



2020-21 Phase Four: Continuation of Learning Plan for Districts_11182020_12:35

2020-21 Phase Four: Continuation of Learning Plan for Districts

Simpson County
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Table of Contents

2020-21 Phase Four: Continuation of Learning Plan for Districts	3
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The purpose of this diagnostic is to support the district in designing and implementing a plan for a continuation of learning during times when nontraditional instruction may need to be implemented in order to prevent a loss of learning. The basis of the continuation of learning plan comes from [KRS 158.070\(9\)](#) and [701 KAR 5:150](#), which state the following:

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)(f) of this section, or a variable student instructional year in subsection (1)(h) 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 a nontraditional instruction plan approved by the commissioner of education on days when the school district is closed for health or safety reasons. The district's plan shall indicate how the nontraditional instruction process shall be a continuation of learning that is occurring on regular student attendance days. Instructional delivery methods, including the use of technology, shall be clearly delineated in the plan. 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.

701 KAR 5:150, Section 1(5):

"Nontraditional instruction plan" means the strategy approved by the commissioner and implemented by a local school district to ensure instruction on nontraditional instruction days is a continuation of learning that is occurring on regular student attendance days as required by KRS 158.070(9).

Based on the most critical areas for improvement identified in the completed needs assessment per [703 KAR 5:225](#), Section 3(2)(b), what are the district's plans for implementing nontraditional instruction to provide a continuation of learning during times (both short-term and long-term) when in-person instruction may not be feasible and to support continuous improvement?

To seek the Commissioner's approval, pursuant to KRS 158.070 and 701 KAR 5:150, for the district's nontraditional instruction plan providing for a continuation of learning, please complete the following:

1. Please provide an overview of the districts vision for ensuring a continuation of learning when implementing nontraditional instruction.

The District Teaching and Learning Staff along with teachers will be involved in the planning, development and implementation of NTI days. Curriculum maps and pacing guides will be followed when creating NTI lessons. Instruction for NTI days will be based on reviewing essential skills already covered in classrooms. However, in the circumstance of an extended NTI period new content will slowly be introduced to students with full teacher support. Special education teachers will work with their regular education partners in planning for NTI work for their

students based on their IEP goals. During NTI days, teachers will log contact with each student to ensure they are making academic progress.

2.a. How will instruction be delivered when in-person instruction is not feasible?

Simpson County Schools plans 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, Khan Academy, Stemscopes, Flocabulary, Read 180, Successmaker, Systems 44, IXL, and Accelerated Reader. Several teachers will also create video lessons for their students too. All teachers have been trained using Google Classroom and many Google tools to manage, implement and enhance digital learning. We are utilizing 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. Instructional materials will be gathered based on teacher input and organized by the District Teaching and Learning Team. The daily assignments will be posted on the Simpson County School District Website for parents and students to access.

2.a.i. Does your district utilize a learning management system to make instructional design more adaptable?

We are utilizing the LMS platform Schoology.

2.a.ii. What are your delivery options for students with limited internet access (i.e. digital off-line) or who are off-line (i.e. paper)?

Our district has provided a chromebook to every student in Simpson County. We have also supplied hot spots to any student needing internet access. However Google and Schoology allow for students to work off-line. We will also provide paper copies for those students who need it.

2.b. What will the district do to ensure a continuation of learning will occur when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented?

The District Teaching and Learning Staff along with teachers will be involved in the planning, development and implementation of NTI days. Curriculum maps and pacing guides will be followed when creating NTI lessons.

2.c. How, if at all, will the district ensure a continuation of learning occurs for those students utilizing, for any reason, nontraditional instruction during time periods when the district may be offering and providing in-person instruction to other students?

All students will have access to our LMS which will contain lessons that match the district's curriculum maps and pacing guides. We will utilize personalized programs such as Pathblazers for K-5 and Edgenuity for grades 6-12 to ensure a continuation of learning for students utilizing nontraditional instruction. Formative assessments will be done weekly to ensure every student is making progress.

2.d. How will the district ensure a continuation of learning for students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) when in-person instruction is not feasible? Please also address how the Admissions and Release Committee (ARC) will be involved for students with IEPs.

