

Nontraditional Instruction Program

Emergency
Application

Temporary EMERGENCY Application for 2019-2020 School Year

March 2020

Please accept this submission of our district's "Temporary EMERGENCY Application" to participate in the Non-Traditional Instruction (NTI) Program for the balance of the 2019-2020 school year. By submitting this application, the district understands and agrees to the following:

- 1) The district also is making a request to waive 701 KAR 5:150 Section 2(1)(d)(e)(h), Section 2(3), Section 3, Section 6.
- 2) The district is assuring that the use of one or more NTI Days under this plan only will be utilized to address public health concerns and any decision to utilize NTI days will be made in consultation with the local health department.
- 3) The district understands that it remains subject to compliance with all other sections of 701 KAR 5:150 that are not part of this waiver request.
- 4) This application and waiver request, if approved, are only valid for the balance of the 2019-2020 school year and expire on June 30, 2020.
- 5) If the district wishes to continue use of the NTI Program in 2020-2021, it must complete the Initial Application for NTI and submit it by the deadline as described in 701 KAR 5:150 (3).

KRS 158.070(9):

Notwithstanding any other statute, each school term shall include no less than the equivalent of the student instructional year in subsection (1)(d) of this section, except that the commissioner of education may grant up to the equivalent of ten (10) student attendance days for school districts that have an alternative instruction plan approved by the commissioner of education for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including virtual learning, on days when the school district is closed for health or safety reasons, on nontraditional days, or on nontraditional time. The district's plan shall demonstrate how teaching and learning in the district will not be negatively impacted. Average daily attendance for purposes of Support Education Excellence in Kentucky program funding during the student attendance days granted shall be calculated in compliance with administrative regulations promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Education.

District:

Simpson Co.

Please address the following completely, providing detail and data as appropriate and available.

Instruction

How will the district deliver instruction on nontraditional instruction days?

- If the method is digitally-based, is there a specific learning management system (e.g. Edmodo, Blackboard, etc.) that the district will use? What other applications and tools will be implemented?
- If the method is not digitally-based, please describe the instructional process.

In Simpson County Schools, we plan to use a combination of digital and hard copy materials. We have access to multiple online learning resources both district-paid and free. These digital tools include but are not limited to Edgenuity, Kahn Academy, Stemscopes, Flocabulary, Read 180, Dreambox, Successmaker, System 44, IXL, Accelerated Reader, etc... Several teachers create video lessons in their classrooms for flipped learning experiences.

All teachers have been trained using Google Classroom and many Google tools to manage, implement and enhance digital learning. We have begun utilization of the LMS platform Schoology. In addition, many teachers use a variety of social media tools and apps to communicate and share with students, parents, and the community.

Alternative options will be available for all students to accommodate those families without internet access. Hard copy materials will be available for all classes. The learning activities will reflect a typical school day in regards to learning targets for the content and skills addressed. At each grade level, each packet will contain a minimum of four instructional activities and a balanced, comprehensive curriculum. Assignments will be coordinated to ensure the work can be completed in an equivalent amount of time for a normal school day. Students will be given an equivalent number of days to submit completed work, plus one day.

All students will have access to hard copy materials. We have partnered with City of Franklin for four areas of community hotspots for WIFI access. Students may check out a device when an NTI will be used. Additionally, we have a great partnership with the local public library and many restaurants with WIFI access.

The hard copy packets will include all core academic areas as well as supplemental activities for all special areas. Emphasis will be placed on a comprehensive, well-rounded school day experience for all students. Efforts will be made to balance the projects and activities as not to overwhelm students with too much work or too many projects at a given time. Teaching and Learning team as SCS will be expected to keep materials up-to-date to ensure the NTI work closely reflects the curriculum maps planned for regular instruction.

2. How will the district account for all students' access to online resources and/or equitable instructional materials for those students who do not have access to the internet and/or devices and for students who may need to access information differently?

Student work will be evaluated in same manner as with a regular school day including quality feedback. Follow up will be expected to ensure learning through formative and /or summative measures to ensure appropriate mastery of standards addressed. The expected performance level shall meet or exceed a traditional instructional day. Principals will be expected to monitor instruction, just like with regular school days. They will review student work samples and assessments to ensure learning progress. Finally, the District Leadership Team will review student work samples and assessments through our School Site Visits.

What will the district do to ensure a continuation of learning from regular student attendance days will occur on nontraditional instruction days?

District and school ECE staff will be involved in the planning, development and implementation of NTI's. Special Education teachers will work with their regular education partners in planning the NTI work for students. During NTI days, teachers will log contacts with each student to ensure they are on track. Extended time for work completion may be provided if needed. The District Special Education Coordinator will monitor each school for effective implementation according to IEP's.

District and school staff responsible for ELL and GT will plan, develop and implement NTI materials to ensure students are receiving proper services, just like a normal school day. ELL resource teachers will be expected to support ELL students on the NTI days and keep a log of contacts. GT teacher leads at each school will work with teachers to ensure GT service plans are addressed in the NTI plans. We have a number of digital resources to provide appropriate instruction for both groups that may be accessed on NTI days. District staff and principals will monitor effective implementation.

Documentation

How will information on **student participation** be gathered on nontraditional instruction days?

Using Google, we will create a platform for schools to submit their completion data to the district to ensure the expected completion rates. These rates shall meet or exceed a traditional instructional day. Through our site visit process, we will review the work at each school. Finally, we will randomly audit student work and documentation of feedback to students for quality and completion rates.

Teachers may have Google Classroom or Schoology for NTI that can be accessed by their principals. All work will be spot checked by the District Leadership Team at School Site Visits prior to NTI use. Staff will keep contact logs on each NTI day. At the end of each NTI period, staff will submit a summary report of their activities to their principal. Principals will provide a summary report from the staff to the Superintendent and Chief Academic Officer by the end of the NTI period.

How will information on **staff participation** be gathered on nontraditional instruction days?

All teachers have access to Google Classroom, Schoology and many digital platforms for learning. On NTI days, each teacher will be available for students to contact through a variety of modes – email, messaging, Google Hangouts, and various social media apps. They will be available throughout normal school hours of 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM. Each teacher will be expected to make contact with their students and keep a contact log. Other certified staff work responsibilities will be monitored by their supervisor to ensure accountability to our students, schools and district. In our Instructional Leadership Team meetings, we will work principals and curriculum specialists to develop the specific plans of accountability for teachers.

Each principal will log hours missed by any classified staff for those unable to attend work on NTI days. Each school will submit an individualized work plan for staff needing to make up hours. These hours will be designed for maximum benefit of the schools and students.

We will use a variety of communication strategies to inform our community about our NTI plan, including our website, thrillshare communication app(e-mail, call and text messaging), Facebook page, Twitter... We plan to have written resources explaining the details of the plan. Additionally, we have a productive partnership with our local media partners including the newspaper and radio station, which will be used to disseminate NTI program information. Finally, we will leverage local organizations such as school PTO's and civic groups to share the plan.

**Emergency
Application**

We certify that this application was reviewed and approved

by the Board of Education at a regular meeting of the board of

Superintendent

Date

Local Board of Education Chair

Date

Completed applications should be submitted to **Steven** via email at steven.kissinger@education.ky.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact **David Cook** via email at david.cook@education.ky.gov.