

**Easton Valley JH/HS School**  
**Distance Learning Plan**



**Information &**  
**Frequently Asked Questions**  
**(FAQ's)**

*April 10, 2020*

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## Message to Families

Dear Easton Valley Students and Families,

As you know, Governor Reynolds announced that schools in Iowa should remain closed through April 30 in response to the COVID-19 crisis. While we are disappointed knowing that it will be several more weeks before we see our students, the safety of our community and state comes first.

In response to this closure, our team of educators have worked extremely hard to develop a voluntary distance learning plan that will allow our students to continue their learning at this time. Our plan will include learning opportunities that go beyond many of the resources that have been offered through April 10, 2020. One of the key changes that you will notice will be the efforts of our teachers to engage more directly with their students. This will include a variety of efforts where teachers will be sending out recorded video lessons, scheduling online meetings, assigning learning tasks, and more.

We know that you will have many questions so we have created this document to guide you through this new experience with us. We ask that you please do your best to partner with us in this new approach to teaching and learning so that together, we can help your child reach their full academic potential.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the Easton Valley team so that we can continue to improve the educational services that we are able to provide.

Sincerely,

Chris Fee  
Superintendent

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Is the school going to contact my student?**

Yes. We began by sending out emails to identify the needs of our students and families. Our staff has been calling students that did not respond to the emails. As we transition into our voluntary learning plan starting April 13, 2020 all teachers will be reaching out to students through google classroom sites to make sure students know about the learning opportunities that will be offered for EV JH/HS students.

### **What if my student or my family has not been contacted by the school?**

Be sure your child has checked their email for information sent by teachers. If students need any guidance they are encouraged to email their teachers directly or email Mr. Johnson for assistance.

### **When will school resume as normal? What would the end of the year look like?**

At this point, the district is planning to resume school on May 1, 2020. If school does not resume for the rest of this school year we will continue with our voluntary distance learning plan. If we find out we are returning to school this year we will be speaking with our staff, school board, and neighboring districts about the possibility of extending our school year to May 29, 2020.

### **What should I expect from my child's teacher(s)?**

Every teacher will be posting learning opportunities and/or assignments every week on their google classroom sites. We encourage all students to complete the learning tasks that are being assigned. These assignments will not be graded, but students will be expected to have mastered the content so that they are prepared for future educational experiences.

### **How will teachers teach in this format?**

Please remember that this style of teaching is new to many of our teachers, just like this is new to you. We are asking our teachers to use technology and a variety of different tools that they may have never used before. While it may be challenging at times and things will not always go smoothly, we are eager to learn alongside our students and families. We will seek to be more effective and efficient each day. We invite any respectful feedback that any of you may have to help us develop a system that best meets your needs.

In the end, we are all going to learn new things and be better prepared to meet any challenges in the future.

### **What are students supposed to be doing for the distance learning plan?**

The Easton Valley School District recognizes that every family is unique and may be facing unique challenges during this pandemic. For this reason we have opted to encourage

participation in the voluntary plan that will begin April 13. Participation is not required. However, engaging in the learning experiences being designed by your child’s teachers will be the best way to support their academic growth at this time. When students engage in the learning they will be expected to complete assigned tasks. As you know, students will need to acquire certain skills to apply in future courses so their participation in this program is highly encouraged.

**What has Easton Valley done to help families schedule learning time for their child(ren)?**

To help our students and families manage everything that is going on right now we have worked extremely hard to develop a clear and consistent plan. This plan will include a daily schedule of classes that will post assignments.

