

Schools

### Roycemore Faculty “Go the Distance” with Remote Instruction

Roycemore School faculty were poised to shift quickly to a remote learning platform and continue to engage students in innovative new ways.

By Roycemore School, Community Contributor

Apr 9, 2020 9:27 am CT | Updated Apr 9, 2020 10:24 am CT

Like 36 Share

Reply

*This post was contributed by a community member.*



Upper School student, Cara Marantz, takes her fingerprints for a Roycemore Forensic Science class that has moved online.

After the sudden closing of Chicago private and public schools, leaving a couple of days to plan for remote learning, Roycemore School faculty were already uniquely prepared to shift to a customized and flexible instruction style. Their transition was seamless when it began on March 17.



LILICLOTH UP TO 50%

A few weeks after launching remote instruction, the school's faculty continues to harness a range of technology and allow creativity to flourish in virtual classrooms during COVID-19 disruptions.

### Subscribe

Teachers have found creative ways to use Google Classroom, Google Meet, Flip Grid, Loom, Edmodo, Slack, and Kahoot to keep students connected to each other during the day, and providing a variety of opportunities to produce and share their work.

Teachers log in and meet in a synchronous way with their classes when possible, and provide “live” office hours throughout the school day. The pace and rigor of instruction continues—but with a new level of energy and ingenuity.

### 20+ Popular Stocking

TopCrate

Beth Shatters, Roycemore's Director of Curriculum and Innovation, says maintaining students' engagement, momentum, and offering support through the process as they adapt to working from a variety of home environments is a priority.

*“As soon as it was clear we would need to move online, we developed a simple [remote learning framework](#) which encouraged faculty to post work every day, be available to their students, teach with familiar tools, collaborate with one another, and be flexible. Teachers in all divisions worked tirelessly to move their instruction online and adapted their teaching to support students in innovative ways. We are all working hard to not only to continue to teach academic content, but also to offer social-emotional support through our Advisory program and close student-teacher relationships.”*

Lower and Middle School teachers have reimagined instruction, finding inventive ways to maintain the energy of a traditional classroom. From filming kitchen table science experiments, singing lesson plans to students, engaging parents (and even family pets) in projects, sharing poetry, and repurposing household items for assignments, curriculum continues to move ahead at the same pace, albeit in fresh new ways.

Roycemore has always valued the connection between faculty, students, and parents, and even more so now during this time of social distancing. The school's [Roycemore Family Page](#) was created specifically to provide additional ways for everyone in the school community to stay connected through video shares, virtual field trips, community posts, photos, contests, and a Griffin Gratitude Wall.

Elementary and Middle School students and parents rely on faculty to ensure learning from home sustains critical momentum. Ironically, COVID-19's challenges have also brought an unintended positive consequence, as students of all ages are demonstrating a new level of



Senior Cara Marantz may be headed off to Dartmouth College in the fall, but her focus is finishing the academic year strong and preparing for the challenges of college level courses at an Ivy League institution.

Upper School Science and STEM teacher, Dr. Dan Dudek, works with Marantz in Forensic Science and demonstrates how a lab course can be [taught effectively online](#) using Zoom to demonstrate the ins and outs of fingerprint analysis, from broad classifications such as loops and arches, to more specific ridge features like islands and bifurcations. Using pencil lead and Scotch tape, Marantz lifted her own prints at home and classified each one accordingly.

For Marantz and other high schoolers, maintaining rigor in their college prep curriculum is something she—and her Roycemore teachers—don't take lightly.

According to Head of School Adrienne Finley Odell, Roycemore remains committed to their mission, “to inspire and nurture excellence and prepare each student for success in higher education and in a dynamic and complex world.”

In addition, Finley Odell says, *“One of the many lessons we have learned during this pandemic is that our mission is more relevant than ever, and we are fully committed to living this mission in the midst of a local and global crisis. We must nurture and cultivate the capacities of our young people to think critically, to work in teams, to be adaptive, and to develop the social and emotional intelligence that will enable them to build resiliency in the face of the incredible changes that are ahead of them.”*



Roycemore teacher, Amy Milner, checks in with a Middle School student as part of an outreach initiative to offer social and emotional support.



A Lower School student at engages online with teachers and classmates as a way to stay motivated and connected in their academic learning.

The views expressed in this post are the author's own. Want to post on Patch? [Register for a user account.](#)

[Reply to this article >](#)

### More from Evanston, IL

News | 18h



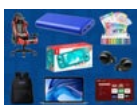
**Illinois Gun Permits Break Records Amid Pandemic, Civil Unrest**

News | 1h



**Flight Attendant's Accused Killer Arrested After 21-Year Manhunt**

News | Nov 19



**Best Holiday Gifts For Teenagers 2020**

[See more on Patch >](#)

### Around the Web

