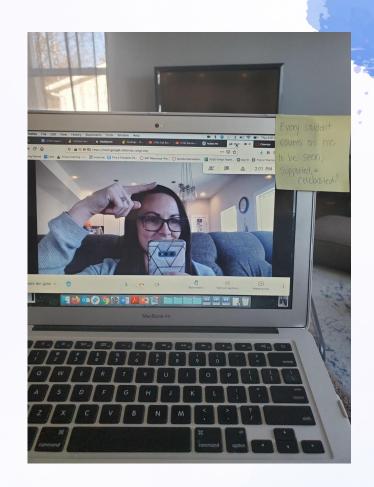


	Virtual Check-in: Google Meet	Independent Learning at Home	Non-Learning Time at Home
Dependable			
Involved & Organized			
V ery Respectful			
Effortful			

Quick tip:

Place a sticky note at the corner of the computer screen to keep your child motivated:

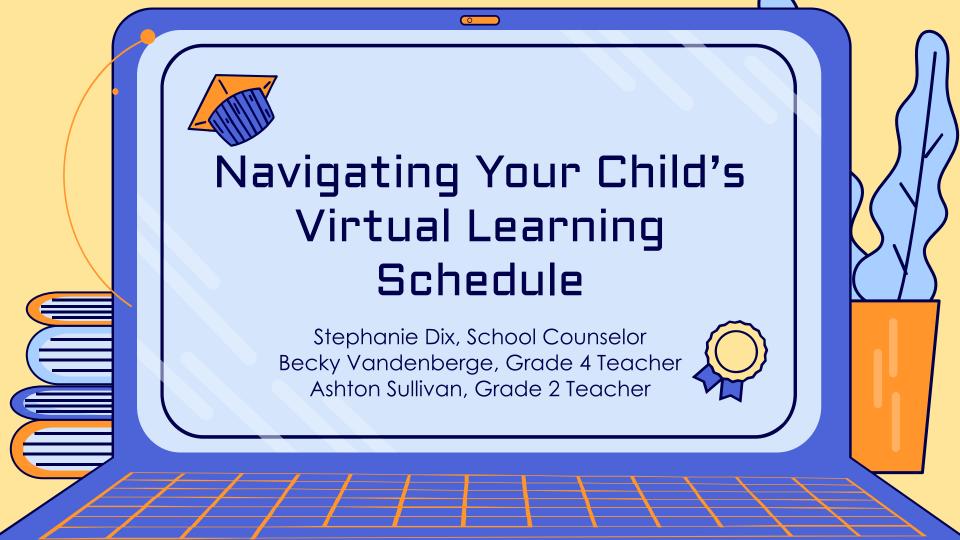
- positive affirmation or love note
- check off list of task to complete for the day
- A daily/weekly goal (tally chart)
- Reward child is working towards



Have a Frustration Plan

- Talk with your child about what to do if they need help or get frustrated
- Create a list (pictures) of these ideas and keep it visual in the learning space
- Practice and rehearse using the list
- Create a calming area in the home
 - Practice using calming tools & set clear expectations
 - Consider the 5 senses
 - Calming Box ideas: fidgets, gum, stress ball, lavender scents, timer, book, putty, play dough, music





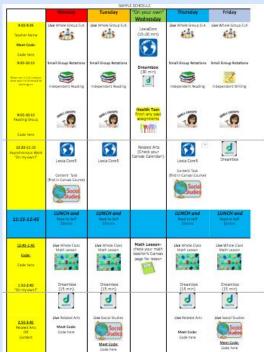
Agenda

- Usual schedule
- Built-in breaks
- Use of timers/alarms as reminders
- Canvas tips

Visual Schedule

Help your child feel a sense of control managing their own schedule

- Make it visual in the learning space
- Put the printed schedule inside of a clear protective
- sleeve. Using a dry-erase marker, you can add events that do not occur regularly such as a special lunch or a fun activity at break.



