

Continuity of Education Plan Tyrone Area School District

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Goal of Plan

In response to Pennsylvania Governor Wolf's orders issued on March 13, 2020 and updated on March 24, 2020 and in light of Pennsylvania Act 13 of 2020, enacted on March 27, 2020, regarding school closures, this document outlines the Tyrone Area School District's plan for "Continuity of Education."

The T ASD is committed to continue to provide the best education possible for each student under these continually evolving circumstances using technology tools, remote instructional strategies, and traditional paper/pencil methods.

Overview of Plan

of the school closure, with the opportunity to make plan adjustments as needed throughout the The Pennsylvania Department of Education has used the term "continuity of education" to broadly describe educational practices that occur in the event of a prolonged school closure. In order to provide continuity of education for all students in the most appropriate and accessible ways possible, while also adhering to the Governor's orders for social distancing, districts may utilize either one or a combination of the following:

- **Planned Instruction** – Planned instruction is formal teaching and learning similar to that which occurs in a classroom setting. Within this process, teachers use planned courses of instruction of new concepts/skills aligned to grade level/course standards.
- **Enrichment and Review** – Enrichment and review consists of informal activities that reinforce or extend students' prior learning. New standards and skills are not addressed through Enrichment and Review.

These options can take a variety of forms, including online/digital learning opportunities and non-digital learning opportunities (ex. materials provided to students on paper). The occasion to employ one or both methods is made at the local level based on feasibility, availability of resources, access and equity considerations, and in accordance with aggressive social distancing guidelines. Districts must work to meet the needs of all learners, including the provision of free and appropriate public education (FAPE) for students with disabilities and supports for English language learners.

This plan outlines the steps taken by Tyrone Area School District to promote and provide continuity of education for its students. T ASD will employ a combination of Enrichment/Review and Planned Instruction to provide for student education for the duration closure.

All state assessments for the 2019-20 school year have been cancelled – PSSA, PASA, Keystone Exams, NOCTI, and NIMS. Students in the TASD who are PASA eligible completed the assessments prior to the school closure on March 13, 2020.

Expectations for Teaching and Learning

Tyrone Area High School

Each teacher of students in grades 9-12 will provide planned instruction (self-paced activities/lessons) for students that will equate to approximately three (3) hours per week. Ultimately, students will interact with assignments for an approximate total of twenty-one (21) hours per week. This is an approximate figure as students will work at their own pace. These activities/lessons will be posted in each teacher's course in Canvas with due dates indicated for completion. Teachers will continue to differentiate instruction and grade student work.

Students will be expected to log into their Canvas account daily to interact with their courses, check messages, etc. Students without internet/reliable internet access will be provided with a paper packet containing each week's assignments if they are not able to obtain internet access via another source.

The Fourth Marking period will last from April 13th – June 4th.

In addition, 9th – 12th grade teachers will be available to students and parents for questions and support via Zoom or Google Meet on regular days and times to be published at the building level. *(Please note that teachers will not be available on scheduled school holidays.)*

Teachers will communicate specific instructions on how to connect with them.

Tyrone Cyber Academy (all students)

The Tyrone Cyber Academy will continue with the virtual learning courses already assigned to them using the Edmentum and Canvas platforms. Students will continue to be graded by their assigned teachers and can seek assistance as they normally would, through the Cyber Academy Coordinator or classroom teacher.

Tyrone Area Middle School (grades 5th – 8th)

Beginning on April 27, 2020, teachers of core subjects in grades 5-8 will move forward with planned instruction, reducing the remainder of their courses to the most essential course content needed. Teachers will work with one another, as well as teachers of the next grade level or course to help determine these skills and standards. Students will be required to complete the activities posted by teachers each week. Enrichment and review of previously learned content will continue to be integrated with new instruction to ensure that students maintain mastery of foundational knowledge and content. Special subjects teachers and those who teach elective courses will continue to provide students with enrichment and review, self-paced activities/lessons for students that are optional, but aligned to the state standards.

All work will be available online via the district website on learning templates, as well as through the teachers' and students' Canvas accounts. Students without internet/reliable internet access will be able to obtain a paper packet containing each week's assignments.

In addition, teachers will be available via Zoom or Google Meet on regular days and times to be published at the building level. *(Please note that teachers will not be available on scheduled school holidays.)*

Teachers will communicate the specifics of how to connect with them.

Tyrone Area Elementary School (grades PreK-4th)

Beginning on May 4, 2020, teachers of core subjects in grades PreK-4 will move forward with required planned instruction, reducing the remainder of their courses to the most essential course content needed. Teachers will work with one another, as well as teachers of the next grade level or course to help determine these skills and standards. Enrichment and review of previously learned content will continue to be integrated with new instruction to ensure that students maintain mastery of foundational knowledge and content. Special subjects teachers and those who teach elective courses will continue to provide students with enrichment and review, self-paced activities/lessons for students that are optional, but aligned to the state standards.

