Student Assignments and Learning Opportunities

Online & Remote Learning Begins Thursday - March 19, 2020

Dear New Albany - Plain Local Schools Students, Families & Staff,

On Thursday, March 12, Governor Mike DeWine announced that all Ohio school districts are required to close through April 3, 2020 and further clarified that each local school district would determine how to create remote learning opportunities for students. Additionally, all student related activities, sports, practices, clubs, and events are canceled through Sunday, April 5, 2020.

This letter is intended to provide you with information which outlines our school district’s plan for meeting your child’s academic and non-academic needs. Email and text messages or phone calls to registered PowerSchool users will be our primary methods of communication for families. We will also continue to post updates to our website at www.napls.us.

School District and Employee Hours

During our school closure period, our remote school district business hours are 7:30 am-4:00 pm. Our teachers will be accessible from 8:00 am - 3:30 pm. With exception to a small number of essential school employees to conduct maintenance, operations, and safety checks daily, all school district staff are presently working remotely from home until otherwise determined by our health officials.

Our school buildings, offices, and related facilities are CLOSED. Please use email as your first method of communication to all staff members. Voice mail messages are being routed to all staff electronically through email. We are working diligently to respond to all communications received within 24 hours if possible.

School Closure Preparedness

The Executive Order by Governor DeWine extends through Friday, April 3, 2020 for school closures.

We strongly believe that our school district will not reopen on Monday, April 6, 2020. In fact, daily
student attendance in our classrooms and school buildings may not reconvene for the remainder of our current school year.

Families need to begin to prepare for the reality that students may be required to complete remote learning assignments and opportunities through the end of our school year on May 28, 2020.

Schedule for the Next Three Weeks

Based upon recommendations by local health officials advising the school district, we have closed our school campus, including all schools and outdoor facilities for everyone. Faculty and staff continue to work diligently to prepare to provide our families with information regarding student assignments and learning opportunities that will begin remotely on Thursday, March 19, 2020.

Should schools not reopen on Monday, April 6, which is VERY LIKELY, additional information will continue to be outlined and provided.

Our Scheduled Spring Recess

The New Albany-Plain Local Schools will continue with our scheduled spring recess from Monday, March 30, 2020 through Friday, April 3, 2020. Remote learning opportunities for students are suspended during spring recess. The Ohio Department of Health recommendations and guidance for Spring Break and Student Travel may be found here.

Athletics, School, and Community Events

All indoor and outdoor athletic events, including practices and conditioning activities, have been canceled through Sunday, April 5. The Ohio High School Athletic Association has implemented indefinitely a no-contact period, which prohibits any coach, paid or volunteer, approved by the Board of Education to provide coaching, instruction or supervise conditioning and physical fitness programs or open gyms to members of a school team in their sports. Further, all community-related events, rentals, or use of our school district facilities are canceled through Sunday, April 5, 2020.

Food Services for Our Youth

Recognizing the hardship that this required school closure will have for some students and families, we have partnered with the New Albany Food Pantry, Healthy New Albany, and New Albany Neighborhood Bridges to provide food for identified students and families at no cost. The New Albany Food Pantry is specifically working with the NAPLS District to help students who will be affected by the three-week Spring Break/school closure extension. When school is closed, families in need lose the consistency of school-provided meals.

The Pantry has personally contacted identified families in need and has made arrangements for food pick-up on three different dates. These pick-ups will be done in conjunction with The Philip Heit Center and will supply families with food equivalent to what would have been provided through school breakfast and lunch programs.

To ensure that families have ample provisions during this school closure period, New Albany Food
Pantry is providing an opportunity for community members to donate the following items:

**REQUESTED DONATIONS IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HELP OUR STUDENTS**

$25 gift card to local grocery stores (Aldi, Kroger, or Giant Eagle)

Food: cereal, oatmeal, loaves of bread, bagels, jelly, canned fruit, macaroni, microwavable Chef Boyardee products, spaghetti, plastic jars of spaghetti sauce, granola bars, chicken breast in cans, tuna in a cans, chicken noodle soup, tomato soup, ramen noodles, fruit snacks, raisins, non-perishable healthy snacks, crackers, or your child’s favorite foods.

Gift cards and non-perishable food donations can be dropped off at The Philip Heit Center for Healthy New Albany - 150 W. Main Street, during normal business hours. Donation food bins will be located at this facility for easy access.

If you would like to make a monetary donation, please visit the New Albany Food Pantry website by clicking [here](#). The Pantry also has a wish list on Amazon [here](#), where you can conveniently shop online and donate items. Donated items will be shipped directly to the New Albany Food Pantry pick up location at the Heit Center.

**Services For Students Social-Emotional and Mental Health Needs**

We recognize the importance of consistent and continued care for our students who access our school counselors and school-based mental health services. Our staff will be available from 8:00 am-3:00 pm via email to provide remote telephone support to our students during this school closure period. Any specific questions or concerns should be directed to your student’s school counselor, mental health specialist, or prevention clinician or by emailing Mr. Jon Hood, Director of Student Services, Safety & Security at [hood.6@napls.us](mailto:hood.6@napls.us).

