

## Comments from TCSC Parents (by School)

### eLearning Survey, February 2020

#### Titpon High School

Do you have any celebrations, questions or suggestions to share for future eLearning Days?<sup>34</sup> responses

- There tends to be an excessive amount of homework on these days. When the student spends all day and most of the evening working on the assignments are they counted late? I'm never sure what time the assignments are due by. I know in the past some are due by 3:30 and my student does not always start with that particular class first. So it has been a struggle to make sure which assignments need to be done first to not have late assignments. Are there options for students who do not have internet access at these times?
- The teachers should respond to the students in a more time appropriate manner. My 9th grader asked her teacher a question on Thursday and never got an answer.
- The amount of time that the assignments take is ridiculous. I understand that these are honors HS classes, but the assignments should not take 12+ hours total to complete. It's very stressful.
- How can the teacher require the work to be turned in that day? I thought they had a window of time to complete the work? Our internet isn't always reliable or doesn't always stay connected (satellite - not fiber optic) Also, they spent more time on elearning assignments than what they would have been in class. I am not sure that is the goal here. Some of the teachers need to be monitored on what they are telling the students and what they are assigning.
- Hopefully another surgery is available for my 3rd grader. Our experience was not as positive!
- Sometime s I feel too much work is given on e-learning days. My child would rather make up the days at the end of the year.
- Parents need to be more clearly informed as to what the assignments are.
- Direct communications would be better than google classroom
- Some of the teachers didn't post the assignments until that Monday. I thought it was supposed to be in Before that day. Otherwise, it's a great system!!
- I wish the planned elearn day would have been rescheduled for Presidents' Day.

- Still need to clarify the amount of days a child has to complete work on an unscheduled elearning day. Some teachers may not know the correct policy or are not following it. Policy is policy.
- There needs to be a BALANCE. Some teachers are BURYING kids with far more than a typical days worth of work while others are giving barely anything to do. Also...please make it CLEAR when these assignments are due? Is it next day? By midnight the day of? Three days? Does anyone know????
- Don't expect to teach tough concepts such as math through practice problems only. The kids need to be taught and taught the lesson before they can review and test. I'm not referring to only elearning days but all days. I think the computer should be used sparingly in math, because of a hand brain connection that comes from actually writing things and hearing then taught...not just seeing the instructions on a screen.
- Don't let the complainers deter e-learning.
- Elearning has been such a positive experience for our family!
- I'm very happy with the eLearning process and appreciate not having to make up the school days.
- None
- My only question is why she had 4 hours of Spanish E-Learning....
- The system works great
- It's a problem for people who do not have wired internet. If the weathers bad that you can't get to school than you can bet that your antenna internet won't be working. County needs to provide high speed internet throughout county. Also going to McDonald's is not an answer I want to hear. If you can get to McDonald's do use their internet than you should be at school.
- High school elearning was better than the middle school elearning issues this year, did not have any issues other than delays with HS
- Elearning should be done away with and focus on a better learning environment.
- They are great!!
- How long do kids have to complete the lessons? We do not have access to regular internet at home and therefore use our cell phones as hot spots and that has proven to be unsuccessful in even being able to access certain sites to complete homework...
- "This day in History" type of info might be of interest and a way to engage the students
- Don't have them
- Some teachers are assigning too much or not detailed enough.. write for 10 mins...what does that mean to a freshman? One sentence...while there should be one page.
- I really appreciate e-learning days. My job requires me to request off my vacation time one year in advance so as to not have more than two employees off at the same time, especially

summer. When make-up days are added to the end of the school year it often interferes with our family vacation time.

- My Junior spent 4 hours on one class. I feel that an elearning should not consume that much time for one class.
- For the first time since any of my children have been in high school, all of the assignments were assigned in a timely manner. Please don't assign more math problems than would typically be assigned in one day. The elearning assignments are meant to take the place of one class period not 2-3 class periods. It would also be nice if the material weren't new material. It's bad enough when the students are in class that the teacher isn't using block 4 effectively. It seems the students are having to find ways to teach themselves.
- I completely agree with Elearning day's but the amount of work that the teacher are sending is so much more work then what they would do in a normal school day! The teachers need to be given more guidelines in the amount of work they send! Both of my children are in AP and Honor class and it takes the entire day to able to complete the work. Also the dates of completion times a days need to be followed!
- It would be great if the eLearning Days could be planned around days that are typically more challenging school days: Pork Festival Friday, Nov. 1, day after Superbowl, etc.
- My son did not have much homework. All 3 eLearning days it took him 30 minutes to complete each day. Hard to believe there wasn't more learning that needed to be done. He isn't complaining, but I just want to make sure he is learning enough.
- I am not a fan of E learning days. I am a working mom with 5 children in the school system. I can not be with them all day to help with school work and I also don't always know how to do their work to help them. I think school work should be done at school and not put on the parents.

