

Script n° :13

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Telework, remote learning could slow WiFi during coronavirus outbreak | FOX 5 DC

12 March 2020

Some might have concerns about the coronavirus, prompting some local and federal government offices and even businesses to prepare employees to telework if necessary. Schools are also working to come up with plans but the question is do we have the technology available to support it all especially if it's all at once?

Lauren DeMarco is live in Arlington tonight with a look. Lauren?

Hey Sharon. Well here at McKinley elementary school and all schools across Arlington County, today third through fifth graders were sent home with their assigned iPads. Secondary students sent home with their laptops. It is the first time that they've taken these devices home and a school spokesman tells me that they will be doing so for the foreseeable future, in case the schools need to close.

Officials want each student to test and make sure that they can connect via Wi-Fi in the event that they need to institute remote learning. With companies and governments preparing for telework as well, it could mean a lot of full houses, parents and kids, all at home and plugged in.

We asked tech expert and developer Pete Erickson if that could tax the system so to speak. He says we may notice some slower Wi-Fi but he is more concerned with the networks or VPN.

The Virtual Private Networks are usually there for like a cluster of people using them at any one time but never the entire company. So you're gonna hear a lot more about these Virtual Private Networks and their abilities and their capacities to have, you know, thousands or tens of thousands or in some companies cases hundreds of thousands of people on them at the same time. I don't know what - you know - the schools have from a Virtual Private Network standpoint but I think they each have their own security protocols. Again, they are probably not intended to have every one of their students accessing it at the same time.

In Arlington, the schools use a program called canvas learning management system. A spokesperson for the school says the company's servers should have the capability to ramp up increased capacity as more people connect. They also plan to provide Wi-Fi cards for any student who needs it. Again so far the schools here remain open this is just precautionary preparations. In Fairfax and DC, the schools are actually closing on Monday so that they can prepare for students to learn from home if necessary. Now, Pete Erikson who we spoke to there, says this is a really good time for anyone at home to go through, check your Wi-Fi password and change it, maybe upgrade to something stronger if you're going to be doing work from home.

**RÉDIGER SUR CETTE PAGE
LA FICHE DESCRIPTIVE DE LA SITUATION PROPOSÉE**

1^{re} PARTIE, DESTINÉE AU CANDIDAT

SITUATION PROPOSÉE (*rédiger ci-dessous en langue anglaise, utiliser autant de place que nécessaire*) :

You are a network technician in a school. The school director is making plans to lock down the school and wants to know what can be done to make everything go smoothly with remote learning.

The examiner plays the part of the school director.

2^e PARTIE, DESTINÉE À L'EXAMINATEUR

ATTENDUS (*rédiger ci-dessous, utiliser autant de place que nécessaire*) :

QUESTIONS CLÉS (*rédiger ci-dessous, utiliser autant de place que nécessaire*) :

What can we implement to facilitate remote learning?

What can be done to prevent hacking?

Do the students / teachers have the necessary tools to keep on studying / teaching from home ?

SOLUTION(S) ATTENDUE(S) (*rédiger ci-dessous, utiliser autant de place que nécessaire*) :

Anything related to cybersecurity

Anything related to tools that allow telecommuting and remote learning