All work will be available online via the district website on learning templates. Teachers may also use Google Classroom, as applicable. Students without internet/reliable internet access will be able to obtain a paper packet containing each week's assignments.

In addition, teachers will be available via Zoom or Google Meet on regular days and times to be published at the building level. *(Please note that teachers will not be available on scheduled school holidays.)*

Teachers will communicate the specifics of how to connect with them.

These procedures are subject to change; at which time, changes will be recommunicated to all TASD stakeholders in a timely manner.

Communication Tools and Strategies

TASD administration will continue to utilize the following methods to communicate with parents:

- TASD website: www.tyrone.k12.pa.us
- School Messenger: Phone and Email
- Social Media: TASD Facebook page
- TAHS Eagle Eye News

TASD teachers will communicate with parents and students via:

- Canvas and/or Google Classroom
- Sapphire Community Web Portal
- Remind
- Class Dojo
- Email
- Telephone
- Web conferencing tools (Google Meet; Zoom)

Access (Devices, Handouts)

TASD provides 1:1 Chromebooks for students in grades 5 through 12. Although students in grades 5-8 do not normally have a take home option, the district has offered a pickup to students in these grade levels. Students without devices or internet access at home will be provided with paper/pencil documents will be provided. In addition, 3rd and 4th grade students will also be offered the use of district-issued Chromebooks to assist with device access at home.

Students in grades PreK – 2 will have the option to use at home devices to interact with the activities or use the paper/pencil documents provided.

For questions regarding technology access (connectivity, hardware, passwords), contact:

TASD Helpspot – helpspot@tyrone.k12.pa.us
Mr. Glen Drager – grdrager@tyrone.k12.pa.us

Educational Application (Platforms, Handouts)

Some of the educational platforms and applications that will be utilized by TASD include, but are not limited to:

Canvas	Google Classroom	iReady
IXL	Study Island	Go Math! (Think Central)
Get More Math	Edmentum	Bridges
Newsela	Safari Montage	Discovery Streaming
Learning.com	Google Suite	Google Meet
Zoom	Microsoft Teams	Microsoft Suite
Quizlet	Kahoot	CK-12
Rocket Math		

General Staff Expectations

The foundation of a high quality public education is built upon the relationships and engagement between teachers and students that occur in a face-to-face environment. It is through the development of those relationships that teachers can facilitate learning for all students through a variety of methods. Through this plan, teachers are not expected to replicate their face-to-face instructional practices, instruction, and assessment. There is a level of rigor, relevance, and engagement that teachers and staff facilitate in person that cannot be duplicated online or via paper/pencil packets.

Teachers will be available to students and families during published "office hours" to provide feedback, answer questions, etc. Outside of published "office hours," teachers will receive emails and phone messages and will return those in a timely fashion (generally within 24 hours).

- Teachers and staff should share their Zoom/Google Meet/etc. information with their students and families.
- Teachers will include at least one other staff member in their web conferencing session. Teachers are encouraged to record the sessions and inform the students if doing so.
- Faculty (including teachers, counselors, school nurses, and licensed professionals) should be available students, parents, and administrators during regular school hours on Monday through Friday. Staff absences (i.e., sick days and personal days) should be reported to the applicable supervisor.
- Elementary and Middle School Teachers (general education and reading specialists, special subjects, counselors) will collaborate with their colleagues to create a consistent weekly agenda of learning activities that students will complete.
- Special Education teachers at all levels will make a good faith effort to meet the educational needs of special education students. It is understood that what teachers can do may be limited. Teachers will collaborate with one another and with general education teachers.
- High School staff should consider students who may need remediation and/or are having difficulty adjusting to remote learning and should be careful not to academically penalize these students. Utilize supports like Project Safeguard for assistance with these students. Grace is expected for this unusual circumstance; remote learning shouldn't punish students, especially as we accommodate for equity of access.

Student Expectations

Elementary School Students

- Students should make a good faith effort to attempt the assignments either online or via paper/pencil.
- Check district website or classroom communication tools weekly for the new week's activities to be posted.
- Teachers will share a link to access the Zoom meeting or other means to communicate. Zoom hours are intended for teachers to connect with students, however if students have additional questions, they should reach out to the appropriate teacher.
- Use the weekly activity template to help guide learning for the week. Activities do not need to be complete all in one day. Use the guideline of 2 hours of learning activities daily.