## Tipton Middle School

Do you have any celebrations, questions or suggestions to share for future eLearning

Days? 27 responses

- Teachers need to post all assignments in google classroom not expect students to access multiple programs. Math needs to have a digital lesson or do review problems versus something new so that students who do not have someone to explain can still complete the assignment.
- I loved the snow creature challenge. She didn't participate bc it had gotten too cold outside by the time we saw it, but I loved the encouragement to go outside and play.
- Overall, we are happy with the e-learning days. There are bound to be minor hiccups, but our teachers are great at communicating with parents and students. It's a great way to not add days to the end of the school year.
- I love E-Learning Days it bets making the day up at the end of the year :)
- My child would,rather make up the days at the end of the year
- There should be more than 1 day to complete assignments. My husband and I work all day, come home to cook and do not have 5+ hours to help children with a days worth of assignments. Kids are off school they are not worried about homework during the day.
- having elearning assignments posted by all teachers by the designated times
- I enjoy elearning days. It allows the kids to stay up to date with schoolwork and avoid added days at the end of the school year.
- 8th grade has had a few instances in which eLearning assignments were not sent by 9 am, but as late as noon. Also in the first eLearning, an email needed to be sent to ask if there was an eLearning assignment. Clear instructions on the assignment should be given for the day.
- Questions were asked via email and answered on the eLearning assignment itself in both 6th and 8th grade.
- Truly appreciate that 2 hr delays are now given the night before and NOT at 5:30 am day of. I'm sure working parents appreciate the prior night's notice.
- Lots of confusion on when certain items were due. Some indicated by end of the day, others claimed Monday. Then told that even it is states Monday it was due on Thursday (13th)
- Some kids will not do their work on their own and do not have parents at home to make sure they do it.
- I just hope that we don't abuse E-Learning days and use it as a temporary fix for inclement weather. Is there a total number of E-Learning days a school corporation can have until they have to start making the days up?

- If a parent wanted their child homeschooled, they would be. Hoosier k-12 online schooling is far superior than what TCSC offers. I have not heard one parent or student who is in favor of these, but we must cater to the sub-par teachers that rotate year-to-year vs giving an outstanding educational experience to the students.
- Have more them.
- I love this option! It keeps our children safe and on task!
- Very happy teacher's were easy to contact and gave the correct amount of work unlike elementary and High school
- Don't do them.
- Just announce the school closing before 7:30 am
- I think the kids still have it in their heads that this is a day off so they don't get why there is actual work that can take the majority of the day.
- Stop them! They are an unneeded burden out on parents. It's difficult enough to find babysitters for children who are usually in school, let alone making the parents or babysitters become the teacher for the day is ridiculous. It's stressful enough for parents as is and all this does is stack multiple stresses even more in a single day.
- I'd prefer not to have eLearning days. Some parents work and eLearning days can be difficult to complete.
- Video calling/conferencing with their teacher would be beneficial to their learning process
- No.
- My son isn't self motivated, gets distracted easily, my daughter does wonderful ....this all depends on the student
- My concern is we do not have reliable internet access all the time. We do our best with our hotspots on our phones but they don't always work. So my daughter was unable to get all of her work done before her hotspot quit working

## Tipton Elementary

Do you have any celebrations, questions or suggestions to share for future eLearning Days?<sup>68</sup> responses

