Emergency Virtual Instruction Plan

2026-2027

Approved by the East Greenwich Township Board of Education

on June 17, 2026

Introduction

In April 2020, Governor Murphy issued an executive order that became P.L.2020, c.27. This law provides for the continuity of instruction in the event of a public-health related district closure so that LEAs can utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

In order to provide transparency and ensure that New Jersey students continue to receive high quality, standards-based instruction, each school district, charter school, renaissance school project and Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities (APSSDs) must annually submit its proposed program for virtual or remote instruction (plan) to the Commissioner of Education.

This plan would be implemented during a district closure lasting more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure. A superintendent must consult with the board of education, if practicable, prior to implementing the school district's plan of virtual or remote instruction.

A day of virtual or remote instruction, if instituted under a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education, is considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance for the purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements, awarding of course credit, and such other matters as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

Any district program of virtual or remote instruction implemented for the general education students shall provide the same educational opportunities to students with disabilities. Special education and related services, including speech language services, counseling services, physical therapy, occupational therapy, and behavioral services, may be delivered to students with disabilities through the use of electronic communication or a virtual or online platform and as required by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), to the greatest extent practicable.

Instruction

Equitable access to instruction will be provided to all students.

Connectivity

Students who do not have internet access will be provided with access to the internet.

Devices

The district maintains a supply of Chromebooks, and students in preschool and Beginners in need of a device will be provided one. Students in grades 1 and 2 are assigned a district Chromebook for use when in school. In the event of an unexpected closure, pick up times will be arranged, so families can pick up a device at the school. Students in grades 3 through 6 are assigned a district Chromebook.

Instructional Day

In the event of an emergency closure, the district will maintain the same daily schedule as an in person learning day. The school day begins at 8:40am and ends at 3:20pm. Staff and students will follow their in-person schedule for academic instruction, special area instruction, related services, lunch and recess. Synchronous learning will be provided via Google Classroom for all content area and special area courses. Lunch and recess will be asynchronous.

In the event of an extended emergency closure, the instructional schedule may be adjusted to include four hours of synchronous instruction and two hours of mixed synchronous and asynchronous instruction. During the two hours of mixed instruction, students may be assigned asynchronous instructional activities, such as independent reading, independent assignments, and/or online practice. During this time, teachers will work synchronously with individual and/or small groups of students to provide differentiated instruction. A schedule will be shared and posted for parents and guardians.

Delivery of Instruction

A blend of synchronous and asynchronous learning will occur. Factors such as the anticipated length of closure and the developmental needs of the students will be considered when determining how instruction will be delivered and which materials/resources will be used.

Google Suite for Education, specifically Google Meet, will be used to deliver synchronous instruction, and Google Classroom will be used to provide access to materials for asynchronous instruction. All staff and students have active Google accounts.

Special education related services, when permissible by law, will continue to be provided virtually.

Student Progress

In a virtual environment, student progress will be measured in a variety of ways. Formative methods, such as teacher observation, student participation, review of student assignments, virtual rating scales, exit tickets, etc. will continue to be used in the virtual environment to monitor student progress and make adjustments to instruction. Summative assessments, such as tests and projects can also continue to take place in the virtual environment, using online subscription services and platforms. Additionally, small group instruction and 1:1 virtual sessions will be used to assess students.

Special Education Needs

Special education students will continue to receive instruction virtually through both synchronous and asynchronous instruction.

Related services will continue in the virtual environment where permissible by law. Student progress monitoring will continue to ensure students' progress is documented.

Based on the anticipated length of closure, case managers may contact parents regarding how specific modifications and/or accommodations are implemented in a virtual environment.

IEP meetings, evaluations and reevaluations will continue to occur in a virtual environment.

Addressing English Language Learners

In a virtual environment, services will continue to be delivered to ML students. Access to technology and materials will continue to be available. Translated and leveled literacy materials are available via Google platform. Differentiation and technology will be used to support the instructional needs of students.

Communication with families of ML students occurs electronically with the support of Google translation features through the Google Translate application.

Depending upon the length and purpose of the closure, additional, specific training may be provided to staff to ensure culturally responsive teaching and learning, socio-emotional learning, and trauma-informed teaching for students.

Attendance

Attendance will be measured daily at 8:40am. This is the start of synchronous virtual instruction. During synchronous classes, attendance will be taken. During asynchronous work time, attendance will not be taken. Students must be logged into the Google Meet and participate to be considered present.

The district will follow all current policies and procedures for attendance (and non-attendance) in a virtual environment. After 5, 9, 12, 15 and beyond absent days, a letter will be sent by the respective principal to the parents indicating the serious nature of continued absences.

After a total of fifteen (15) days absent, a doctor's note will be required for each additional absence. In addition, a conference will be held with the parent, school nurse, guidance counselor, classroom teacher and the principal to develop a plan of action to correct chronic absenteeism.

If the parent does not comply with the doctor's note request, a conference will be held with the Superintendent and the above-mentioned staff members.

In accordance with district policy 5200-Attendance, truancy charges may be filed and retention may be considered if a student has prolonged or repeated absences.

Meals

In the event of a closure, meals will be provided to qualifying families. The district will establish and publicize a schedule for meal pick up and/or delivery.

Facilities

In the event of an extended closure, the buildings will continue to be maintained. Based on the reason for the closure, the building maintenance shift schedule may be adjusted to accommodate for health and safety reasons.

Other Considerations

Our Gifted and Talented courses, Take Flight and SOAR, will continue in the virtual environment. Enrichment activities for all students, such as STEAM class, will continue in the virtual environment. Instrumental music lessons will continue in the virtual environment. Clubs may continue in the virtual environment; however, due to the nature of the club and the typical activities, adjustments may be made for a virtual environment or the club may be temporarily suspended.

Basic skills and other academic interventions will continue in the virtual environment.

The social and emotional health of all will continue to be a priority. Monthly counselor lessons, small group and individual counseling sessions will continue in the virtual environment for students. Staff has access to free mental health services through our Employee Assistance Program with Cooper University Hospital. Local services will continue to be leveraged to assist staff and parents in locating mental health resources in the community.

The before and after school program will not take place when the physical building is closed due to a public health emergency. To the extent possible, community programs will continue in the virtual environment. The district will work with the provider to support a virtual platform.

Essential employees will be identified based on the reason and expected duration of a public health emergency. A list will be provided to the county office at the start of the closure.

Essential Personnel

In the event of an emergency closure with a shift to virtual instruction, essential personnel are those who are required to report to work in person to ensure continued operations. The list of essential staff members will be adjusted based on the length and purpose of the closure. In the event of an emergency closure, the list below will be updated and shared with the Gloucester County Office of Education and district employees.

Essential Personnel List (subject to change based on length and purpose of closure):

Superintendent

All administrators

All directors and managers (Cafeteria, Facilities, IT, Transportation)

Secretarial staff

Maintenance/custodial staff

School Resource Officers (SRO's)