



Remote Learning Decisions April 8, 2020 **For High School Students and Families**

The Administrative team at SCS continues to monitor the changing situation with concerns related to COVID19. This includes the feedback we are receiving from families through our parent surveys and other sources. Remote learning is a new venture for SCS and we are trying to strike the right balance between high academic quality and the needs of families who are feeling stretched thin in this challenging time. One concern we clearly heard in our parent surveys was that the student workload feels more intense than usual. In that regard the high school faculty have been asked to make some student workload adjustments in an effort to reduce the stress and strain our families have expressed. The following items are the most recent decisions reached in that regard by the SCS Administrative Team.

1. How much time should high school students expect to spend each day on course assignments outside of the scheduled 30 minute Zoom sessions?

30 minutes for Math and English and 15 minutes for all other courses. Under normal operations our class periods are 48 minutes in length. During this time of remote learning our Zoom sessions last a maximum of 30 minutes with a fifteen minute gap between each session. If course work is kept to a fifteen minute maximum, students should be able to complete all of their work during the regularly scheduled school day. The exception will be for course work in Math and Language Arts; essentially we are allowing for 15 minutes of “homework” in each of these courses.

2. Why is Math and English allowed more course work time?

Given the importance of these two subjects for students to perform well on standardized tests and other such college entrance requirements, we want to ensure that we maintain our rigor in these two areas. Math is a subject that requires time to practice solving different types of problems. English requires ample time for reading and writing.

3. What should parents do if they find that their students are spending more than the recommended amount of time on course work?

It can be difficult for teachers to gauge exactly how much time an assignment will take. If you find that your student is regularly spending more than the suggested amount of time on course work it would be helpful to the teachers if you shared that information



with them. Please email the course teacher and copy the high school principal, Mr. Martell, to make us aware of your experiences. The course teacher will respond to your concerns.

4. How much course work will be assigned on Fridays when there are no Zoom sessions?

From this date forward, coursework will only be assigned on Fridays for the four core content areas (Math, Science, Social Studies, and English). Course work may also be assigned for any SEU dual enrollment course. This course work should not average more than 45 minutes to one hour per course. Elective courses will not assign coursework on Fridays.

5. What if I don't want my student to have a decreased workload?

Reach out to the teachers of the courses where you are concerned. They will work with you to add extra academic practice to their course.



6. What if I still have unanswered questions?

For questions about...	Contact...
For the most up-to-date information and resources, please refer to the SCS Remote Learning Resource Center on the SCS website.	Remote Learning Resource Center
A course, an assignment, or a class resource	The teacher of that course. Teachers will be available on weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Teachers can be contacted via email or through the class chat. Teachers will respond by the next business day to messages received after 3:30 p.m.
A technology problem	Email Support@SarasotaChristian.org . Messages received after 3:30 by tech support will be responded to on the next business day.
A personal or social-emotional concern.	Email Mrs. Schwartz, the SCS guidance counselor at aschwartz@sarasotachristian.org
Other issues related to online learning	Email Mr. Martell, the high school principal at mmartell@sarasotachristian.org