



Midway Public School District

Distance Learning Plan

Submitted to NDDPI on March 25, 2020

Revised and School Board Approved July 28, 2020

Attendance Procedures

During an extended closure, attendance will be monitored by Midway Public School using help from teachers and support staff in a number of different ways. Attendance will be monitored through online platforms; such as Zoom or Google Classroom. Attendance for students without internet access will be monitored by the returning of daily work to school personnel on meal delivery route. Teachers will be given specific cohorts to track and monitor for attendance and academic progress. Teachers will monitor student attendance and report absences or disengagement to principals for further action.

Preparing for Distance Learning

During an extended closure, Midway Public School will provide access to Chromebooks, laptops and/or iPads to its students. These devices will be serviced as necessary by our tech department to ensure student learning is continuing. Students will have regular contact with their teachers through the use of Zoom conferences, private Facebook pages, Google Classroom and learning apps such as Class DoJo, SeeSaw and Remind. Midway Public School is preparing paper packets for students with limited or no internet access until services can be connected. All families in the district have been contacted asking about internet access and technology needed to provide quality education to our students.

Sample Teacher Schedule for Distance Learning	8:00 – 8:30: Respond to student emails from the previous day. Forward any concerns to the building administrator or technology coordinator. 8:30 – 9:30: Zoom meetings with administrators (Tuesdays for MS/HS, Wednesdays for Elementary and extra as needed), PLC Zoom meetings (Tuesdays for Elementary, Wednesdays for MS/HS and extra as needed). Assessing collected homework. Be available for student correspondence when not assessing or in other meetings. 9:30 – 3:30: Schedule Google Classroom activities, Zoom meetings, voice conversations and/or any other student supports that are necessary. Be available for student correspondence. 3:30 – 4:00: No school related responsibilities. Collaborate with others, assess student work, correspond with students as necessary.
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Student Development

Midway Public School will create Distance Learning opportunities for all of its students and provide access to the materials necessary to be successful. Midway Public School will provide support for students through support staff and Title I teachers whenever necessary.

Student Access to Devices

Midway Public School has worked to become a 1-to-1 school in regards of technology for students. High School students are issued laptops. Students grades 3 through 8 are assigned Chromebooks. Midway Public School also provides enough iPads for all students PK through Grade 2. During an extended closure, students will be instructed to take their devices home with them. Midway Public School will also deliver devices to students that need them. Midway Public School will partner with Upper Valley Special Education Unit to ensure access to assistive technology that accommodates students with accessibility needs.

Internet Access

Midway Public School will partner with families to help find ways to provide internet access in our district for those that currently do not have services. Because of the rural setting of our district, some families may only have landline or hotspot options through cell phone services for internet access. Midway Public School will continue to work with families found to have no internet access options and work to provide hotspot options or work with other service providers to see what can be done to provide access to rural areas. If no means of access are found, Midway Public School will work with these families to ensure that learning continues through paper packets and telephone communications.

Access to All Classes/Courses

During an extended closure, Midway Public School will continue to provide high quality, grade-level learning opportunities aligned to ND State Standards.

<https://www.nd.gov/dpi/districtschools/k-12-education-content-standards>

Elementary (Preschool-5)

During a partial or full closure online learning opportunities will be used to virtually interact with our student synchronously and asynchronously to provide services and support. Paper packets will also be created for students without internet access. Elementary teachers will utilize Google Classroom, SeeSaw, private classroom Facebook pages as well as Zoom conferences to reach their students and provide materials daily. These learning opportunities will be connected to learning goals that align with ND State Standards. Teachers will set up suggested schedules to help parents and learners adjust to this unique learning opportunity. Students will have minimum homework and meeting requirements daily provided by their teacher(s).

Middle School and High School (6 - 12)

Teachers will be available from 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM each day. Middle school and high school students will be learning mainly through the use of Google Classroom. All teachers have set up individual class-specific Google Classrooms to assess student learning, and the principal has been provided access to each Google Classroom to ensure high quality, standards-based instruction. Google Classroom will be supplemented with activities or videos from Khan Academy, YouTube and resources that accompany some of the textbooks we currently use. Exercise plans will be posted for Phy Ed courses. Paper copies of all assignments will be made available to students currently without internet access. Students will have minimum homework and meeting requirements daily provided by their teacher(s).

