

Continuity of Education Plan

School District	Mid-West School District
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Goal of Plan
<p>The goal of the Mid-West School District Continuity of Education Plan is to continue to provide all students the ability to maintain skills and grow in their content knowledge to the best of our ability allows.</p>

Overview of Plan
<p>Mid-West School District is approaching continuing education during the COVID – 19 Pandemic through a multi-faceted approach. Our primary approach for K-12 students will be to provide online learning opportunities of review, connect, and extend. This content will be available to students through the school’s Sapphire Learning Management System. Students with internet access can check their class sites at any time to complete assignments. Content and activities will be posted on regularly scheduled school days by their classroom teachers. Accommodations will be made for families without internet service or the technology necessary to access content.</p> <p>Beginning Monday, March 30, 2020 teachers will be entering activities for students into Sapphire. Teachers of elementary students will be providing information to families as to how to access this portal and the assignments. Middle School and High School students should have much greater familiarity with this system. Plans have been made to get a computer into the hands of every family with the need. We also have a plan to provide Verizon hot spots to families without internet access as the school district secures them. They will be distributed as they arrive to families during meal distribution. However, the district has had difficulty acquiring these devices in a timely manner as they are in high demand. This could require the use of packets until these devices become available. We will alert individuals as to the availability of the devices as they arrive on a first come first serve basis.</p> <p>The content provided will consist heavily of review and practice. However, content will also be assigned as connection and extension. This connection and extension content will be retaught once we return to school, and there will be no grades assigned to student work completed as review or extension through our mobile platform. Teachers will attempt provide feedback to students on their work, many of our integrated learning platforms do so naturally. There will be courses at the high school level that require assessment such as AP Courses and The Aces programs through Bloomsburg University. These courses will continue as prescribed because they tie into other opportunities that</p>

are still functioning. We want our students to continue to meet the expectations of these outside organizations and earn all credits available to them.

For students and families without internet access, we will be providing opportunities for work to be assigned through packets at the elementary level. Parents would just need to notify the building of their needs and a packet will be mailed to those families to provide daily practice. This would be a one-time mailing and be designed to provide daily review activities. The packets will focus on maintaining reading and math skills and are designed to be consumed as the family sees fit. The younger the elementary student, the more support they will need from families in completing the activities. This also holds true for our online activities as well as the packets with our youngest students.

For middle and high school students, review packets are much more complex because of the complexity of schedules and variety subjects at those levels. We have developed packets specific to reading and math at the middle school level which can be mailed out similarly to our elementary program. At the high school, we are still working on developing appropriate packets that will serve as grade level appropriate practice for reading, math, and writing. In the event of need to access these packet resources, please contact your building principal.

For students with GIEP, IEP, and 504 plans, the Midd-West School District is making every effort to continue to meet timelines and deadlines. Although we are unable to provide face to face meetings, we are more than willing to host meetings virtually or over the phone and mail out important information to families. We are also making every available effort to continue to provide services to students that can be done without face to face interaction. The COVID – 19 Pandemic has impacted the provision of these special education services more than any other endeavor within the school district. Although we may not have all the answers immediately, the Midd-West School District pledges to implement all special education services IEP teams have agreed upon when the COVID-19 Pandemic is behind us. With questions about special education, please contact Mrs. Lee Bzdil at bzdil.lee@mwsd.cc or by phone at (570) 837-0046 (ext. 1301)

We greatly appreciate the support of our parents and students during this uncharted territory in our educational system. The Midd-West School District will do the best we can to meet the needs of all students. If you have any questions regarding the Midd-West School District's Continuity of Education Plan or to address any specific needs you have, please contact the Director of Curriculum, Joe Stroup, at (570) 837-0046 (ext. 1201) or stroup.joe@mwsd.cc. Additionally, you may contact your child's building principal for answers to specific questions about individual buildings.