Simpson County Schools will continue to provide educational opportunities to students with disabilities to ensure they have equal access to the same opportunities including the provision of FAPE as the general student population during school closure. The district will ensure, to the greatest extent possible, each student with a disability will be provided special education services, accommodations and modifications that are identified in the student's Individual Education Plan. Each Admission and Release Committee will meet annually to discuss non-instructional school days and how to meet the individual student's academic and behavior needs. Specially Designed Instruction for each of the goals will be discussed and explained how they can be delivered with the support of the special education teacher through alternate means. NTI work packets, online services, etc. will be modified to meet the student's goal that is addressed in the IEP. Special Education and Related Service Teachers will contact the students to offer SDI on the days that school is not in session. Progress Monitoring will be analyzed to ensure each student is able to maintain and/or make growth. ARC's will be held to discuss whether the student needs compensatory services due to the impact of the closure.

2.e. Please describe additional efforts necessary to ensure a continuation of learning for other special populations of students, including, for example, English Language Learners with a Program Services Plan (PSP), students with a Gifted Student Services Plan (GSSP), and students placed in alternative education programs served by the district.

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.

2.f. How has the district coordinated with other educational entities (e.g. area technology centers, community colleges, other dual credit providers, regional schools, etc.) to ensure a continuation of learning?

Locally, SKYCTC will continue to support high school students through classes during NTI period. Our Career and Technical Services are housed locally in our high school and will continue to provide instruction to our students. Wifi Support will be provided through various internet companies to help students access digital content.

2.g. Please describe how teachers will instruct, support, and communicate with students when in-person instruction is not feasible in order to ensure academic progress as well as promote social and emotional wellbeing.

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 Meets, Zooms 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 document this contact on the custom tab in Infinite Campus. The district office will run contact log reports from IC in order to monitor the frequency. A district wide "watch list" will be used to track students we are concerned about needing additional supports, whether academic, emotional/social, or physical needs such as food and clothing. There will be an after hours hotline for parents and students to call in order to receive assistance outside of the regular school hours- one for elementary and one for middle and high school.

2.h. Please describe what professional learning activities the district will provide certified staff to ensure they have the skills necessary to provide a continuation of learning when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented.

The District Teaching and Learning Team will facilitate opportunities for teachers to create, edit and/or modify NTI plans. Each school site along with the District will provide a professional learning plan for all teachers. This plan will be created in coordination with teachers and administrators. The professional learning plan will ensure growth in teachers and build capacity which will increase teacher efficacy. The professional development will focus on formative assessment, personalized instruction and social/emotional learning. Some training shall include but not be

limited to Infinite Campus Training, Schoology, Newsela, Google, Pathblazers, Edgenuity, and other instructional programs.

2.i. Please describe the deployment of all staff when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented. This response should include all certified staff, especially teachers, and all classified staff. What duties will staff perform to ensure contractual obligations are met?

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 with principals and curriculum specialists to develop the specific plans of accountability for teachers. Each principal will log hours missed by any certified 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. Classified staff who are able to assist certified teachers remotely will be encouraged to do so. Classified staff may participate in training during NTI days. These staff members will also help the food service department with the preparation and distribution of meals. Classified staff who are unable to fulfill their physical duties during the NTI days will be allowed to make up the time by completing tasks related to their responsibilities.

2.j. Describe established partnerships with other community agencies that will increase opportunities for a continuation of learning when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented.

The Simpson County Boys and Girls club will assist with providing lunches for students during NTI days. Also, the Simpson County Goodnight Library will help provide books and resources along with internet access to families during the NTI closure. The Simpson County Historical Society will be a resource for historical materials along with virtual field trip opportunities.

2.k. What is the district's communication plan for parents, students, and community members when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented?

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 Live, 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. We will leverage local organizations such as school PTO's and civic groups to share the plan. In regards to highlighting success stories, we will "tell our own story" via social media and emails to and about faculty and staff.

3. How does the above nontraditional instruction plan providing for a continuation of learning relate to district goals?

The nontraditional instruction plan includes a systematic approach that allows teachers along with consultation from their Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Specialist, to provide instruction that aligns with the district's curriculum maps. The work assigned will be reviewed by the District Teaching and Learning Team to ensure the continuation of learning for all students which is directly related to the district's Proficiency goal of increasing the percentage of students scoring proficient and distinguished on KPREP. Students' work will be evaluated in the 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 which relates to the district's Growth goal of reducing the percentage of students scoring novice on the KPREP assessments. The plan above addresses the students with unique needs which relates to our Gap goal and the objectives aligned to ensure we meet this goal.

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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