



Public Health-Related School Closure

Home Instruction Plan

The following is a four-component plan to provide instruction to all of our students in the event that Mullica Township School District is forced to close due to a public health-related concern. The plan includes a purposefully macro-view of the instructional approaches that will be implemented by staff. Specific daily/weekly lesson plans are developed and maintained at the individual school/grade level.

1. The school district may be asked to close preemptively or reactively. The decision to close will be made by the superintendent, in consultation with the Board of Education, after receiving written direction/approval from the Department of Health or other local health agency. The superintendent will communicate that closing with the Executive County Superintendent. A decision to re-open the district will be made by the superintendent, in consultation with the Board of Education, after receiving a recommendation to do so by the New Jersey Department of Health. The district will not permit a partial closing, but instead will close both schools at the request of the DOH. If appropriate, district staff may be permitted/required to deliver lessons/services remotely or from the school building.
2. Students of Mullica Township School District, grades 5-8 have 1:1 Chromebooks provided by the district that they take home on a daily basis. Additionally, the District has enough Chromebooks for home use by grades 3 & 4 (if necessary) in the event of a closure. This access to technology greatly facilitates options for home instruction. Though younger students have technology access at school, home instruction for these pre-K - Grade 2 students will require minimal access to a personal computer or other web-connected device to download material or access updated instructions.

Students/Teachers in the district make regular use of Google Classroom to push-out and collect assignments, and Google Classroom will continue to be the primary vehicle for the communication of instruction for Grades 5-8. Students/Teachers in grades

preK – 4 will use prepared home instruction packets with specific instructions for each student. For all students, the district website will serve as our instructional hub and will contain instructions for students and parents to access home instruction resources.

The district currently serves 708 students in grades Preschool through 8. A snapshot of the district shows 63 students in preschool, 8 total homeless students (6 received and 2 sent), 312 Free/Reduced breakfast/lunch students, 118 total special education students (this includes tuition students and out of district placement), and 5 ELL students.

The building principals (Maris Lynn and Donna Lesher) and supervisor of curriculum and data (Scott Sarraiocco) are responsible for the instructional components of the following program:

- The district has prepared 10 days of instructional resources for students in each academic area. Each academic area will offer approximately 3 hours of instruction per week. Related arts classes have prepared one lesson per week for students.
- Instruction will be provided to students via Google Classroom as available, and may also include Google Hangouts, pre-recorded lessons, screencasts, email instructions, video supplements, directives to review online tutorials, etc...
- Software-based instructional programs currently used by the district, including those that auto-differentiate to variations in student skill-levels will be included in home instruction, e.g. Khan Academy, ExactPath, LinkIt, Study Island, Stem Scopes, StudySync, Journeys, My Math.
- Pre-K through Grade 4 students will leverage Class DoJo to deliver instructional directions and offer weblinks to appropriate instructional resources; the district's instructional hub (found on its website) will include instructions for parent implementation of lessons. This instructional material will be translated to accommodate home-language needs.
- Teachers will publish for students and parents daily online office hours, to maintain the opportunity for students to receive assistance during any time the school is closed.

3. Special Education Resource teachers will provide instructional opportunities suitable for their specific classes, following the instructional plan identified above. ICS/RR teachers are expected to communicate with their classroom partners and modify instructional materials as appropriate. Significant modifications will be communicated to students/parents as necessary by the individual special education teacher. Students receiving therapeutic services will be given the compensatory equivalent of those services following the district's return to full operation. English Language Learners (ELLs) will be provided instructional opportunities suitable for their specific needs. CST Chairperson, Nellie Aponte, is responsible for these aspects of the program.

4. To maintain the provision of school nutrition benefits or services for eligible students, the district will maintain onsite food preparation by its food service provider in the school cafeteria. Breakfast and lunch will be available for pick-up from 8:00am-12:00pm via the main entrance. A weeks work of meals will be distributed on a weekly basis. Food Service Director, Kyle DiVito, and the Nutri-Serve staff will distribute meals in accordance with all applicable food security, safety, and health guidelines. Families/students who qualify for free/reduced meals will be contacted to ensure continuity of food services. School Business Administrator Karen Gfroehrer is responsible for this program.

Additional Resources:

CDC FAQ's - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/faq.html>

CDC Talking with children about COVID 19 - <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/talking-with-children.html>

New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH)- <https://www.nj.gov/health/>

NJDOH COVID 19 - <https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/ncov.shtml>