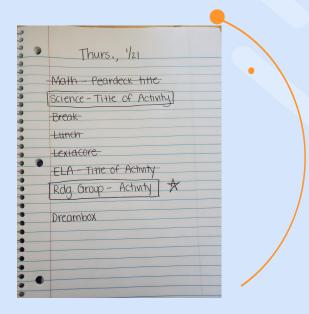


Consider adding the Teacher's Office Hours to the schedule in anticipation of joining!

Visual Schedule

Make it more manageable...

- Create a daily checklist after viewing expectations on Canvas
- Student can cross tasks off throughout the day
 - Journal
 - Sticky note
 - White board
- Checklists are especially helpful on Wednesdays







Build in Breaks

- Place water bottle across the room so they take a short walk to get it (while still in class)
- Consider changing up the learning scenery: New posters, moving the char, standing desk



Soothing Yoga Burst (10mins)

Practice gentle, restful poses to relieve tension and increase a sense of peace. Move through simple, seated yoga poses and breath deeply.

Great for: After lessons, bedtime



· Create a spaceship out of a

Create paper dolls and houses for

Create an imaginary creature and

cardboard box

write its story

Put together a puzzle

· Create a city with blocks

Make paper flowers or snowflakes

· Play Mad Libs and word searches

· Make a Rube Goldberg machine

· Create affirmation or kindness

. Build with LEGO bricks

with household items

· Learn to juggle





Quick Tip: Use a timer!

- Teach your child how to use a timer to remind them of class schedule or to structure a break
 - Use of tools like Alexa, an old phone, kitchen timer, online timer

Build Confidence with Positive Praise

- Easy reward system similar to our "Blue Ticket" system in school
- Set clear expectations of earning behavior together first such as completion of tasks, attending class, persistent effort
- Determine rewards together so your child knows what they are working for







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Build Confidence with Positive Praise

- Consider finding a few minutes each week to sit down with your child 1:1 for a positive pep-talk
- Encourage positive self-talk
- Focus on what is working well
- Celebrate successes often, even the small ones

Canvas Tips

Build confidence and increase a sense of control by asking your child to show you around his/her Canvas pages

Ask questions such as,

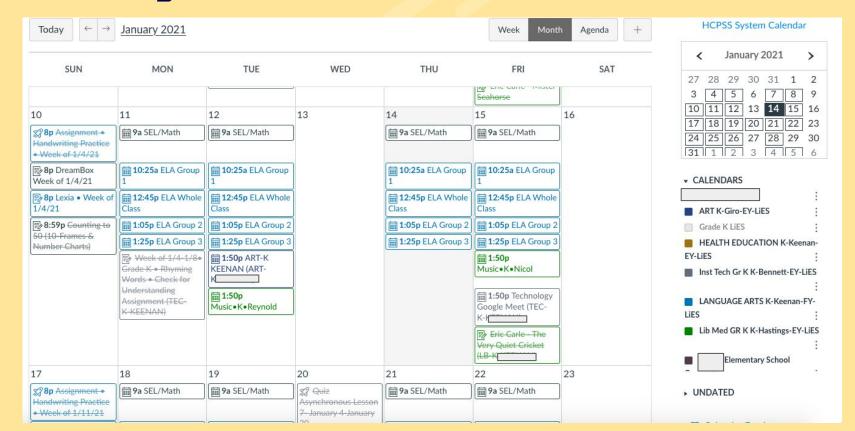
"How do you turn a task in to your teacher?"

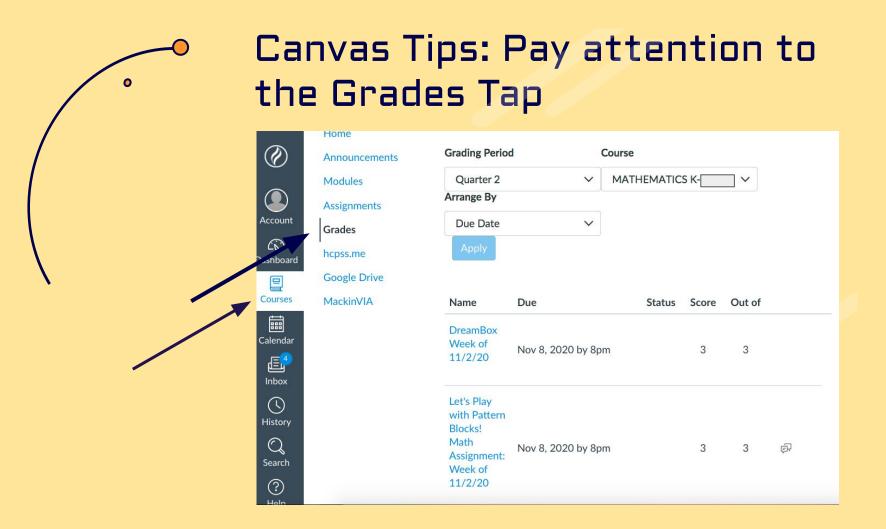
"How do you know the grade you earned on a task?"

