



A PROUD TRADITION – A PROMISING FUTURE

300 W. Main St., Springport, MI 49284

April 14, 2020

Dear Families,

We hope you are all healthy and finding ways to take care of yourselves and your children during these uncertain times. We are all impacted in different ways by these circumstances and we want to help meet your needs, whatever they may be. Our focus is **compassion** and **connection** for students and families. Our academic goal is to ensure that students have achieved mastery through their third quarter courses and to provide opportunities for learning to make sure our students continue to grow academically in order to comply with the Executive Order. As new information becomes available these responses may change but we will do our best to keep you informed.

How will educational content be delivered?

We will be providing the bulk of our educational content through the Google Classroom platform that most students are familiar with. This can be done on a chromebook, tablet, smartphone, or even gaming systems. Use [this link](#) to find out how to use a gaming system. Students will access their own Google Classroom using their Google login information. If your child does not remember his/her login information, contact the building secretary listed below. Google Classroom provides a confidential way to give feedback to students regarding school work or questions. Parents who wish, may be added to their child's Google Classroom to receive notifications if preferred. Here is a [Parent Guide to Google Classroom](#). New content will be posted on Mondays and paper packets will be mailed to families who prefer that format the **week of April 20**.

Complete the [survey here](#) to let us know if you prefer the paper documents be emailed or mailed by Friday, April 17. You do not need to complete this if you prefer Google Classroom. Content will automatically be posted there as an option. If you find after a couple of weeks that on-line learning is not working and prefer a paper packet, let us know and we will get you one. We want to support families in what works best for them knowing that students may not have text books at home.

Middle School - missy.keeler@springportschools.net or 517-857-3445

High School - kristina.newsome@springportschools.net or 517-857-3475

Will work be graded?

Staff will provide student feedback and student participation will be monitored but there will not be grades assigned in Powerschool for 4th quarter. This is important work for continued educational understanding and growth, will help prepare students for advancement in the upcoming school year, and provide opportunities to continue to build positive relationships with others. We recommend students participate in their courses and will be monitoring participation through Google Classroom, email, Zoom/Meet, and any two way connection with families. We do not want paper packets returned but will provide feedback in any of the above ways. Teachers are providing content that is important and enrichment activities that will help prepare you for your future transitions. Now is the time to show your Spartan **PRIDE** and demonstrate **Perseverance, Responsibility, Integrity, Dependability, and Excellence/Employability** and why it is important to always continue learning. Teachers are willing to provide more content if you reach out to them individually. We want to support ALL our families.

What will second semester grades be for the 2019-2020 academic school year?

If a student was earning a passing grade at the end of 3rd marking period he/she will receive a P for passing for second semester, earning that credit. This does not compute into their GPA. If the student was not passing at the end of 3rd marking period they need to contact the teacher about supplemental work to improve their grade to earn the credit. All 3rd marking period grades are visible in PowerSchool.

Are assignments actually due on the due date?

Dates of completion for activities and assignments will serve as a guideline to maintain structure and a schedule for our academic plan. However, if the assignment is completed after a suggested due date, it may still be submitted for feedback. We encourage our students to show Spartan **PRIDE** by doing what you are able.

How can we contact my student's teacher?

Our staff members are hosting weekly **Connect** times for tutoring and/or open communication to support our families in any way we can. Teachers will make students aware of their drop-in time slots through their Google Classroom sites, and a calendar is available for [Middle School](#) and for [High School](#) here. Teachers may also be contacted outside of the drop-in hours via their school email using the following pattern: FirstName.LastName@springportschools.net or using the telephone directory posted [here](#).

What grade will students be in next year?

Students in grades 6-11 **who are in good academic standing** will move up to the next grade level.

When can my student come into the school to pick up their belongings?

We will offer an opportunity for families to come to school when it is deemed safe to do so or will find alternate means to deliver personal belongings if that becomes necessary. This information will be communicated on our school webpage, social media accounts and through a Global Connect phone call.

What do we do if our student has an IEP or 504 plan?

Your student's special education teacher will be working directly with those students that have Individualized Education Plans to provide accommodations as necessary. Each building's school counselor and general education teacher will be working directly with

those students that have 504 plans. Parents will receive invitations to hold annual IEP meetings via videoconference or phone when applicable.

How do current 8th - 11th graders sign up for classes next school year?

Mrs. Huff will be in contact within the next two weeks with directions and videos for making course requests through Powerschool.

Support

If you need additional support please reach out to our counselors and social workers. We want to support you in any way we can. We understand that our families are all in different situations right now and we do not want to add any undue stress on you. Your safety and well being is our number one priority.

Pattie Huff is the High School Counselor and can be reached at pattie.huff@springportschools.net or (517) 867-7855

Charissa Langstaff is the Middle School Social Worker and can be reached at charissa.langstaff@springportschools.net or (517) 867-7955

Meg Kloeckner is the Springport School District Community Engagement Specialist and Social Worker and can help connect families in need with resources. meg.kloeckner@springportschools.net or (517) 841-2592

SPECIFIC TO THE HIGH SCHOOL:

High School Advanced Placement Courses and Testing

Teachers of AP classes will continue to cover content to prepare students for the AP assessments. The College Board **WILL** provide online AP assessments this school year. Contact the teacher for more information.

High School Dual Enrollment/Early College Courses/Michigan Virtual University

All Dual Enrollment, Early College, and MVU courses are on-line and will continue through the end of the term. Students are required to complete these courses with a passing grade to prevent having to repay the cost associated.

If the high school student is not in good academic standing or has failed classes, what can they do?

- If the student was not passing at the end of 3rd marking period they need to contact the teacher about supplemental work to improve their grade to earn the credit.
- For courses that were failed in a previous year or first semester, contact Mrs. Huff or Mrs. Riehle to develop an individualized credit recovery plan.
- You may be able to recover lost credits either through e2020 or learning packets in lieu of summer school.
- If you were already enrolled in credit recovery classes on March 13th, you must complete them by May 28, 2020. If you need modifications to this timeline contact Mrs. Huff or Mrs. Riehle to revise your individualized credit recovery plan.
- All assignments used for credit must be completed and submitted by May 28, 2020.

- We do not anticipate offering GAP next year for credit recovery as the opportunity is now.

Commencement

We are optimistic that graduation will be held on a later date this summer if it is safe to do so. Mrs. Newland will be working with seniors and their families about alternatives should a traditional ceremony not be feasible.

This is a lot of information. Just know that we want to help our families. If you are getting too much, let the teacher know. If it is not enough, let the teacher know. Compassion and connection over content. Until we can get back together, stay safe. We can do this TOGETHER!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tanya Newland". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Sincerely,
Tanya Newland
Principal of Springport Middle and High Schools