Services Assurances to Students with Needs

At-Risk

Midway Public School is school wide Title I. During an extended closure, our Title I teachers will reach out to students to provide additional support necessary for success. This support can come through online resources or by sending additional supports home for students to use. Students receiving Title I support will continue to receive that support through required online meetings.

Special Education and 504

Students receiving special services through an IEP or a 504 plan are unique and require special services in the event of a closure. From a Supplemental Fact Sheet Addressing the Risk of COVID-19 in Schools developed by the US Department of Education, “the Department encourages parents, educators, and administrators to collaborate creatively

to continue to meet the needs of students with disabilities. Consider practices such as distance instruction, tele-therapy and tele-intervention, meetings held on digital platforms, online options for data tracking, and documentation. In addition, there are low-tech strategies that can provide for an exchange of curriculum-based resources, instructional packets, projects, and written assignments.

Communications and Plans

Midway Public School will work in conjunction with Upper Valley Special Education to ensure our special education case managers and service providers are meeting (virtually or by phone) to collaborate with parents/guardians on a contingency learning plan for their child. The parents/guardians, case managers, and service providers will collaborate on each IEP goal and determine how best to meet these goals through distance learning. Teams will take into consideration the student's preferred learning method, ability for independent work, access to adult support, adaptations/accommodations, assistive technology needs, how progress will be monitored, and where services will take place. Ongoing communication with families throughout the closure will also be delineated.

Notice to Change without an IEP Meeting

Documentation of the contingency learning plans will be completed and shared with parents on a Prior Written Notice of Special Education Action. These forms will be sent digitally or by mail, if requested, to each family. Further changes to services can be discussed and documented as needed. Learning plans will consider both synchronous online learning (e.g. chat, streaming, video, instant message, web conferencing) or asynchronous online learning with capability for remote communication and assessment (e.g. email or learning management systems that deliver, track and manage classes or projects).

Hosting an IEP Meeting

IEP meetings will be scheduled through virtual methods as needed. Progress reports will be provided to parents to assist in determining progress with IEP goals.

Services at School

Case managers will be available through virtual meeting hours to be established by each case manager. During this time, case managers will be accessible to support families and students. This may be done through telephone, teleconference or any online platform.

Services provided through Distance Learning

Distance learning for special needs students may include virtual learning, web-based sites, online services and telephone contacts. Contingency learning plans could also utilize textbooks, workbooks, worksheets, documents made available on technology devices, online resources and other Internet content.

English Language Learners

Midway Public School will continue to provide support for our EL learners through our EL teacher using online communication and resources when available, and using telecommunications and by delivering paper documents when online access is not available. In addition, Midway Public School will provide translation services for families in need.

School Counseling

Midway Public school will continue to provide school guidance counseling lessons and support through online methods as well as telephone conferences. Midway Public School will set up separate, grade-level Google Classrooms for grades 3 through 12 to provide activities and lessons that would have been provided in the classroom with the addition of lessons specific to the extended school closure and the emotions that come with it. Phone communication will be provided to all students and families PK through 2. Paper copy versions of all lessons will be provided to students without internet access. Midway Public School's counselors will adhere to the ASCA virtual learning guidance and ethics.

High-Quality, Effective, Standards-Based Education

Provisions for Instructional Support

Assessments

Midway Public School teachers will use a variety of assessment options for their students. They will provide online quizzes and tests, feedback through shared documents with their students, online resources such as IXL, videos and pictures that are shared with teachers and paper packets for those without internet connection.

Grades

Grading policies will remain in accordance with in-person learning. Rubrics will be provided for project-based work and grades will be awarded as such.

Academic Progress Monitoring

Midway Public School teachers will monitor student progress through the use of regular PLC meetings that will continue to take place through Zoom meetings. Teachers will work with support staff and Title I teachers to develop plans for students not making progress. These plans can include, but is not limited to: differentiated instructional plans, remote contact from support staff and/or Title I teacher, regular, scheduled check ins, revised rubrics. Teachers will provide students with feedback as to how to make improvements upon their work. Teachers will work closely with principals to report student progress ensuring that students are reaching appropriate outcomes.