

**MIDLAND BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
CONTINUITY OF EDUCATION PLAN**

**MIDLAND – ELEMENTARY MIDDLE SCHOOL  
173-7<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
MIDLAND, PA 15059  
[www.midlandpa.org](http://www.midlandpa.org)**

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**Goal of Plan**

The goal of the Midland Borough School District’s Continuity of Education plan is to continue learning opportunities for students during school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic of 2020.

**Overview of Plan**

Student instruction will be delivered via technology in both synchronous and asynchronous learning. On an as needed basis paper and pencil assignments will be made available to students. Continuity of Education at home will not look the same, replicate or replace what a tradition school day looks like. The Continuity of Education at home will provide students with tools to learn new skills and content as they complete the last quarter of the school year.

**Expectations for Teaching and Learning**

Starting Monday, March 30, 2020 instructional delivery begins. Staff meetings will be held on Monday and Thursday of each week beginning at 3:00 p.m. The Superintendent will lead each staff meeting.

- Staff meetings are anticipated to last no more than an hour.
- Additional staff meetings may be held on an as needed basis
- Instructional delivery will take place Monday – Friday through June 5, 2020. School will be in session on Thursday, April 9, Friday, April 10, and Monday April 13<sup>th</sup>, which were previously Spring Break Days. In addition school will be in session on Friday, May 22, 2020, which was a weather day.
- Teachers will set “office hours” based on their instructional day. Office hours does not require a teacher to be online, however office hours will be used to facilitate parent or student phone calls, designing lessons, or collaborating with colleagues on effective teaching and learning tools.

**Staff Absence**

- District subs will be provided in the event a staff member is absent.

**Grading**

- K4-8<sup>th</sup> grade Pass/Fail

- Attendance checked daily by homeroom teacher based on student participation in synchronous learning or logging in to complete assignment. Teachers record attendance in Power School and daily log.
- Parents will be contacted a minimum of twice a week concerning attendance and/or academic concerns.

### **Communication Tools and Strategies**

The Principal is the point of contact for any questions or concerns that cannot be provided by the teacher. Parents/Guardians are encouraged to communicate with the teacher, however, considering the circumstances the Principal is ready to offer support and guidance. Email is the recommended means of communication for questions for the Superintendent or Principal.

### **Student Support**

- Teacher and other support staff are required to make contact with parents/guardians 2-3 times a week. During this communication topics to include: academic, connectivity issues, or other needs that the student may have.
- The Guidance counselor continues to meet with students as she did prior to the closure of schools. The Teacher is able to contact the counselor to share concerns over student academics, attendance or behavioral issues.
- The Teacher and Guidance Counselor update the Principal weekly on student concerns that may require additional support.

### **Technology Support**

- Teachers or Staff should report their own connectivity issues immediately to the building Principal.
- Student support is first reported to the Teacher, if they are unable to trouble shoot, contact is made with the Principal who will reach out to the technology department or curriculum provider.

### **Access (Devices, Platforms, Handouts)**

- **K4- 8<sup>TH</sup> GRADE**
  - Teaching and Learning will be delivered through Google Classroom, Zoom, Lincoln Empowered, I-Ready Reading/Mathematics and other instructional online resources.
  - Teachers post daily lessons to their teacher lesson plan website or google classroom. Parents/Guardians and students are informed as to what platform to obtain lessons and assignments.
  - Parents/Guardians are invited to participate in all learning.
  - Parents/Guardians were asked to complete a survey to identify internet or device needs.
  - Students in grades 6-8 have one to one Chromebooks. District is working to provide the purchase of 1 to 1 Chromebooks for K4-8.
  - Families without internet were provided contact information from vendors currently offering 60 days of free service. In addition all families were given information on connecting to the newly opened Xfinity Hot spots.

- District is planning Hotspot purchases from T-Mobile for areas in the district in need of internet connectivity
- Should hard copies be required of any student, the district offices will arrange pick up of materials through lunch site pick-ups

### **STAFF GENERAL EXPECTATIONS**

Upon the closure of all schools on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, the administration and staff began a plan of implementation of continuity of instruction. The district utilized the two-weeks prior to beginning instructional delivery on March 30, 2020 to gather resources, develop lessons and prepare materials. As the instructional delivery progresses the Teachers have the option to modify and implement instruction as they see best meets the needs of their students.

#### Expectations for Professional Staff /Regular Education

- Provide feedback to students, parents/guardians
- Utilize visual tools to include videos or recordings
- Provide guidance to include written on how to navigate through instructional delivery modes
- Create lessons plans
- Communicate with parent/guardian 2 times per week
- Daily attendance
- Express concerns to guidance counselor and/or principal
- Communicate with Art, Music and physical education teachers on ways to include and deliver instruction.

