



Ronald C. Wilson, Superintendent  
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Ionia, MI 48846  
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## **Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan (“Plan”) Application Template**

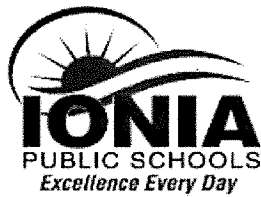
As a result of COVID-19 and the closing of school buildings for the 2019-2020 School Year, school districts must submit a Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan (“Plan”) in order to continue to receive state aid for operations. Although schools are closed and not providing in-person instruction, teaching and learning must continue. Michigan educators have been called to provide our students with continued learning.

There are varied states of readiness to provide continuity in learning among districts. Even within districts of multiple school sites, there are varied states of readiness. It is expected that schools will provide instruction at a distance using a variety of methods that meet local needs, including printed materials, phone contact, email, virtual learning, or a combination to meet student needs. We should avoid assuming that continuity in learning can only occur through online means.

While many educators have been providing distance learning opportunities, the Governor’s Executive Order (EO 2020-35) requires all schools to begin providing learning opportunities for all students no later than April 28, 2020. Districts who are able to begin their plans earlier are encouraged to do so.

Each District shall submit a single completed Assurance Document, Budget Outline, and Continuity of Learning Plan to its Intermediate School District. Each Public School Academy shall submit a completed Assurance Document, Budget Outline, and Continuity of Learning Plan to its Authorizer. A single Application should be filed for the district rather than multiple applications for individual schools within a district. The following items are required for the application which may be submitted beginning April 8, 2020:

1. Assurances Document
2. Continuity of Learning Plan
3. Budget Outline



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## Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan ("Plan") Guiding Principles

As Districts and Public School Academies complete the Assurances and Continuity of Learning Plans, they should consider utilizing the following principles to guide their work:

### Keep Students at the Center

Intentional outreach to continue building relationships and maintain connections. Help students feel safe and valued. At minimum, plan to do the following:

- **Plan for Student Learning:** Build on each student's strengths, interests, and needs and use this knowledge to positively affect learning.
- **Develop a Weekly Plan and Schedule:** Offer routines and structures for consistency and for the balancing of think time, work time, and play time for health and well-being.
- **Contact Families:** Partner to support student learning through ongoing communication and collaboration. This will not look the same for every student and family—safety remains the priority. Provide translations as necessary.

### Design Learning for Equity and Access

Plan and deliver content in multiple ways so all students can access learning.

- **Teach Content:** Set goals using knowledge of each student, content area standards, and of Michigan Merit Curriculum.
- **Deliver Flexible Instruction:** Consider how to deliver content depending on tools and resources accessible to each student. Alternative modes of instruction may include use of online learning, telephone communications, email, virtual instruction, videos, slideshows, project-based learning, use of instructional packets, or a combination to meet diverse student needs.
- **Engage Families:** Communicate with families about engagement strategies to support students as they access the learning. Families are critical partners. Provide translations as necessary.



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### Assess Student Learning

Manage and monitor student learning and plan what's next for learning including the potential need for summer and supplemental learning.

- **Check Student Learning:** Use a variety of strategies to monitor, assess, and provide feedback to students about their learning.
- **Make Instructional Adjustments:** Use formative assessment results to guide educators' reflection on effectiveness of instruction and to determine next steps for student learning.
- **Engage Families:** Communicate with families about assessment results in order to inform next steps and the potential for supplemental summer learning. Provide translations as necessary.



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### Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan ("Plan") Assurances

Date Submitted: April 10, 2020

Name of District: Ionia Public Schools

Address of District: 250 E. Tuttle Rd.  
Ionia, MI 48846

District Code Number: 34010

Email Address of the District: [rwilson@ioniaschools.org](mailto:rwilson@ioniaschools.org)

Name of Intermediate School District: Ionia Intermediate School District

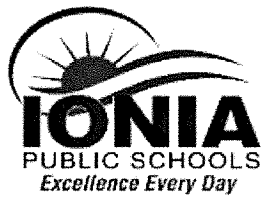
Name of Authorizing Body (if applicable):

This Assurance document needs to be returned to your Intermediate School District or, for Public School Academies, your Authorizing Body with your Continuity of Learning Plan and Budget Outline beginning April 8, 2020 to indicate that the District will adopt a plan to ensure continuous learning for all students through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Districts should submit a single district plan that relates to all of their schools.

