

# NPS Home-Based Learning Options

2020-2021 School Year

# Purpose for Programs

- ▶ NPS recognizes that families may prefer a home-based educational model for a variety of reasons:
  - ▶ More control over the curriculum and content
  - ▶ Flexibility in school hours
  - ▶ Desire to include faith-based coursework
  - ▶ Student needs
  - ▶ Concern over attending school during the COVID-19 pandemic
  - ▶ Family travel

# Extensions Correspondence School

- ▶ Ms. Rachel Ventress, Extensions Teacher of Record
- ▶ Statewide correspondence program open to all students K-12 enrolled in NPS
- ▶ Parent-driven program with oversight from the Teacher of Record to ensure the Individual Learning Plan (ILP) meets state and local requirements - parents selects curriculum, delivers instruction, collects work samples and submits to Teacher of Record for grades/credit
- ▶ Students must be enrolled prior to September 30<sup>th</sup> to receive their education allotment
- ▶ Students who enroll then withdraw prior to the end of the first quarter must return all materials and are accountable for all expenditures

# ECS - Enrollment & ILP

- ▶ Students new to the DISTRICT will register through PowerSchool Registration portal and select Extensions
- ▶ Students who are not new to the District (or returning ECS students) wishing to transfer to Extensions should register through PowerSchool Registration for their previously assigned school and then email Ms. Ventress ([rventress@nomeschools.org](mailto:rventress@nomeschools.org)) and initiate the transfer request.
- ▶ Ms. Ventress will complete the Records Request for the student's last school, and contact the parent to set up an appointment to begin the Individual Learning Plan
- ▶ Enrollment in Extensions is not complete until the ILP is complete and all signed documents are received by Ms. Ventress

# ECS - ILP

- ▶ Core Courses - comprise at least 50% of the student's coursework (some exceptions may apply)
  - ▶ High School = English/Literature/Reading, Math, Social Studies/History/Geography, Science, Technology, World Language (includes ASL), courses required by an Individual Education Plan (IEP)
  - ▶ K-8 = Language/Literacy, Math
- ▶ ILP must contain strategies for students not scoring proficient on state assessments
- ▶ Parents will provide work samples for each subject each semester to the Teacher of Record

# ECS - Curriculum

- ▶ Extensions has an extensive list of approved curriculum available, and the list is regularly reviewed and revised. All curricula must be presented to the district for final approval.
- ▶ Curriculum must be aligned to Alaska State Standards
- ▶ Parents may design their own classes under the guidance of the Teacher of Record - must be approved by the District to receive credit
- ▶ Faith Based courses - can count towards credit, but are noted on high school transcripts as outside of the program. Cannot be purchased or reimbursed by ECS. Parents may privately obtain any curriculum - curriculum must reviewed and approved by the Teacher of Record.

# ECS - Contact Hours, Grades & Assessments

- ▶ Minimum contact hours (instruction) each day:
  - ▶ Kinder = 4 hours; Grades 1-6 = 5 hours; Grades 7-8 = 6 hours
  - ▶ High School - complete curriculum to receive credit, seat time should be approximately 37.5 hours per quarter per subject
- ▶ All grades are issued letter grades each quarter; parents submit progress reports and work samples to Teacher of Record
- ▶ Extensions students may participate in MAP testing; students are required to participate in state assessments (grade levels/subjects as set by State); English Learners are required to participate in ACCESS testing until proficiency criteria are reached; students in primary elementary grades participate in Early Literacy Assessment - PMAP

# ECS - Requirements

- ▶ Monthly contact with Teacher of Record (site visit, telephone call, email)
- ▶ Non-compliance with monthly contacts or testing participation may result in withdrawal from the program
- ▶ Academic counseling for high school students available through Nome-Beltz Middle/High School
- ▶ High School students must meet all district credit requirements to earn a diploma; students will be issued official NPS transcripts
- ▶ ECS students are eligible for the Alaska Scholars and Alaska Performance Scholarships if they meet the criteria



# ECS - Allotment

- ▶ Student allotments are for instructional expenses for the enrolled student
- ▶ All expenses must be directly related to the ILP and be reviewed and approved by the Teacher of Record and District Administration
- ▶ \$1,150 per semester per student
- ▶ Allowable Uses:
  - ▶ Curriculum purchases
  - ▶ Supplies and materials
  - ▶ Tutoring (specific requirements)
  - ▶ Musical instruments (specific requirements)
  - ▶ Internet costs (for online courses and supplemental materials)
  - ▶ And MORE

# ECS - Allotment

- ▶ All purchases are REIMBURSED - ECS does not purchase curriculum or materials on behalf of students - original receipts are REQUIRED
- ▶ Items of \$500 or more must be pre-approved, and remain property of NPS
- ▶ Technology purchases must be compatible with NPS systems; computers require a \$200 deposit (refunded when assets are returned to NPS)
- ▶ Any item purchased over \$250 must be returned to the district upon withdrawal or graduation; items under \$250 are considered consumable

# ECS - Allotment

- ▶ Expenses which are specifically NOT allowed
  - ▶ TVs, audio players and DVD players
  - ▶ Family Memberships/passes to sports or recreational facilities (individual student passes are allowed if aligned to courses in ILP)
  - ▶ Religious, partisan or denominational textbooks or curriculum materials
  - ▶ Services provided to the student by a family member
  - ▶ Pets or other animals (ant farms, reptiles, insects, etc.)
  - ▶ Furniture
  - ▶ Items considered excessive by the school administrator
- ▶ When in doubt, get pre-approved by Teacher of Record