#### Guidance Counselor

- Continue to communicate with students and parents that were being seen before closure.
- Communicate via phone or email for any newly identified students at risk
- Follow-ups with Prevention Specialist and TIP Team
- Up-date website with resources and helpful tips
- Communicate with Teachers on hosting learning activities within their instructional time

#### School Nurse

- Available to discuss health concerns referred by teacher or counselor
- Available to parents/guardians for wellness concerns
- Maintains website with resources for health and safety

#### Professional Staff/Special Education

- Instructional delivery will take place via google classroom and zoom; packets will be made available on an as needed basis.
- Special education teachers will meet via zoom with regular education teachers to determine modification or adaptations to instruction.
- Special education teachers will have access to courses via Lincoln Empowered.
- Therapy Staff (Speech, OP, PT) will collaborate with all Teachers to ensure there is no overlap of delivery.
  - Mode of instructional delivery will follow that of Special Education Teachers

- IEP meetings will be held as scheduled via a mode that best suites all participants
- Continue to write IEPs
- Create Lessons and post to websites or google classroom.

**Mental Health Support**

- Emergency call 911
- Mental Health Crisis Support by texting “PA” to 741741
- Beaver County Crisis 1-800-400-6180
- National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 800-273-8255
- Safe2Say 844-723-2729

**Student Expectations**

**To the best of their ability students are expected to:**

- Complete required instructional activities
- Be present daily
- Communicate concerns with teacher or counselor
  - Social/wellness
  - Academic
  - Technology

**Attendance/Accountability**

Daily attendance for students is taken by the homeroom teacher. Each academic subject teacher shall track attendance as well. Attendance is taken within google classroom or determine if the student logged in to complete assignment. Teachers will report attendance concerns during weekly staff meetings.

Staff attendance is monitored through weekly staff meetings and call-offs to the district secretary.

**Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students**

Parents/Guardians of all Special Education students were contacted by the Director of Special Education and/or Special Education Teacher. In addition all were provided with a copy of a letter informing them of Access and Equity for Instruction during the time of Continuity of Instruction. The letter stated:

Beginning Monday, March 30, 2020, Midland Borough School District is committed to making a good faith effort to provide continuity of education, planned instruction, appropriate, and reasonable services for students while our school districts are closed due to COVID-19. During an extended closure of a school (10 or more consecutive days) due to the COVID-19 health emergency, Midland Borough School District will continue to provide a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students with disabilities and those individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services.

During the extended closure, the school district will provide special education and related services provided through distance instruction provided virtually, online, recorded videos, and/or other modes. During this time, the school district will not be able to provide all services in the same manner in which they are typically provided. In addition, progress monitoring of IEP goals may not be able to be collected in the same manner they are typically collected. The IEP team will work collaboratively to monitor progress through practices of observation remotely.

The Special Education team values education and we value your child. We understand the challenges school closure has caused and want to do our part in ensuring your child has equal access to learning. We also appreciate the expanded role that has been thrust upon parents and we want to be a support for you as well. Thank you for your continued cooperation as we work to ensure the safety of our students, staff, and communities.

**Additional resources to provide Access and Equity for all students:**

- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner for all students birth to age 18 at the following times and locations:

**11:00 AM Sites**

**4 Mile Childcare at 13th Street  
1st Street & Midland Avenue**

**11:30 AM Sites**

**The Center at 754 Ohio Avenue  
Midland Heights-Fire Hall**

- Students needing devices will be provided 1 to 1 at no cost.
- District will work with families with unique needs to ensure they have access to instructional programming.

**English Language (EL) Supports**

The District will continue to utilize the services of the Beaver Valley Intermediate Unit. (BVIU) The BVIU English Language teacher will supplement the general education instruction for ELL's. ESL teacher will communicate with general classroom teacher to determine the best method of providing EL supports to the student(s). The ESL teacher communicates through email and phone with the EL student's parents/guardians. ESL teacher will report concerns to the classroom teacher and principal.

**Gifted Education**

Currently no gifted education students identified at Midland Borough School District. Should the district identify a gifted student, the district's Director of Special Education will complete an IEP and consult with the parent/guardian of the gifted student to establish gifted goals and provide gifted education at an appropriate level given the uncertainty of times we are currently facing.

**District Contacts**

Brenda S. Militello, Principal, [Brenda.militello@midlandpa.org](mailto:Brenda.militello@midlandpa.org)

Christine Cuddy, Director of Special Education, [chris.cuddy@midlandpa.org](mailto:chris.cuddy@midlandpa.org)

Kelley A. Schulte, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent,  
[Kelley.schulte@midlandpa.org](mailto:Kelley.schulte@midlandpa.org)

**Resources**

Please visit the District website for information and resources at:

[www.midlandpa.org](http://www.midlandpa.org)