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Mansfield Township School District Virtual/Remote Instruction Plan 2026-2027 School Year

This plan will be implemented in the event of 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. The Superintendent will 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 this plan approved by the Commissioner of Education, shall be considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance for purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements, awarding course credit, and other matters as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

Equitable Access and Opportunity to Instruction

1. Teachers will provide instruction through Google Meet and assignments through online textbooks, Google Classroom, district instructional programs, and web-based resources. Students will have online access to instructional programs and support throughout any period of remote instruction.
2. Mansfield Township School District is a 1:1 school district. All students and staff will have district-issued Chromebooks or Chrome-enabled laptops. If students or staff experience connectivity issues, the district will provide internet access through mobile hotspots as available.
3. All teachers have access to Google accounts, Google Classroom, district applications, and district-issued email to facilitate communication with students and families, assignment tracking, and timely feedback.
4. Grades will be posted in a timely manner through Genesis and Google Classroom, as appropriate.
5. Student growth and progress will be monitored through Genesis, LinkIt! Data Warehousing and Intervention Manager, i-Ready, and other district assessment platforms.

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6. All students will have individual devices, district accounts, and access to Google Classroom and applicable instructional programs.
7. In the event of advance notice of a closure, teachers will send home textbooks and paper-based instructional materials as appropriate.
8. Students requiring technology assistance or internet access will be provided with district resources whenever possible.
9. Administration and support staff will assist with the distribution of instructional materials to ensure equitable access.
10. If a student is unexpectedly unable to access the internet, alternative assignments will be provided whenever feasible. Students will not be penalized for circumstances beyond their control and will be afforded reasonable opportunities to make up missed work.
11. Students and families will have continuous online access to instructional materials, assignments, digital resources, and district-supported instructional programs through Google Classroom and other district-approved platforms throughout the period of virtual or remote instruction.
12. District administration will monitor requests for technology devices and internet access throughout any period of virtual or remote instruction and will respond promptly to address any emerging digital access needs to ensure equitable participation for all students.

Addressing Special Education Needs

1. The school nurse, Principal, and case manager/504 Coordinator will address the return to school of medically fragile students and students with physical or health impairments requiring accommodations or modifications under Section 504.
2. The district will communicate frequently with families of students with significant medical risk factors to determine whether additional precautions are necessary.
3. The Child Study Team (CST) will review student progress to determine whether critical skills were impacted during virtual instruction and determine whether additional supports or services are necessary.
4. The CST will consider the impact of missed services on student progress toward IEP goals and determine the need for additional or compensatory services as appropriate.
5. The CST will develop procedures to complete overdue or incomplete evaluations as necessary.
6. CST members will collaborate with teachers and service providers to document implementation of IEPs, accommodations, modifications, and related services.
7. Student progress will continue to be monitored through Genesis, LinkIt!, i-Ready, and district assessment tools.
8. Case managers will remain available to students and families throughout remote instruction to provide consultation and support. The district BCBA will provide consultation to students and families as needed, and crisis management support will be available when appropriate.

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9. Department administrative assistants and administrators will monitor communications daily.
10. IEP meetings, eligibility meetings, evaluations, and other required meetings may be conducted virtually when appropriate. Any limitations regarding standardized assessments will be considered individually.

Addressing Multilingual Learner (ML) Plan Needs

1. The Multilingual Learner (ML) program will continue to meet all State and Federal requirements during virtual instruction.
2. The district will ensure that Multilingual Learners have access to technology and internet service necessary for participation.
3. The district ESL teacher will provide live virtual instruction through Google Meet and provide differentiated instruction based on student needs using sheltered instructional strategies and other appropriate instructional supports to ensure students have access to grade-level curriculum.
4. The ESL teacher will maintain communication with families, including translated materials, interpreter services, and literacy-level appropriate information.
5. Students will be provided additional translation support as needed.
6. The ESL teacher will monitor student participation weekly and collaborate with classroom teachers to modify assignments and provide additional support when necessary.
7. The ESL teacher will meet regularly with instructional staff to discuss student progress and instructional strategies.
8. Professional development regarding culturally responsive instruction, social-emotional learning, trauma-informed practices, and effective instructional strategies for Multilingual Learners will continue to be made available to staff.

Attendance Plan

1. Students will receive attendance credit through participation in Google Meet sessions, submission of assignments, and communication with their teachers consistent with district expectations.
2. Teachers will remain available throughout the school day through email and virtual conferencing.
3. Instruction will remain aligned with district curriculum and New Jersey Student Learning Standards. Lessons will include clear learning objectives, checks for understanding, and meaningful feedback.
4. If students are not participating in instruction or submitting assignments, teachers will notify parents and communicate with the school counselor, case manager (when applicable), Assistant Principal, and/or Principal. MTSS interventions will be initiated as appropriate.

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Safe Delivery of Meals Plan

1. The district will communicate meal distribution schedules and procedures to families.
2. The Business Administrator will oversee coordination of meal distribution with the district's food service provider and communicate information to the school community.

Facilities Plan

1. The district will develop procedures for routine inspection of facilities during any extended closure.
2. Facilities will be cleaned and maintained to ensure safe re-entry for students and staff.
3. The district will continue to follow established cleaning and disinfecting procedures using approved products.

Essential Employees

1. The LEA will ensure essential employees are identified and a list is provided to the county office at the time of the LEA's transition to remote or virtual instruction.

Other Considerations

1. Students requiring accelerated learning opportunities will continue to receive enrichment activities and virtual instruction from Gifted and Talented staff.
2. Students requiring additional academic support through MTSS, intervention services, or classroom teacher referrals will receive virtual tutoring and intervention support.
3. School counselors will continue meeting virtually with assigned students and provide resources to families and staff.
4. Extracurricular clubs and activities will continue virtually whenever feasible.
5. Transportation services will be provided during extended closures only when permitted and practical.
6. Before and after-school childcare services operated by the district will be suspended during school closures. The district will communicate available county or community childcare resources for essential workers and families if such services become available during an extended closure
7. The Board of Education will determine whether community events may continue in district facilities during closures.
8. The district curriculum will continue to emphasize 21st Century Life and Career Skills.
9. Students requiring credit recovery or individualized learning plans will have access to online coursework and alternative instructional settings as appropriate.
10. The district will communicate available county or community childcare resources for essential workers and families if such services become available during an extended closure.

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11. The district will communicate with municipal agencies and community organizations regarding the continuation, suspension, or modification of community programming and facility use during an extended closure.

Communication Plan

1. In the event of a district closure requiring the implementation of virtual or remote instruction, Mansfield Township School District will communicate timely and accurate information to students, families, and staff through multiple communication platforms.
2. District notifications regarding school closures, instructional expectations, meal distribution, technology support, and other important updates will be disseminated through Blackboard/Genesis email notifications, district robocalls, the Mansfield Township School District mobile app, the district website (including homepage pop-up notifications), Facebook, and Instagram.
3. The district will make every effort to provide information as early as possible and will update families regularly throughout the duration of the closure. Families are encouraged to ensure that their contact information in Genesis remains current and to monitor district communication platforms for the latest information and guidance.

Contacts:

- **Instructional Programs and Concerns-** Principal, Noreen Matias
- **Attendance and MTSS-**Assistant Principal, Jake Wilson
- **Technology-** Hunterdon ESC liaison, Jennifer Teets
- **Facilities and School Lunch-** Business Administrator, Gail Libby
- **Communications and Special Education-** Diana Mai, Superintendent/Director of Special Education