

Non-Traditional Instructional Plan Allen County 2025-2026

The Allen County School District has established a comprehensive system to facilitate uninterrupted instruction during non-traditional instruction (NTI) days. Our district is 1:1 with technology, ensuring each student possesses a school-assigned Chromebook, with additional support provided to families lacking internet connectivity. Ongoing training in utilizing Google Edu Tools has been provided to both educators and students, mandating the creation of Google Classrooms by teachers for the dissemination of assignments on NTI days. Student submissions are likewise conducted through this platform. Regular utilization of Google Classroom is required for all Allen County educators. Each building has instructional coaches as well as district math and literacy coaches, all of whom can coach teachers on developing online lessons as well as facilitating synchronous online meetings. Training sessions are provided for any staff who wants to learn online facilitation strategies and the logistics of hosting a Zoom or Google Meet room. The overarching objective is to ensure equitable access to high-quality instruction, whether within the walls of traditional classrooms or from a digital space each day. Furthermore, educators will conduct virtual meetings and check-ins with students during NTI days, adhering to a strategic school determined schedule that delineates virtual class meetings. Attendance is recorded through Infinite Campus. Administrative personnel, instructional assistants, Family Resource and Youth Services Centers (FRYSC), and other relevant stakeholders are mobilized to engage absent students, ensuring they are adequately supported and briefed on attendance expectations.

The district ensures all schools provide an NTI school schedule to students and families through Parent Square, creating clarity for how the day will run for each student. This allows both the ECE and general ed teachers to provide needed support to each ECE student. Principals ensure ECE teachers have clarity on their daily NTI support schedule. During NTI periods, all educators will maintain the provision of tailored instruction to students under Individualized Education Plans (IEPs). Each student with an IEP is equipped with a Chromebook and are supported by their ECE teacher. All ECE teachers provide support as they would through a typical school day, supporting all students on their caseload, co-teaching and providing additional support as needed. Both students and their families receive comprehensive schedules outlining class times and support services. The Admission and Release Committee (ARC)

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upholds identical roles and obligations for students with IEPs during NTI as they do in traditional, in-person instruction settings. Since March 2020, we have introduced the option of virtual ARC meetings, a measure that has demonstrated significant efficacy. This option will persist throughout the 2025-2026 school year, owing to its proven success.

During NTI, all our specialized student populations will receive virtual opportunities for support. Our English Language Learner (ELL) support team, Gifted and Talented teachers, and other staff members have dedicated Google Classrooms accessible to students with service plans. Alongside regular classroom sessions, there are scheduled virtual meetings for students to connect with teachers and support staff throughout each NTI day. Teachers and support personnel are also reachable via Google Meet or phone for inquiries and additional assistance. Assignments and projects will be posted in Google Classroom, where students can submit work, ask questions, or seek further help. Our support team and Family Resource Youth Service Centers (FRYSC) are proactive in reaching out to students who are absent during NTI, utilizing calls and home visits when necessary.

In the spring of 2025, a district team came together to review stakeholder feedback and assess both strengths and areas for growth in preparation for NTI planning for the 2025–2026 school year. Each school was represented and has reviewed their feedback, identifying ways to improve practices for this school year. While communication to families emerged as a top strength, the district team also identified opportunities to expand communication beyond logistics to further enhance clarity for students and families. Effective districtwide communication is essential to ensuring students and families are well-informed about expectations and their child's daily schedule and more, setting every child up for success. Each school will continue to share its NTI schedule through ParentSquare and social media. Schedules are carefully reviewed and strengthened annually to better meet student needs. Schools will also tailor communication to meet the unique needs of their teachers and families based on stakeholder feedback. For example, schools want to emphasize the purpose of NTI and that they are not intended for continuous screen time. To support this clarity, schools have identified the need for a one-page overview outlining the purpose, goals, and expectations of NTI days. Other potential needs include

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informing stakeholders on best practices for remote learning, including what makes a quality synchronous learning session (Ex. Google Meet). This will also help support a consistent message for students and families. Each school will continue reviewing the needs of their stakeholders and refining their approach. While NTI days cannot fully replicate the in-person classroom experience, we remain committed to identifying needs and best practices to ensure meaningful and high-quality learning for all students.

Our CDIP goals are a priority during all instructional days as well as our district vision, mission and core values. These principles remain consistent even during periods of NTI. Across the district, the expectation is for teachers to actively engage students in meaningful and authentic learning experiences when traditional schooling cannot take place. Our teachers design a variety of learning experiences even within the digital space. A distinction exists between schooling and learning, with learning being possible at any time and in any place. In Allen County Schools, our focus is on teaching and facilitating learning. Our district's objectives include enhancing engagement with course material, fostering meaningful and authentic learning experiences, and leveraging data to inform instructional strategies. Our teachers use collaboration, project-based learning structures, choice boards, discussion strategies, workshop model and more to provide online instruction, each offering a combination of synchronous opportunities for instruction as well as asynchronous options to support our students during NTI.