REMOTE LEARNING
CONSIDERATIONS
MERCED/MARIPOSA CTA STAFF

Contacting Students and Parents
✓ It is our recommendation that you do NOT share your personal cell or home phone with students or parents. Consider using Remind, Google Phone, or other online resources.
✓ Use your classroom phone if you feel comfortable and that is possible.
✓ If all else fails, type *67 before making a call and this will block your number.
✓ Do not answer calls from unknown numbers. Wait for them to leave a message.

Virtual Meetings With students
✓ We discourage the use of one-on-one or group video conferencing because we believe there is potential for things to happen beyond your control that could be bad.
✓ If you are required to use Zoom or some other video conferencing platform the district should be required to provide training for all staff.
✓ The District should also be required to send guidelines and expectations for use of remote learning platforms to all staff, students, and parents.
✓ These guidelines should include consequences for violation of the expectations.
✓ The Association could issue a demand to bargain, or at a minimum, consult on these guidelines.

Some Personal Suggestions for Holding Virtual Meetings
✓ Make sure your background is free of anything that could be considered offensive, like political messages, empty (or full) wine bottles, etc.
✓ Make sure you are wearing appropriate clothing – nothing political, no beer t-shirts, avoid anything with advertising or pictures.
✓ If you are using Zoom, consider adding a virtual background such as a picture instead of allowing viewers to see your home.
✓ Make sure your children, spouse, or pets are not doing something in the background.
✓ You should NOT to be in a chatroom with just yourself and one student.
Some Technical Suggestions for Holding Virtual Meetings

✓ Consider disabling the student’s ability to share their screens.
✓ You can also disable your student’s video/audio sharing in the settings of a Zoom meeting – and possible other platforms (this should be part of the training you receive).
✓ Only send links to your students via email. Posting them on your webpage, Facebook, Twitter or the like could lead to “Zoom Bombing” – people actually look for open meetings in order to do interesting or inappropriate things.

Remember It Is Still Your Classroom

✓ Indicate at the beginning of the session that it may not be recorded.
✓ Set clear expectations for student behavior and review it at the beginning of every online session.
✓ If you see a student with inappropriate clothing (alcohol, drugs, foul language on their shirt), address it immediately.
✓ Try to set the meeting so chat cannot start until you join the meeting.
✓ Any behavior online that you would not allow in your classroom should be documented and reported to the administration immediately via the usual protocol.
✓ If the camera is off or the device does not show the students name, do not allow them in the meeting.
✓ Make it clear that the meeting is only for students. If parents have a questions, they should contact the teacher.