- E learning is a great resource, however when you have children , like myself, where the distraction of being comfortable at home makes it incredibly difficult to complete work, to me that poses a issue.
- I love this availability and no make up days thank you for being safe with my child
- There needs to be more time given than just the day of for you complete work. We don't get home until 5:30 pm.
- When there is only one day to finish the work on unplanned elearning days, less assignments would be nice. The days always end up stressful on me & the child.
- We appreciate the e-learning days and not having to make up those days at the end of the school year. It seems like most teachers allow students extra time to finish e-learning work and relaying or reminding those exact due dates to parents who are stressed may help?
- I don't nor do my children like eLearning days.
- So far, all of our experiences have been great!
- I am a single parent with a full time job. It is impossible for us to complete a full day of learning from 6p-8p. These are the hours in the evening dedicated to homework after a full day of work for me and before bedtime for him. A clear and consistent deadline of when work is due would be appreciated. One evening is simply not enough. I would MUCH prefer only scheduled E learning days where we can prepare in advance. Last minute E learning days are disrespectful to a parents time and schedule. I understand it allows for a shorter school year and they have benefits, however, there should be more time to complete the assignments if they are going to be communicated the day of the closing
- I hate elearning. I'm a single mom of 2. Unfortunately I have to work to supply everything they need and It's a struggle with working all day and coming home in the evening to assist my special needs son with his lifetime supply of work that takes hours to accomplish. I wish snow days were just snow days. I had to make it up at the end of the year and I survived :)
- Hate eLearning
- As a working parent of 3 it is very difficult to complete ELearning. I also could not access the science portions website so my child was unable to complete that.
- No more e-learning! I have a full time job and not enough hours in the day to be a teacher as well. I would prefer a couple extra days at the end of the year over trying to squeeze in a full

days worth of lessons with my children (soon to be 3 children in school, with e-learning work) or even worse, take hours out of their WEEKEND to do school work. Where is the value in family time?! Sorry, but evenings and weekends are for family. Not MORE school work.

- Not all assignments were available on the Friday of the e-learning weekend. E-learning has become easier as my child gets older but my child still requires assistance from me. As a working parent, I have to take the day off to get unplanned e-learning done as the daycare my child attends does not have internet and there is not enough to get it all completed by the next day if we were to start after work hours.
- The elearning was appropriate and not overwhelming. As a result, my girls were able to enjoy the day like a kid should and acquire the appropriate knowledge that they needed.
- Don't have unplanned e learning says, add them onto the end or make more flex days I'm March and April when they'd actually be needed. trying to teach to completely different lessons to kids is a nightmare. Also, there is no clear across the board standard as to how long kids have to get it done. If I work the night before and then have to stay up all day w them trying to get work done it's pretty unsuccessful and negative experience for everyone, I can assume that is also the case when parents work normal hours and have to cram all of that into an evening. I feel like the kids would benefit more from being IN THE SCHOOL w someone who actually knows how to teach, because I'm smart, but I'm not a teacher that's not what know how to do. Maybe take a survey of this system and see if the parents choose makeup at the end, flex days, or eLearning. I get the state wants e learning days, however are they mandating it for snow days also or just for the planned ones. At least i can try to make a schedule that accommodates those, although I am sure there are many parents who can't. I also think it negatively impacts kids who's parents aren't involved. An e learning day isn't going to make them suddenly sit down and care of their child completes the work or not, at least in school they are exposed to the information.
- I love it!
- This does not apply to us, as we are very lucky to have a flexible schedule, but some family's have 2 working parents & limited internet access. I feel that students should have more than 1 day to complete assignments, I believe there is some confusion on the time line in which the assignments are due.
- [Teacher] is great at providing all of the material up-front, and is extremely helpful if we have questions. Unplanned, weather related E-Learning days are hard for parents who like us work, but not impossible. Extra days for weather related e-learning days might be helpful.
- I find e-learning days to be quite stressful and difficult. With a full house it's not easy to sit down for hours to do school. My daughter doesn't understand how to use a computer so I can't let her just sit down and do it. And this is only kindergarten it's only going to get longer

e-learning work and harder as time goes on. I am not a teacher, nor do I have the distraction free environment to do her work with soon to be 4 kids 5years and under. We both just end up frustrated by the end of it. I dread e-learning days.