Middle and High School Students

- All work (assignments, learning tasks, etc.) will be posted to the classes in Canvas.
- Some of the assigned learning tasks will give specific deadlines and some will give flexible deadlines. Please read these carefully.
- Classes will not be meeting in "real-time" every day, but all teachers will be available each week during virtual office hours to answer questions or for extra support.
- Check Canvas and its Announcements section each day. Don't miss important information.
- Always double-check Announcements for each course and be clear about how each teacher utilizes Canvas. If you are unsure – ASK!! In this unique situation, parents and students will be required to take on more responsibility for communicating with staff when they need support or cannot access materials.
- Start the learning day early, but also check throughout the day for updates. Waiting until late afternoon or evening to start one's work adds unnecessary stress.
- Divide work time into manageable, 30 to 40 minute sessions. It is a lot easier to stay focused! It is also okay to take a short break but remember to finish the work!

Attendance / Accountability/Grading

3rd Marking Period

- The 3rd marking period will end on **Thursday April 9, 2020 at 3:00 p.m**, giving students an opportunity to interact with their teachers prior to close.
- Teachers will finalize 3rd marking period grades in Sapphire by **Wednesday April 15, 2020**.
- Report cards will be available online (TAM&HS) or mailed (TAES) by **Friday April 17**.

Students who owe work for the 3rd marking period, prior to the mandated closure (Thurs. March 12) will be contacted by their teacher(s) to determine the best course of action.

All students will receive grades, as normally, for the 3rd marking period.

4th Marking Period

Only high school students will receive percentage grades during the 4th marking period while schools remained closed. Grading and accountability will evolve over time. Teachers will clearly communicate with students regarding graded assignments, due dates, etc.

Middle School students' 4th marking period grades will be replaced with *Pass/Fail*. A grade of *Pass* will indicate successful attempts made to attain achievement of required state standards and a percentage grade of 60% or better. A grade of *Fail* will indicate failure to attain achievement or required state standards and a percentage grade of 59% or lower.

Student attendance for grades 5-12 will be taken throughout the duration of the school closure. Attendance procedures will be outlined by the building principal and communicated to staff, students, and parents.

Honor Roll

The T ASD will publish an Honor Roll following the end of the third marking period. An Honor Roll for the 4th marking period will only be published for the Tyrone Area High School.

Dual Enrollment Credits

The T ASD has obtained approval from its higher education partners (Saint Francis University, Mount Aloysius College, and Pennsylvania Highlands Community College) to continue dual enrollment courses so that students who paid for credit and successfully complete the course requirements will earn credit at both TAHS and the respective college/university.

GACTC

Tyrone Area High School students enrolled in courses at the Greater Altoona Career and Technology Center will participate in both the COE plan for T ASD and the GACTC. Grades reported from the GACTC will be reported as pass/fail.

Title I Services

Reading specialists at the TAES will continue to provide supplemental reading support and appropriate learning activities for students. They will collaborate with the regular classroom teachers to supplement existing classroom work with the necessary supports.

Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students

Special Education/Gifted/504 Supports

During this national crisis, we endeavor to continue to educate our students and fulfill our critical role in their lives. We must be creative as we face the challenges to educate every student, employing unique and sustainable strategies and working with all families.

Keeping in mind that these are unprecedented times, T ASD is looking to provide the best possible support for students while schools are closed. Students' case managers will be reaching out to families to discuss the most viable options for meeting students' IEP/GIEP goals. They will focus on a range of items such as assisting with online instructional programs and paper/pencil activities, conferencing with the general education teachers, conferencing with parents, and monitoring and reporting student progress. While it is advised that most face-to-face services are suspended, some services may continue virtually through teletherapy, video conferencing, and traditional phone calls.

During the closure, IEP/GIEP/504 teams will meet, virtually and/or telephonically as necessary, to comply with mandated special education timelines. When the closure has ended and school is able to resume, IEP/GIEP/504 teams will meet to assess student progress during the time of the closure and determine next steps.

Questions regarding Special Education and gifted services may be directed to:

- Dr. Kourtney Klock, School Psychologist – kklock@tyrone.k12.pa.us (814) 684-0710
- Mrs. Jessica Anderson, K-12 Special Education Coordinator – jlanderson@tyrone.k12.pa.us (814) 684-0710

EL Supports

During this national crisis, we endeavor to continue to educate our students and fulfill our critical role in their lives. We must be creative as we face the challenges to educate every student, employing unique and sustainable strategies and working with all families.