**DAILY SCHEDULE:**

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
JH Classes	-ELA -Publications 8 -Business 8 -PE 7/8	-Science -8th grade Art	-8th Grade Exploratories -Math -8th Grade Leadership	-7th Grade Exploratories -Social Studies -Computer 7 -Current Events 7	Day to Complete Assignments
9th - 10th Grade Classes	-English 9 -English 10 -Publications -PE -Art	-Health -General Science -Computer Science -Advanced Animal Science -Biology	-Spanish -Algebra 1 -Geometry -Ag classes	-Band & Choir -World History -American History -Personal Finance -Intro to Business -Accounting	Day to Complete Assignments
11th - 12th Grade Classes	-PE -Art -Narrative & Expository Writing -Modern Lit -American Lit -Practical Comm	-Health -Computer -Science -Chemistry -Physics -Physical Science -Physiology	-Algebra 2 -PreCalc -Spanish -Ag Classes	-Economics -Sociology -Personal Finance -Business Classes -Band & Choir	Day to Complete Assignments

		-Advanced Animal Science			
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**How will students access and respond to the lessons and assignments?**

Students will locate all their learning tasks in google classroom. These tasks may include:

- Video posts that ask students to engage in a specific learning task
- Online “Teaching” via Zoom or Recorded videos
- Assignments directing students to complete tasks within various online resources

**What if we do not have access to the needed technology or internet?**

It will be critical that students can access these learning experiences online. If you do not have any access to the internet please contact the administration for guidance.

**How can parents help?**

Encourage your student to be involved in the educational expectations provided for your child. You can help them by....

- Asking your child about the expectations the teachers and the school has for them.
- Asking your child if they have completed the work.
- Assisting your child in developing a routine/schedule for class days, as this assists them in having some time set aside for learning.
- Asking them about the feedback they are receiving from their teacher(s).

**What about grades for my student?** Current guidance from the Iowa Department of Education states that students may be graded for the semester according to their current grades, or through credit recovery for students who are failing at this time. The school district is able to have local control over the grading of students and will award credit to students for the 2019-2020 school year. The district encourages any students with missing work from the prior quarter to turn in this work as soon as possible.

The work being completed at this time is not graded, but it is an EXPECTATION for students to participate. This format could change for the district, and at specific grade levels in the future. If the closure extends further this grading philosophy may be altered (or sooner), but at this time as we enter the online learning format extensively, we are going to follow the non-graded format. It is still an EXPECTATION that students participate in the work that is being offered to students in all content areas. This format makes it more important than ever for our learning opportunities to engage students through formats beyond the normal classroom experiences.

**Will my student be held back in the same grade or classes for next year? Will my student have to repeat a course or grade?**

Students will not be held back a grade at the elementary level, but instead accommodations for learning will be adjusted at their entry to the next grade level. The district always differentiates learning based on student needs, and next year this will be even more important and a stronger focus.

If students are passing a course at the junior high/high school level they will receive a “P” (Passing) grade for the semester. If they are not passing at this time, students will have an opportunity to bring their grade up to passing before the end of the semester. The goal is to have all students pass, as this learning interruption was not their fault. We will make every effort for students to pass, and allow make-up work for students to get to the passing level at a minimum.

**What about college admissions and grade point averages for high school students?**

Students at the junior and high school level will receive a “Pass/Fail” grade, with the goal to be a “P” (Pass) as mentioned in the previous question.

Grades will not impact a student's GPA at the secondary level. The Iowa Department of Education, and agencies across the nation, have worked with colleges in accepting the grade of “P” for courses for this semester. This includes the grade on transcripts which are sent to colleges for admission for all students in grades 9-12 this school year.

**How will students (or parents) be able to contact teachers?**

Students can contact teachers with any questions about assignments via Google Classroom, email or other ways that the teacher communicates as an option.

**How will teachers have meetings with students, or will they have meetings with students?**

Teachers may schedule times to have online “meetings” with groups of students via Google Hangouts, Zoom, or similar manners. Other teachers may not have meetings with students directly, and they will instead communicate through written language. Parents are also welcome to join these meetings as a “spectator” at any time.

**My student has an Individualized Education Plan. How are they being supported?**

Special education students are still going to be supported in various manners by the regular education teachers and special education teachers. Learning opportunities will be modified if necessary to meet the needs of the students, and special education teachers will be working with regular education teachers in this process. If you have a concern, please contact the regular education teacher or the special education teacher.

At this time, we will not be holding any IEP meetings face-to-face. We may do some virtual IEP meetings later this school year if needed, but that will be determined at a later date.