"What do your announcements look like?"

"Can you show me the page of your favorite class right now?"

Encourage use of the Calendar to stay organized





Facilitating Your Child's Social & Emotional Well-Being

Presented by: Aubrey Roesener and Jocelyn Forrest





- Frequent positive praise
 - "I heard how you persisted through math today."
 - "Seeing how dependable you are with virtual school is awesome!"
 - "I can tell you put a lot of effort into this."
- Family mantra
- Make learning area fun, personalized

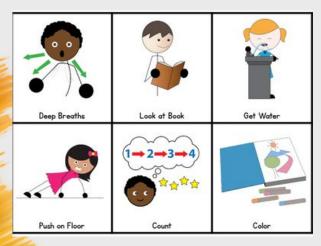


Set aside time to talk about what to do the next time a challenge pops up

- Create a chart or visual list of ideas your child comes up with
- PRACTICE! Role play different scenarios together
 - Include things he/she can say and do
 - Calming area













Increase Connections

Family Connections

- Journaling between child & adult
 - Family Lists on gratitude, goals, strengths

Friend Connections

- Video chats
- Connecting through games
 - Mailing postcard



Focus on the feeling, not the behavior

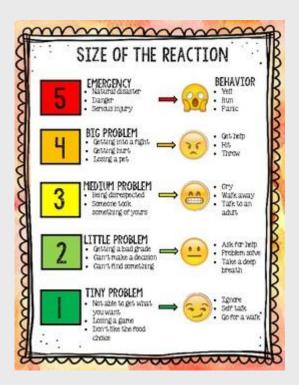
- Listen and validate emotions
 "It is okay to be angry, let's choose a way to work through this feeling safely."
 - Help your child name the feeling
 - Use calming area together
 - Model: Share your feelings out loud

"I am feeling overwhelmed, I am going to take a 2 minute break upstairs."

"I am feeling very frustrated, will you take deep breaths with me?"



Help your child understand the relationship between the size of the problem and the size of their reaction.





Neuroscience research shows that simply naming your feeling, acknowledging it out loud instead of holding it in, is a critical first step in decreasing the intensity.

- Normalize it: Talk about you feelings often, when you're driving somewhere, as you walk the dog, as you organize the room
- Notice them: Discuss feelings and coping strategies when you see them on TV or in movies

• Make it fun with a strategies hunt: Explore the internet for ideas on calming strategies that you and your child(ren) want to try. Create a list and rate each one as you try them!



Responding to negative talk takes practice.

If your child says something like, "I am stupid." or "I feel ugly." try **responding with empathy** instead of denying the feeling.

"I am sorry you feel this way. It must be very hard. I wish you could see yourself like I do."

"You feel like you don't look good enough? Do you want to brainstorm ideas on how to feel better?"

"That's a heavy feeling. Can you tell me more about it?"

"I am sorry to hear that you feel this way. What makes you think that?"

Healthy Habits

Eat Healthy snacks and meals!

Add Exercise to EVERY day!

Get SLEEP- Stay on schedule!



Feel free to contact a member of our Student Service Team for additional support or resources:

Stephanie Dix, School Counselor: Stephanie_Dix@HCPSS.org

Jill Schindler, School Psychologist: <u>JIll_Schindler@HCPSS.org</u>

Aubrey_Roesener@HCPSS.org

OR

Howard County Bureau of Behavioral Health 410-313-6202

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