



April 1, 2020

On Monday, March 30, 2020, Governor DeWine extended the school closure period until May 1, 2020. During the school closure, Seneca East is committed to continuing to educate and support our students. These lessons are being provided through alternative means. As we make these changes we are grateful to our families for your support and patience. This is new to all of us and it will be messy at times.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT

As we move into an extended period of alternate instruction and remote learning it is essential that parents, students, and teachers stay connected. An email directory for teachers is available on the district web site www.se-tigers.com. Parents and students should contact teachers directly with any questions regarding instructional needs or materials. Hundreds of emails between teachers, parents, and students have already exchanged, so do not hesitate to reach out for help.

We continue to develop lessons in Google Classroom, Class Dojo, Zoom meetings, Google Hangout and other platforms. We realize utilizing all of these resources is new for parents, students, and teachers alike; so again we thank you for your patience and your willingness to grow with us. Our goal is to provide educational options for students so that learning and growth continues during this time.

Students are asked to please keep the packets of work that were sent home for completion when the school closure began on March 13th. This work will be collected when we return to school on May 4, 2020. Elementary teachers will contact families with work and assignments for the next four weeks of the school shutdown. Most school work and other academic resources will be shared electronically. Any teachers needing to get textbooks or other physical materials to students will contact their families directly (through email, Class Dojo, phone calls, etc.). The teachers value the work students completed during the initial phase of the shutdown and really appreciate everything you are doing as parents. All student work will be collected on May 4 or the earliest day students return to school.

Students are required to complete the assigned work during this time. The lessons and academic opportunities provided to students are considered to be hours of instruction and students are required to complete these hours as if school were in session in the building.

Ohio legislatures did pass a bill last week waiving state testing. Consequently, there will not be any state tests assessed for the remainder of the 19-20 school year.

All Ohio Public Television Stations will be broadcasting programming to emphasize home learning preK-12 from 7:00-5:00 daily. This is an equity resource that can be shared out to families who may not have any internet or cable access. All Ohio PBS stations will be following the same broadcasting schedule.

<https://www.ideastream.org/news/ohio-public-television-stations-launch-home-learning-initiative>
Parents and teachers can also sign up for the daily e-newsletter that includes instructional materials or activities related to the programming. Find the newsletter and this week's schedule here <https://www.ideastream.org/ideakids>

Remember that Grade cards for the third quarter will be available for parents and students on Progress Book.

ProgressBook has been opened for all students/parents even if fees are owed in order to allow parents to track their student's/students' progress during this online learning. Parents who need assistance with ProgressBook for things like username and password can contact Andrea Schimpf at aschimpf@se-tigers.com

COUNSELOR SUPPORT

This is a stressful time for everyone and we know that there may be students and families who need to reach out to our school counselors for social-emotional support. Please do not hesitate to contact the counselors during this time. They are here to help.

Heather Stockmaster, 9-12 Counselor hstockmaster@se-tigers.com or call 419-426-1856

Heather Schalk, K-8 Counselor hschalk@se-tigers.com or call 419-426-1862

Charla VanOsdol, Mental Health Services cvanosdol@se-tigers.com

If you call the counselors please leave a message. The voicemail will be delivered to them at home and they will be able to retrieve the message and call you back.

The Ohio Department of Education has also posted a good social-emotional resource in regards to COVID-19 for parents to help their kids who may be struggling emotionally at:

<http://education.ohio.gov/Topics/Student-Supports/Coronavirus/Supporting-Children%e2%80%99s-Social-Emotional-and-Behavior>

Mrs. Stockmaster and Mrs. Schalk continue to work on scheduling for the 20-21 school year. They are reaching out to students via email and phone if there are any questions or conflicts regarding next year's schedule.

TECH SUPPORT

Any students experiencing technical issues should contact Mike Waldon: Email mwaldon@se-tigers.com

If there are families still in need of a Chromebook during this closure please contact Brad Powers at bpowers@se-tigers.com to make arrangements. These will be distributed by appointment.