Keeping in mind that these are unprecedented times, T ASD is looking to provide the best possible support for students while schools are closed. Students' EL teachers will be reaching out to families to discuss the most viable options for meeting students' language needs. They will focus on a range of items such as providing language enrichment activities and monitoring and reporting student progress. Services may continue virtually through video conferencing and traditional phone calls. When necessary, the EL teachers will request assistance from district translators/interpreters to provide information to parents/guardians.

When the closure has ended and school is able to resume, EL teachers will meet with general education teachers to assess student progress during the time of the closure and determine next steps.

Questions regarding EL services may be directed to:

Ms. Rebecca Barlett, District EL Coordinator – rabarlett@tyrone.k12.pa.us (814) 684-4240

Early Intervention Supports

During this national crisis, we endeavor to continue to educate our students and fulfill our critical role in their lives. We must be creative as we face the challenges to educate every student, employing unique and sustainable strategies and working with all families.

Keeping in mind that these are unprecedented times, TASD is looking to provide the best possible support for students while schools are closed. Students' case managers will be reaching out to families to discuss the most viable options for meeting students' IEP goals. They will focus on a range of items such as assisting with online instructional programs and paper/pencil activities, conferencing with general education teachers, communicating with parents, and monitoring and reporting student progress. While it is advised that most face-to-face services are suspended, some services may continue virtually through teletherapy, video conferencing, and traditional phone calls.

During the closure, IEP teams will meet, virtually and/or telephonically as necessary, to comply with mandated special education timelines. When the closure has ended and school is able to resume, IEP teams will meet to assess student progress during the time of the closure and determine next steps.

Questions regarding Early Intervention services may be directed to:

- Mrs. Amanda Kurtz, Elementary Asst. Principal – amkurtz@tyrone.k12.pa.us (814) 684-1342
- Dr. Kourtney Klock, School Psychologist – klklock@tyrone.k12.pa.us (814) 684-0710

Food/Nutrition Supports

Meal distributions will continue every Monday and Thursday during the time of the closure. While RSVP is not required, it is strongly suggested that families RSVP using the link to the survey, which can be found on the district website <https://www.tyrone.k12.pa.us/Page/1873> and/or the TASD Facebook page.

TASD Food Service Department:
(814) 684-4240 ext. 3727 or tyrone@thenutritiongroup.biz

Additional Supports

Nurse/Medications:

Elementary – Mrs. Cowger – bscowger@tyrone.k12.pa.us

MS/HS – Mrs. Miller – tmiller@tyrone.k12.pa.us

TASD Home and School Visitor/Licensed Social Worker:

Mrs. Stroup – mjstroup@tyrone.k12.pa.us

School Counselors:

Tyrone Elementary

Mrs. Eaken – kjeaken@tyrone.k12.pa.us

Mrs. Gertz – begertz@tyrone.k12.pa.us

Tyrone MS & HS

Mr. Kimberlin (grades 5, 6, and Graduation Initiative) – mckimberlin@tyrone.k12.pa.us
Mrs. Campbell (grades 7, 8, and 9) – ajcampbell@tyrone.k12.pa.us
Mrs. Johannides (grades 10,11, 12) – tjohannides@tyrone.k12.pa.us

College and Career Advisor

Miss White

- Google Voice phone number (calls and texts) - (814) 682-2171
- Email - smwhite@tyrone.k12.pa.us
- Instagram - tahs_college
- Sign up for phone or video meetings - <https://calendly.com/tyronecollege/college-career-check-in>

Building Level Contacts

Tyrone Area Elementary School (814) 684-1342

Principal - Ms. Kristin Musselman – knmusselman@tyrone.k12.pa.us
Assistant Principal - Mrs. Amanda Kurtz – amkurtz@tyrone.k12.pa.us
Dean of Students - Mr. Michael McKee – mfmckee@tyrone.k12.pa.us

Tyrone Area Middle School (814) 684-4240

Principal - Mrs. Kristen Pinter – knpinter@tyrone.k12.pa.us
Dean of Students - Mrs. Lindsay Miksich – lnmiksich@tyrone.k12.pa.us

Tyrone Area High School (814) 684-4240

Principal - Mr. Thomas Yoder – tayoder@tyrone.k12.pa.us
Dean of Students/Athletics - Mr. Lucas Rhoades – ldrhoades@tyrone.k12.pa.us

****Individual teacher email addresses** for all grade levels can be found using the following link to the T ASD Staff Directory: <https://www.tyrone.k12.pa.us/domain/121>

****Phone messages** will also be received and forwarded to the appropriate staff using the phone numbers indicated above.

Resource Links

Tyrone Area School District Website

- Elementary and Middle School Resources: <https://www.tyrone.k12.pa.us/remote>
- High School Resources: <https://www.tyrone.k12.pa.us/Domain/8>