The applicant hereby provides assurance it will follow the requirements for a Plan for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year:

1. Applicant assures that all student learning will take place under the direction of a teacher of record for each student enrolled in the district.
2. Applicant assures that it will continue to pay school employees during the balance of the 2019-2020 school year under the same terms and conditions established prior to the school closure order period.
3. Applicant assures that the Plan was developed in collaboration with district administrators, school board members, teachers, and local bargaining units.



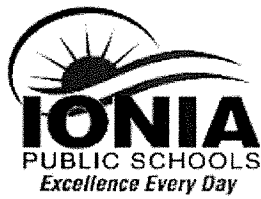
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4. Applicant assures that food distribution has been arranged for or provided for eligible students.

5. Applicant assures coordination between applicant and Intermediate School District in which the District/PSA is located to mobilize disaster relief child care centers.

6. Applicant assures that to the extent practicable the District/PSA will in good faith provide students with IEPs/Section 504 Plans the opportunity to participate in learning consistent with existing plans.

7. Applicant assures that Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan, Assurance Document, and Budget Outline will be posted immediately following approval to the District's/PSA's website.



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### **Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan (“Plan”)**

*The goal of a Continuity of Learning Plan and COVID-19 Response Plan is to ensure that each District or Public School Academy is providing, to the best of its ability, each student with alternative modes of instruction to help them stay on pace in their learning. This application recognizes that there is no “one-size-fits-all” solution; multiple means of engaging students and supporting families may be necessary that may vary by grade level, school building, or student population served.*

For the purposes of the Plan, “district” refers to Ionia Public Schools.

Date Submitted:	April 10, 2020
Name of District:	Ionia Public Schools
Address of District:	250 E. Tuttle Rd Ionia, MI 48846
District Code Number:	34010
Email Address of the District Superintendent:	<a href="mailto:rwilson@ioniaschools.org">rwilson@ioniaschools.org</a>
Name of Intermediate School District:	Ionia Intermediate School District
Name of Authorizing Body (if applicable):	



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In accordance with Executive Order 2020-35 a Plan must include all of the following parts:

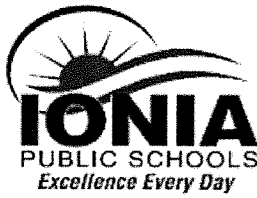
1. Please describe the methods the district will use to provide alternative modes of instruction other than in-person instruction and a summary of materials each pupil and the pupil's parents or guardians will need to access meaningfully the alternative modes of instruction included in the Plan. If the Plan relies on electronic instruction, the Plan must ensure to the extent feasible that pupils have access to a connected device capable of accessing the electronic instruction and must not penalize a pupil for the pupil's inability to fully participate.

***“Alternative modes of instruction” means modes of pupil instruction, other than in-person instruction, that may include, without limitation, partnerships with other districts or intermediate districts or community colleges or institutions of higher education, use of vendors, use of online learning, telephone communications, email, virtual instruction, videos, slideshows, project-based learning, use of instructional packets, or a hybrid of multiple modes of learning that still promote recommended practices for social distancing to mitigate the spread of COVID- .***

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** The district plans to use a hybrid model of instruction using hard copy instructional packets and online learning platforms. For those students that have internet access, but don't have a device, devices will be made available for High School Students. Students without internet access will have access to instructional materials through instructional packets. All students will need access to materials such as paper, pencils, and crayons, which will be made available to families that don't have them. All students will have access to grade-level/course textbooks as needed to complete their work.

