

## Continuity of Learning Plan

### Phase I

*March 16-March 27, 2020*

*Norton City Schools* is committed to providing engaging learning experiences for students during this division-wide shutdown. Therefore, NCS is providing a number of resources to ensure the continuation of learning experiences at home.

#### **General:**

Each School/Level has broad opportunities that all students can access. These opportunities are offered for students to help maintain learning. They are not intended to be graded.

#### **Specific:**

Each teacher/grade level has created a platform for providing activities and communicating with students and families. Google Classroom, REMIND, Webpages, email, phone communication, etc. are some sources being used. These activities and experiences are offered to support students in maintaining their learning. These activities will not result in grades or penalizing the student in any manner.

### Phase II

*March 30-May 22, 2020*

During the time frame of March 30- April 10, 2020 planning with administrators and teachers for Phase II Learning Modules will determine *best practices* to meet the social, emotional, and academic needs of our students. A blended approach of learning opportunities will be available to provide equity for all.

#### **General:**

Teachers will continue to post weekly activities during the time frame of March 30-April 10, 2020. Teachers will continue to contact students on a weekly basis and receive a response to qualify as a successful contact. During the contacts questions from the "home survey" will be revisited to determine needs for chromebooks and the internet. If internet needs cannot be met, other strategies for learning opportunities will be provided to meet the needs of the student. A means for receiving the chromebooks will be determined and families will complete the checkout form upon receipt. Packets of information can be picked up or provided with meal deliveries as specified bus stops.

Beginning the week of April 13, 2020, weekly "learning modules" for the final weeks of school will be available to students. These modules will have essential skills that were not taught before the COVID- 19 school closure or will have content for the purpose of review of material that has been previously taught. Teachers will document essential skills that were not taught and how they were addressed in the learning modules and provide updates to the principals on students that may benefit from summer school programs.

Accommodations and modifications will be made for students with disabilities (SWDs) within the learning modules.

Teachers will continue to contact parents weekly through the end of the academic school year.

Teachers are to keep a contact log of all students and families contacted during Phase II of Continuity of Learning.

#### **Specifics:**

##### Grading and Learning Modules with essential skills instruction

April 15, 2020 is the first "official" day of Continuity for Learning-Learning Modules with essential skills instruction. All students are strongly encouraged to complete the *Learning Modules* and stay in touch with your teachers. If you have technology needs, please reach out to your school principal or teacher.

Teachers will be making contact with students weekly.

Many of our high school students are enrolled in Dual Enrollment courses with Mountain Empire Community College (MECC) For purposes of Class Rank and GPA calculation, it is important to find ways to be consistent with MECC at the High School level.

Here is a summary of how grades will be awarded for 2nd Semester of 2020:

- Final grades will be assigned based upon the student's grade at the end of the third nine weeks (except for students in Dual Enrollment courses\* and Odysseyware).
- If a student wants to improve the grade which he/she has earned as of March 13, 2020, they may work with the teacher to make up missing assignments, etc. Grades will not be reported for the *essential skills* that are being covered from March 13, 2020 until the end of the school year.
- \*Based on guidance from the Virginia Community College System, students enrolled in Dual Enrollment and Governor School classes have the option of earning a letter grade, a "Pass" or "Withdrawal."
- A Pass or Withdraw will not impact the student's high school grade point average but could have an impact on Class Rank. Norton City Schools is encouraging all students to **finish strong** and earn a letter grade. A "Withdraw" could impact *eligibility for VHSL participation* for underclassmen. Students must notify MECC indicating their preference by the end of the term in compliance with the guidance from VCCS.
- \*\*Students working in Odysseyware courses will work with teachers and administrators to complete the necessary coursework to satisfy requirements.
- **As of April 15**, teachers will provide instruction as *Continuity for Learning* by developing learning modules which will deliver the remaining *essential skills* by a variety of means: virtual learning, on-line instruction, google classroom, audio, video, TV classroom, packets, and other means as teachers deem beneficial.
- This instruction is required to receive a Verified Credit for high school students. NCS will seek all waivers available with the Virginia Department of Education in relation to SOLs and other academic requirements.
- The option for summer school instruction and remedial programs will be considered at a later date for students who may not have successfully mastered the remaining *essential skills*.

### Students with Disabilities/Special Education

With the plan to move to *Learning Modules*, effective April 15, special education services will also be provided. Just as general education instruction is reduced to teaching the remaining *essential skills* during this time, special education services will be reduced in the same way and will continue to be provided to the students. In addition, all IEPs are being amended as necessary and with federal guidance. Special education teachers are working diligently to make those changes, and to also reach out to the families in a timely manner. Special education services will be provided in a variety of ways to include online resources, virtual platforms, packets sent home, etc. The important piece of special education services is that there must be equity of access, which means that we will do what is appropriate for the needs of each individual student. For students who receive services in the general education setting, the special education teacher will be collaborating with general education teachers to provide accommodations/modifications for the learning modules being prepared for students. Students who receive services in more restrictive environments will receive services through their teachers. Related services will continue during the *Continuation for Learning*. Our Special Education Supervisor is collaborating with our speech pathologist, occupational therapists and physical therapy to arrange for means of services.