



ELKINS SCHOOL DISTRICT

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April 4, 2020

Parents and Guardians,

As we prepare to enter into our third week of digital learning due to the COVID-19 mandatory school building closure I want to communicate some slight changes in our plan that will take effect Monday, April 6, 2020. We are modifying our class schedule at all grade levels in order to make the process more efficient for students and teachers. Most likely this will result in less time spent on a technology device and less internet access time needed for your child(ren) each day. We realize that many families are facing unprecedented hardships during this Coronavirus pandemic, and are taking action to be responsive to that. Teachers will still be delivering high quality digital instruction and making assignments for students to complete and submit online. However, the amount of lessons and assigned work will be reduced going forward. The faculty has been briefed on the new schedule, and the teachers will be sharing the details of the schedule with students this week.

It is important to note that our teachers will be focusing on the essential learning standards and targets that are necessary for students to be prepared for their next grade level. While we have been given no definitive guidance on whether or not the school closure will extend past April 17, 2020, it is prudent for our District to plan for a longer school building closure. Please continue to make sure that your child(ren) are logging into their Google Classrooms and completing lessons and assignments as teachers will continue to take grades in a modified format. We will be moving to a standards mastery grading rubric for the duration of this digital learning period. Teachers also have this rubric and will be sharing it with students this week.

We are continuing to work very hard to operate an effective food service program during this health crisis. I encourage you to take advantage of our program which serves free breakfast and lunch to any child age 18 or younger. We have multiple points of pickup and delivery available. For more information on specific times of pickup and delivery you should check out our district website, and click on the COVID-19 link at the top of the home page for meal service details.

Thank you for all of your personal efforts to help your child(ren) continue to progress in their learning during this very difficult and challenging time. Our digital learning plan has been very successful to this point, and that would not be possible without the great effort of hardworking students and parents. Remember to access our website and digital learning page often to keep up with all the how-to videos posted there, and be sure to follow us on social media as we will post tech tips, general information, and other updates periodically during this school closure.

Please follow all the recommended health guidelines during this COVID-19 pandemic. What is most important to us is the health and safety of our students, faculty, staff, parents, and patrons. If the District can be of assistance to your family in any way please do not hesitate to contact me at jmangrum@elkinsdistrict.org. We all have to pull together to make it through what is certainly an unprecedented time.

Go Elks!

Jeremy Mangrum
Superintendent