2. Please describe the methods the district will use to keep pupils at the center of educational activities, including outreach to continue building relationships and maintain connections, and to help pupils feel safe and valued.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** Teachers will have weekly office hours where students can access them through multiple resources. (Phone, Zoom, Google Meet, Remind, etc..) For students with technology access teachers will also make sure to communicate multiple times each week through the instructional platform (Google Classroom, SeeSaw, Schoology, Moodle, etc.), with an emphasis on continuing to build relationships and maintain connections. The goal is to connect with each student at least once each week. The district web-site will be updated to include links to multiple Social and Emotional health supports.



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3. Please describe the district's plans to deliver content in multiple ways so that all pupils can access learning.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** For those students without technology, the main mode of delivery will be through hard copy instructional packets. This will be supplemented with phone conferencing to support instruction. The instructional packets will be available for parent pick up during meal delivery which takes place three days a week. For those families without transportation, packets will be mailed to their home, or delivered by staff to their home.

For students with technology access, content will be delivered through the online platform, email, and other social media sites (Facebook, Remind, Zoom, Google meet, etc.). Teachers will have set times each week where they will be available to provide instruction, answer questions and/or share pre-made videos.

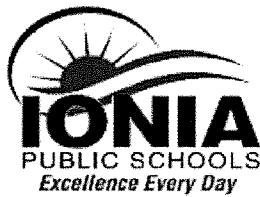
4. Please describe the district's plans to manage and monitor learning by pupils.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** For students without technology access, learning packets will be monitored through cell phone pictures of work, or through phone calls by teachers. Teachers will document student interactions and provide feedback through phone calls, emails, online learning platforms and in virtual meetings.

Feedback from the teacher will include differentiated work as needed, along with examples to support student learning. An example of this may be providing a student that is struggling with double-digit subtraction additional practice and several written examples with the steps. A phone call would also be used as a follow-up if needed.

For students with technology, teachers will monitor student access and assignment completion on a weekly basis within the instructional platform. Teachers will provide feedback to students on assignments through the instructional platform as they are completed. Teachers will differentiate instruction within the platform to meet each student's needs.





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5. Please attach a budget outline estimating additional expenditures associated with the Plan and sources of revenue to pay for those expenditures.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:**

1. ChromeBooks for High School Students - \$135,000
  - a. Includes 12 months of internet
2. Copies - \$15,000 Needs MS & HS
3. Paper (*see #6 - below*)
4. Mailing Expenses \$2,500
5. Delivery Costs, Fuel Costs, Mileage Costs - \$1,500.00
6. Paper, Pencils, Crayons - \$1,000
7. Teaching Staff Stipend for Cell Phone/Internet Usage \$2,000
8. Copyright Licensing Fees - \$500
9. Playground and Food Service Signs - \$1,100.00
10. Disinfecting Stations \$405.00
11. Gloves - \$319.00
12. Masks \$437.00
13. Tents for food delivery \$1,100

6. Please describe the manner in which district administrators, board members, teachers, and any representatives of teachers collaborated in development of the Plan.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** All stakeholders were involved in the development of the plan. Building administrators met with their building teachers for initial input. They then met in grade level/content area teams to address the needs of each grade or content area. Building administrators brought this information back to district level administrators, Board Members and Union Leadership to collaborate.



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7. Please describe the methods the district will use to notify pupils and parents or guardians of the Plan.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:**

- 1) The plan will be communicated through a letter to each family.
- 2) The plan will also be dispersed through email to those that have access.
- 3) The plan will also be posted to the district website and other social media platforms as well.
- 4) To ensure that everyone is aware that the plan has been developed and released a phone call message will be sent to all parents.

8. Please provide an estimate of the date on which the district will begin implementation of the Plan.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** The plan will be put in place beginning April 16, 2020.

9. Please describe the assistance, to the extent feasible, to pupils enrolled in any postsecondary dual enrollment courses under Public Act of , as amended, MCL . to . , and Career and Technical Preparation Act, PA , as amended, MCL . to . , in completing the courses during the - school year.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** For our students in dual enrollment courses we will be working with the provider to determine next steps. We will ensure that the students have the appropriate materials and support to complete those courses. The students will be given the option to convert their grade to credit or no-credit. For students in CTE programs we will work with the ISD CTE Director as well as state level CTE directives to ensure our students have the ability to complete these courses. When needed the district will ensure the students have the necessary resources.