- As a working parent, the amount of activity each child has to do is very time consuming. There is an unrealistic expectation from the parent to help the student complete these activities. If it is e-learning, the coursework should reflect items to review instead of new lessons that the parent can't assist in due to lack of knowledge on specific methods used to teach. What should have taken no more than an hour, took 4+ for them to complete yesterday.
- I still do not agree with eLearning Days. I believe it negatively impacts the parents / grandparents work schedule. The students learn better in a classroom supported by staff. If a parent/grandparent has more than 1 student at home, it is a huge challenge for the parent/grandparent. We are not in the classroom on a daily basis and really don't know how to necessarily explain things in the same manner as the child/children have been taught.
- I'm not a fan of the e-learning days in place of canceling school. I have to miss work and be at home to make sure he's getting ALL of the work done. I can't keep missing work to stay home and help him get through all of the assignments. The elearning days that are scheduled are easier to ask off rather than having to call in and miss work or they are where we can do the work over the weekend and I don't have to miss work myself.
- Everyone knew the roads sucked. Why not cancel school the night before so parents could be prepare. Not everyone can just not show up to work or find a sitter at the drop of a hat. If you can call a 2 hour delay no reason you can't call school closed the night before.
- We love E-learning! Especially since it helps to prioritize everyone's safety in winter weather situations.
- Keep doing them! I much prefer continuing my curriculum through these days, rather than missing out on additional instructional days before iLearn!
- My daughter absolutely hates elearning days. She would rather be in school.
- 2 kids with adhd on elearning days is awful.. I think snow days should go back to regular snow days(letting them enjoy the day off of school).I have to call off work every time they have an elearning day so I know they can get their stuff submitted on time. Then the programs don't even save after their done and if I can't write down their score they have to re take the lesson!
- As a working parent, elearning is an added stressor to our lives. We appreciate that this makes it nicer for school to not need to make up days but either way we have to find daycare and we have to make time to help children complete their lessons.
- Let students have a snow day not where they have to do e learning

- No
- Continue to use the apps and methods they use to learn in class. My children are familiar with them and know how to use them. Don't send home busy work.
- I do not have a computer or internet access so we were unable to complete the internet portion. We live in Kokomo and it is impossible to drive to Tipton to use one of the locations that have internet access when the roads are bad.
- We like the e-learning days. Our teachers are doing a great job communicating with their students and parents when necessary. It's nice to not tack them on at the end of the year when the weather is nice.
- A way for AR to work for students who do not bring home their iPads would be great and the only problem we have with elearning days. It has not worked for any elearning days
- E-Learning days are being used way to much. It would okay if they were just weather related but then you add the four scheduled. Everyone has different timelines. Some have hours of work others just minutes. It's not balanced nor fair. There needs to be clear set guidelines for everyone. Overall Tipton is using them to much.
- I think elearning is a great alternative to having to make up days at the end of the year!
- Due to the students assignments being due the next school day. Working and Elearning does not work in our family. My 3rd grader requires assistance with her Elearning and Elearning days are usually a 3-4 hour task for us. This is exhausting when trying to work and assist her during my work day OR make her start at 6pm and go to bed 10pm when I am home from work. I am sure I am not the only working parent with this issue due to only being given one day to complete assignments both from and back of pages.
- Oh, and let's throw in snowman building contest for fun!! I would LOVE for her to be able to play outside but we have 3-4 hours of homework to do and fun is not on the list off long assignments to do for the NEXT school day!!
- Building in second semester flex days seems to be an option worth considering. I know starting earlier for first semester isn't always a popular conversation, but if having 5 additional days in August, building in 5 flex days between February - May, and still getting out the Friday before Memorial Day is possible... I'd vote for it!
- To not have so much work to do. If you have more than one kid that is doing it, it takes all day and they can't do anything after that.
- Make sure it is clear when the lesson is due by. Some say next school day and others say 3 days to complete
- As a single working parent I do not agree with elearning days. I cannot take off work to monitor if he completes the work. I am lucky to find a babysitter to watch him, let alone schoolwork.