# ECS - High School Courses and Activities

- ▶ ECS students may participate in sports at NBHS - must meet all requirements for attendance at practices, physicals, tryouts, regular grade checks
- ▶ ECS students may become members of the NBHS National Honor Society chapter upon meeting/maintaining membership criteria
- ▶ ECS students may participate in after school activities such as plays, etc. upon meeting the same participation criteria as NBHS students - ECS students must provide their own transportation to/from the school
- ▶ ECS high school students may take one class at NBHS without affecting their allotment - additional classes at NBHS will reduce their allotment

# ECS - Graduation

- ▶ ECS students receive a diploma from Extensions, NOT NBHS
- ▶ ECS students may participate in all NBHS graduation events, including Baccalaureate and Honors Night
- ▶ ECS students may attend NBHS dances with principal permission

# @Home in Nome - Overview

- ▶ Jennifer Shreve, NBHS Reading Teacher
- ▶ Virtual classroom program
  - ▶ Online curriculum provides all lessons, materials and assessments
  - ▶ K-12 curriculum is available
- ▶ Assigned Teacher from District
  - ▶ Teacher checks in at least once per week
  - ▶ Teacher provides tutoring and technical support
  - ▶ Teacher provides face to face meetings as needed
- ▶ District will provide computer - computer will only be able to connect to virtual classroom website and websites linked within program
- ▶ Students remain enrolled in their original school (ACSA, NES, NBHS) and can participate in all sports and activities as other children

# @Home in Nome - Parent Responsibility

- ▶ Parents provide oversight to ensure students are logging on regularly and following a daily schedule
- ▶ Parents communicate with @Home teacher regarding student needs
- ▶ Parents provide an appropriate home environment - consistent, adequate internet access, student work space with minimal distractions
- ▶ Parents provide support and encouragement to child

# @Home in Nome Is A Good Fit For Your Child If...

- ▶ Child is an independent, self-motivated learner
- ▶ Parent feels confident about student's success in an online learning environment
- ▶ Family can support student's learning at home
- ▶ Child is excited about learning at their own pace
- ▶ Child has regular access to stable internet and reasonable bandwidth
- ▶ Child is comfortable using computers and reading online
- ▶ Child can follow a schedule
- ▶ Child asks for help when needed
- ▶ An adult will be home to enforce schedule and assist student when needed



# @Home in Nome Is NOT A Good Fit For Your Child If...

- ▶ Child is not an independent or self-motivated learner
- ▶ Online learning feels like a last resort for your child
- ▶ Child will not have consistent access to stable internet and good bandwidth
- ▶ Parent is looking for something faster or easier than in-person learning
- ▶ Child doesn't usually ask for help on their own when needed
- ▶ Child doesn't like to spend much time on the computer
- ▶ Child struggles to follow a schedule
- ▶ Child tends to procrastinate
- ▶ Family will have difficulty having an adult at home to enforce schedule and assist student when needed

# @Home in Nome - Program Elements

- ▶ Classes are fully online - facilitated and monitored daily by certified NPS teacher
- ▶ Students receive regular grades each week in PowerSchool
- ▶ Students may participate fully in all sports and activities at their home school - must meet academic eligibility criteria
- ▶ Students receive "in person" check-in with their teacher at least once a week (phone call, Zoom/Google Meet)
- ▶ Students receive online check-ins from their teacher (text, email) daily
- ▶ Students must login and work on classes each school day
- ▶ Teachers will provide tutoring in virtual or face-to-face format as needed

# @Home in Nome - Student Services

- ▶ Students on Individual Education Plans (IEPs) will receive appropriate services as defined in their IEPs through online video conferencing with their special education teacher or aide, or from outside service providers such as PT, OT, Speech, etc. Face to face service needs will be determined on a case-by-case basis. IEP modification may be required for participation in program.
- ▶ Student classes will continue uninterrupted by changes to NPS Risk Level

# @Home in Nome - Conditions

- ▶ Classes align with state standards but are NOT the same as in-person classes
- ▶ Class schedules align with regular school calendar (no school for inservice days, holidays, etc.)
- ▶ Transfers between @Home in Nome and in-person learning at the child's home school will be permitted at semester
- ▶ Parents who choose to enroll their child in the program will be committed to the classes for the semester to ensure stability and instructional consistency and continuity
- ▶ Courses will be aligned to those the student would receive at their home school - i.e., high school schedules will match as closely as possible to their original planned schedule
- ▶ Families may opt for high school students to participate in some in-person classes at NBHS

# @Home in Nome - Enrollment

- ▶ Students register with their home school (both NEW to district and returning from last year) - parent/guardian will contact the school secretary to request program enrollment form.
- ▶ @Home Teacher will contact parent/guardian to review/confirm class selection and determine best mode of communication for both parent and student
- ▶ Parent/guardian will receive login information (student also via their NPS Gmail account) for program
- ▶ @Home Teacher will follow up within 1-2 days to ensure student is able to login and access courses and begin coursework

# QUESTIONS?

- ▶ If there is not time to answer YOUR question, please email Ms. Ventress at [rventress@nomeschools.org](mailto:rventress@nomeschools.org) for ECS questions, and Ms. Shreve at [jshreve@nomeschools.org](mailto:jshreve@nomeschools.org) for @Home in Nome questions