Expectations for Teaching and Learning

All teachers are expected to push content out as often as their classes or sections would meet if we were in the school setting. This includes specialists, special education teachers, and Title I teachers as well. Activities should be subject specific or area specific and provide review or connections activities. Connection activities could include moving forward with instruction in that area, but with the understanding that content will be retaught upon our return to the building.

Communication Tools and Strategies

The Mid-West School District will be using multiple forms of communication involving many mediums. First of all, we have been alerting parents to our plans through phone calls which all families with active phone lines receive. This is made possible very quickly through our automated Alert Now System. Next, our website will contain the latest information surrounding school cancellations, COVID – 19 Updates, school happenings, and educational activities. Students and parents also have the ability to access documents through our Sapphire Community Portal or learning management system. Additionally, teachers can contact individual students through their email accounts, through mediums such as Zoom or Microsoft 365 Teams, or through specific programs operated within the school district. Phone calls can be made to students as parents as well. Finally, mailings will be used as needed when all other types of meetings seem to be unavailable.

Access (Devices, Platforms, Handouts)

The district provided opportunities to all families to pick up a device from the school district to use in order to stay connected with these planned instructional activities. For families without internet service, we will be providing a Verizon Hot Spot to help them connect. If Verizon service is unavailable to the family, but other providers can provide them with access, the district will explore providing a connection device from that company. Resource packets will be mailed to families that would have no way to acquire internet service.

Staff General Expectations

Staff members have been participating in the distribution of devices and other resources including food, equipment, and materials. They have been a great asset to the district. Custodial and maintenance staff have been taking care of routine cleaning and building needs as they develop. Instructional Technology Staff has been maintaining the network, working with devices, and providing for the needs to make our mobile learning platform available.

Student Expectations

Students are expected to access the connection, review, and extension activities and complete them as they and their parents see fit. Given these exceptional circumstances, we hope that participation in these activities is high. Students can not only interact with the content, but they can ask their teachers for assistance. Communication in this period is essential to allow students to continue to grow, and our community to continue to prosper.

Attendance / Accountability

Teachers will chart participation in their activities. They can use this participation to base their rate of progress. In classes with high participation, teachers can provide more connection and extension activities as there will be fewer students needing remediation upon our return. Grades will not be assigned, but students will be provided feedback as warranted for the completion of activities within the system.

Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students

The Midd-West School District feels really good about our equity and access plan for all students. We can make many accommodations our students require through our digital system. The challenge arises in areas where no internet access or cell service is available. We will address these difficulties the best that we can through phone calls and mailings, but admittedly it is not ideal. This is why all work completion remains voluntary on the part of students with no grades assigned

Special Education Supports

Special Educations supports include all the supports that previously existed for students in the brick and mortar setting. Since students are not being assessed formally with a grade, those provisions would not be applicable. However, content will still be modified or reduced as described by the IEP. Also, IEP meetings and reevaluation meetings will continue to be held. During these meetings, provisions can be made to put in provisions for mobile learning.

EL Supports

Fortunately, for the Midd-West School District, we have such low numbers of students requiring EL Services that we can provide very tailored, individualized approach with frequent online checkups and phone calls home to monitor success. These contacts will be documented. Additionally, we can use our Sapphire Student Management System to track our former EL students' success and touch base with them through phone calls and digital contacts.

Gifted Education

Supports for Gifted Education will take place very similarly to the support of our special education students. Our gifted students will receive content and opportunities for their specific plans through our mobile platform from our gifted support teachers. GIEP meetings and reevaluations will take place through phone conferences or virtual methods to maintain due dates and timelines.

Building/Grade Level Contacts
West Snyder Elementary School – Ms. Erin Sheedy (570) 837-0046 (Ext. 5011) Middleburg Elementary School – Mrs. Julie Lohr (570) 837-0046 (Ext. 4011) Middle-West Middle School – Mr. Dane Aucker (570) 837-0046 (Ext. 3011) Middle-West High School – Mr. Thor Edmiston (570) 837-0046 (Ext. 2011) Special Education Concerns – Mrs. Lee Bzdil (570) 837-0046 (Ext. 1301)

Resource Links