There is currently an open Access Point for those in need of internet connectivity at Seneca East. Families who need internet service can merely pull up to the curb just outside the main office. Please remain in your vehicle. If you have your Chromebook you do not need a specific password to connect to the wifi service. Please avoid this area on Mondays and Wednesdays between 11:30-12:30 when lunches are being distributed curbside.

Progressbook access/ login (for students only) is the same as students' Google password. Any **student** having an issue accessing Progressbook should contact Mr. Waldon. He will reset your Google password. This will allow you to gain access again.

If **parents** need Progressbook passwords reset please contact aschimpf@se-tigers.com

Parents can find a great tutorial for Google Classroom on YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2lowi-gmbys>

Seneca East is making contact with individual families who are in need of internet access. If you are not contacted by the end of the week and you are in need of internet connectivity please email Mr. Vogt dvogt@se-tigers.com or Mr. Powers bpowers@se-tigers.com for assistance.

FOOD SERVICE

THERE IS A CHANGE in food service meal service.

Meal pick-up will change during the weeks surrounding spring break:

Monday 4/6,

Wednesday 4/8,

Wednesday 4/15, and

Monday, April 20.

Any student that needs meal service is eligible to receive it. Please make sure to fill out the order form on the district website before each pick-up. If there are any questions or concerns about pick-up, call Brenda Ruffing, Food Service Supervisor at 419-426-1859 or text 419-558-5683.

STUDENT SERVICES

We recognize that delivery of instruction has been altered and will continue to provide instruction to support the learning needs of students. If you have specific questions regarding student services, please contact the following individuals:

Lindsay Rellinger, Special Education, at lrellinger@se-tigers.com

Lindsay Felske, Gifted Education, at lfelske@se-tigers.com

FUTURE EVENTS

We know that graduation is a major concern and question for our seniors and their families, but at this time it is too soon to know what will happen. We do know that we WILL have a graduation ceremony. Students work incredibly hard to reach this milestone and we want to celebrate this accomplishment with our students, their families, and our community. We are looking at alternative dates for graduation in the event that we cannot host it on May 24th. More information will be forthcoming regarding graduation when we have a better idea of what the future holds for large events.

The prom is another event that may be subject to cancellation. We would like to have a prom for our students as we know this is an event they look forward to all year. It is just too soon to know what will happen with the prom.

Kindergarten Screening (originally scheduled for May 14 and 15) may need to be rescheduled. At this time it is too soon to know if this will be necessary. Summer dates will be offered as screening dates if this becomes necessary. Any parent with questions regarding kindergarten screening should contact Brad Powers at 419-426-1854 or bpowers@se-tigers.com. Note: Kindergarten Registrations forms are available for downloading on the district website under the Elementary Tab. Parents may download, complete, and mail those forms to the Elementary School Office, Att: Brad Powers and Jan Allgyre. All registration paperwork should be mailed by Friday, May 1. The school address is 13343 East US 224, Attica, OH 44807. Mr. Powers will also mail you registration forms if you contact him with the request.

COMMUNICATION

We will continue to update parents, students, and the community via the district website, www.se-tigers.com, our social media feeds and the Seneca East App. Please download the district app for your smartphones in your play store as Seneca East Local Tigers. Please

realize that information regarding the Coronavirus and the school closure changes rapidly, the best way to stay informed is on the district website.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FOR THE COMMUNITY

American Red Cross - needs local volunteers to help during COVID-19,

A quick community service announcement here (please share!!)... The American Red Cross is looking for local volunteers throughout Ohio that would be willing to help at blood drives and local disasters. In addition, we are also looking for "HELP FROM HOME" volunteers to help with volunteer support. All required training and resources will be provided. For more info, send an email to volunteerohio@redcross.org or visit our volunteer website at www.redcross.org/volunteer Blood Donors are also needed in every area - visit redcrossblood.org to find the closest donation site near you to schedule an appointment! Thanks in advance for your consideration..