



Options For Youth

Public Charter Schools

March 31, 2020

Dear OFY Families,

We hope that you and your loved ones are healthy and finding ways to stay active while following California's stay-at-home order. We want to remind you that the OFY code of conduct applies to distance learning environments just as it does on campus. We expect that students will conduct themselves in virtual classrooms with the same measure of respect and participation as they would in a physical classroom, and that only appropriate content will be produced and shared on any remote learning platform.

As you have probably experienced at some point or another, remote communication presents unique challenges. For example, it can be easy for the meaning of a written message to be misinterpreted. We've put together some netiquette (online etiquette) tips to help you navigate this new online landscape:

- You are not anonymous. Assume everything you type will be read.
- Don't type in all caps, it can feel like you're yelling at your audience.
- Avoid using abbreviations or shorthand like you would in a text message.
- Limit jokes and sarcasm. Humor can be difficult to translate without the support of body language and voice intonation.
- Reread your post or assignment before you submit it online and ask yourself, "Does this sound the way I want it to? Is it kind, respectful, and on-topic?"
- Be kind and respectful to others, and stay on-topic!
- If you're encountering any issues with a classmate, let your teacher know right away.

If a staff member notices any inappropriate posting or disruptive online behavior, he or she will immediately contact the students' parent or guardian.

Parents, we ask that you please monitor your child's activity online and help them make good decisions. The mental, physical, emotional, and academic health of our OFY community requires commitment from all of us. Of course, if you have any questions or concerns about your child's progress online, please reach out to their teacher. Remember that though we can't be next you, we are always here for you.

Sincerely,

Options For Youth Leadership