10. Please describe how the district will continue to provide or arrange for continuation of food distribution to eligible pupils.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** Our food service staff along with many volunteers will continue to put together meals for students. We are utilizing the social distancing guidance that has been provided by our local health department. Families can pick up meals for students on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at Boyce, Emerson, Twin Rivers or at the High School. On Mondays and



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Wednesdays families will receive a breakfast and lunch for each child for two days. On Fridays families can pick up meals for students for Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Meals are being delivered to those families that do not have transportation.

11. Please confirm that the district will continue to pay school employees while redeploying staff to provide meaningful work in the context of the Plan, subject to any applicable requirements of a collective bargaining agreement.

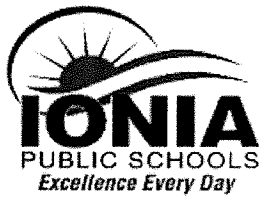
**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** We will pay all staff while using this plan. Teachers will provide instruction to our students and monitor progress. Secretaries will keep up on essential work for our offices. Food service employees will continue to prepare lunches and breakfasts. Our para educators may be asked to help distribute student packets and also asked to do other essential work including phone calls to students. Administrators will continue to provide leadership during this time including holding virtual staff meetings.

12. Provide a description of how the district will evaluate the participation of pupils in the Plan.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** If a student does not have access to technology, teachers will keep track of which students are completing the weekly instructional packets. They will also keep a log of all communication with students and parents. Teachers will utilize phone conversations to monitor student wellness, engagement, and completion of assignments. Inconsistent completion and/or communication with a parent or student will be raised to the principal or counselor level to develop a plan to connect with the student and family. Additional support agencies may be sought to make these connections (DHHS, Behavioral Health, etc.).

If a student has access to technology, teachers will use the instructional platform to monitor student wellness, engagement, and completion of assignments. They will also keep a log of communication with students and families. Inconsistent completion and/or communication with a parent or student will be raised to the principal or counselor level to develop a plan to connect with the student and family. Additional support agencies may be sought to make these connections (DHHS, Behavioral Health, etc.).

Instructional plans will include Social and Emotional learning elements along with the process for families to access Counselors and Social Workers. They will also have daily office hours.



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13. Please describe how the district will provide mental health supports to pupils affected by a state of emergency or state of disaster prompted by COVID-19.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** Student and staff mental health is our top priority as we continue with our education plan. Teachers will monitor and assess the needs of students and families. If a need is presented the teacher will elevate that need to the Principal, Counselor or Social workers from each building to make the necessary follow-up. The principal will hold weekly meetings with teachers to identify any additional students or families in need. All staff including Counselors and Social workers will have office hours each week to provide support to families.

14. Please describe how the district will support the efforts of the intermediate district in which the district is located to mobilize disaster relief child care centers as described in the Executive Order - or any executive order that follows it.

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** We will continue to keep in weekly, if not daily communication with the Ionia ISD's Superintendent to collaborate services and meet the needs of our students and staff. This includes but is not limited to providing help with child care centers. We've already had conversations about this.

Optional question:

15. Will the District adopt a balanced calendar instructional program for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year? Does the District plan to adopt a balanced calendar instructional program for the 2020-2021 school year?

**DISTRICT RESPONSE:** At this time we do not plan to implement a balanced calendar for 2019-2020 or the 2020-2021 school year.

Name of District Leader Submitting Application: Ronald C. Wilson

Date Approved: April 13, 2020

Name of ISD Superintendent/Authorizer Designee: *Ethan Ebenstein / Ethan Ebenstein*

Date Submitted to Superintendent and State Treasurer: April 13, 2020

Confirmation approved Plan is posted on District/PSA website: April 13, 2020