- Quit doing e learning, you think parents that have to work all day and then do 5 hours of that crap and want to come home curse at the electronic device they are using because it doesn't like the site typed up on paper, by the way it should be emailed links we can access not on paper that the link has a typo
- I love that they dont have to make the day up later!
- Don't have them. I get that the teachers need to do training or have meetings, but life was great when they went in Wednesday's at 8:30. Not every parent has a whole day to spend on homework. Work, having littler kids who need constant help on the elearning, or having smaller children who also need catered too during elearning time make it hard to get the work completed and keep ones sanity. Again for the people in the back DON'T HAVE ELEARNING DAYS.
- 3 days is not enough. Both my husband and I work full time and are both in school ourselves. I am in a masters degree program which also requires clinical hours and he is in an apprenticeship which has him working 8-5 5 days a week and then school from 6-10pm. We do not have time for e learning homework when my kindergartener isn't able to complete the assignments without help. Last minute e learning days are not doable for our family and many others. This needs to be re evaluated.
- Have you ever thought about going back to the delay schedule on one day or maybe a 2 hr delay. It seems kids miss a lot when teachers aren't able to teach.
- I think they are given way too much to do on these e learning days. We spend way too many hours trying to finish. I work and she has to go somewhere without wifi. And we end up staying up until midnight to finish.
- Stop them! They are horrible. They put a burden on parents that is not needed. It's difficult enough to have a babysitter for more children that are normally in school, let alone making parents or babysitters become the teacher for the day is absurd and a dumb event that only makes parents job that much more stressful.
- Each of my kids handle e learning days differently. When I emailed the teacher asking what his assignments were, she responded back with what he was supposed to get done and where to find them on his laptop. So thankful the teachers are available on these days. After I emailed her, she said she would email my son to check up on him.
- I clear policy of when the work is due needs to be set. Some teachers say the next school day and some say three. The school policy is conflicting with this.
- We need to go back to make up days any not do e learning days that encourage my kids to sit inside on tablets.
- The uncertainty about WHEN assignments are due is frustrating. While mine was clearly marked, many of my friends had conflicting information. It's yet another example of the

communication struggle from the school, which is unfortunate. Our internet connection isn't that great but we managed to hammer through the online portions to ensure he didn't miss recess to work on stuff.

- eLearning was and is always difficult, I find it hard to grasp what I want to say seeing as yesterday was the "easiest" eLearning experience we have had in our child's school career. It is very hard to keep our child motivated and focused to get all the different assignments done without our child having a massive melt down from being overwhelmed. Especially the math, I'm not sure if that's just our child struggles with it, but sometimes it's well over 100+ questions and hours of tears and frustration, only to finally be done right before bed with little to no time to play and \*enjoy\* a day from school. I'm almost 30 and if I had to look at a screen that long to do assignments, I would be the same. As I said, luckily yesterday's load seemed lighter and our child was able to complete all assignments and still get to go out and enjoy the beautiful snow day, but that is not our usual scenario. I know I'm not a minority when I say that I would be okay with a few extra days added on at the end of the year instead of the eLearning days due to weather. We don't have many and being able to see our child relax and enjoy a surprise day off would be fantastic. She's too young to be so stressed out from this workload.
- Another thing I've noticed widely talked about on Social Media among parents is the lack of clear guidelines on when the eLearning assignments are actually due, whether it's the next day or 3 days after. Luckily, ours states next day on the paper but it might be good to email parents to clear up the issue.
- Thank you for all you do for our children. It is deeply appreciated and I hope I didn't come across as crass or rude or unthankful.
- Get rid of e learning
- Our 4th grade teacher isn't the easiest to contact and send an excessive amount of work compared to my other children!
- My experiences with eLearning have been nothing but positive, this year and last year.
- We are very thankful that lessons are always available in a folder/kept in backpack and ready to complete. This eliminates the need to make up a different day, etc.
- We think it's so important that eLearning days put the focus back on the safety of our kiddos, making snow days easier to call. We love it.
- If more papers were given in the elearning folder I feel like my first grader could do his work more independently.
- With everything online we have to help pretty much the entire time.
- On weather issue related days when you decide to make it an elearning day = announce it SOONER! Not always easy to line up somewhere for kids to go at the last minute.
- We love it!
- I am happy with the process of the e learning days and feel that it is getting better with each use for teachers and students.

- I have 1 laptop from 7th grader this makes it hard when 2nd grader couldn't bring tablet home
- It makes it difficult to do elearning when both parents work, kid stays home and has to wait for mom or dad to come home to do the assignments due to mom and dad having to use their hotspot on their phones for the internet. Can we just make up days and have "real" snow days.
- There is too much work, and there are parents who can't take off those days. Which means they are doing 8 hours of work in the evening and causing stress.