The following resources remain available for students and families if you have a concern about the safety of a young person:

- **New Albany Schools Well-Being Initiative Resources**
- NATIONWIDE CHILDREN’S HOSPITAL 24 HOUR CRISIS LINE FOR CHILDREN UNDER THE AGE OF SEVENTEEN: 614-722-1800: Mental Health and substance abuse services for Franklin County, Ohio. Available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- NATIONAL SUICIDE PREVENTION LIFELINE: 1-800-273-TALK (8255)
- 24HR. CHILD ABUSE HOTLINE: 614-229-7000

**Academic Expectations**

Our teaching staff is working to finalize assignments, lessons, and learning opportunities for students, using both electronic and print resources. We appreciate your patience as we work to prepare learning opportunities that help students review what they have learned, extend their knowledge, or reinforce individual student learning goals. **While students will not physically attend school, they are expected to complete daily academic work remotely through Friday, March 27.**

All elementary students in grades PK-6 will be provided instructional resources to work on through Friday, March 27. For students in grades 7-12, we are shifting our education from the classroom with four walls to online learning or a combination of online learning and instructional resources. We will
also provide an age-appropriate list of distance and virtual learning options available for all students to continue learning if internet access is available.

Below and on each school's homepage (see image below as an example of what you will find), we have outlined a plan for how instruction and learning will occur during this school closure.

As always, if you have any questions about the learning expectations during the school closure period, please contact your child's teacher directly via email. Specific information about student assignments and learning opportunities will be provided by teachers no later than the end of the day on Wednesday, March 18 so that students can begin working remotely on Thursday, March 19, 2020.

Online Resources

**Grades 9–12** - Students will complete online activities at the direction of their teachers. The specific assignments can be accessed through Schoology. Should you need access to the parent portal on Schoology, please contact your child’s teacher and ask him/her for your child’s Schoology access code. Once you have the access code, then you can sign up for a Schoology parent account. You can learn more about Schoology’s parent accounts on their [Parent Guide page](#).

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![Classlink/MyNaps](#)  ![Schoology Students](#)  ![PowerSchool Portal](#)  ![Schoology Parents](#)

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**Early Learning Center**

Parents will receive assignments from their child's teacher for completion at home. Paper-based assignments will be handed in when school resumes. Instructions for accessing online learning resources will be emailed to parents. Additional learning resources will be placed on the school website for parents to expand upon what is provided by the teacher if they so choose.
Parents will receive assignments from their child’s teacher for completion at home. Paper based assignments will be handed in when school resumes. Instructions for accessing online learning resources will be emailed to parents. Additional learning resources will be placed on the school website for parents to expand upon what is provided by the teacher if they so choose.

Intermediate School

Parents will receive assignments from their child’s teacher for completion at home. Paper based assignments will be handed in when school resumes unless the teacher requests the assignment to be submitted electronically. Instructions for accessing online learning resources will be emailed to parents. Additional learning resources will be placed on the school website for parents to expand upon what is provided by the teachers if they so choose.

Middle School (Grades 7-8)

Students will complete online activities at the direction of their teachers. The specific assignments can be accessed through Schoology. Should you need access to the parent portal on Schoology, please contact your child’s teacher and ask him/her for your child’s Schoology access code. Once you have the access code, then you can sign up for a Schoology parent account. You can learn more about Schoology’s parent accounts on their Parent Guide page.

High School (Grades 9-12)

Students will complete online activities at the direction of their teachers. The specific assignments can be accessed through Schoology. Should you need access to the parent portal on Schoology, please contact your child’s teacher and ask him/her for your child’s Schoology access code. Once you have the access code, then you can sign up for a Schoology parent account. You can learn more about Schoology’s parent accounts on their Parent Guide page.

Students with Disabilities

Students with disabilities will use online learning modules, activities, or individualized learning packets assigned by their teacher(s), their intervention specialist(s), and/or their related service provider(s), as outlined in their IEP. If you have an ETR or IEP meeting scheduled before April 5, the meeting will be held on the same date and time via phone conference. Either the District Representative or the Intervention Specialist will confirm the phone number that will be used for the phone conference. Intervention Specialists and related service providers will be doing their very best to provide support to students via email, phone conferencing, and/or online chatting in the school supported learning platform.
Student Technology

All students in grades 4-9 have a school issued iPad they can use at home. Students in other grades have either indicated they have a device to use at home, or the district has loaned them a device.

If any student in grades PK-12 still does not have access to a computing device at home, the district will arrange to loan the student a device. Please email Michael Voss, Director of Technology at voss.1@napls.us for assistance.

Additionally, during the school closure period unless otherwise communicated, a tech help desk will be available to assist families. Pending any further changes to our current closure plan, beginning Tuesday, March 17, 2020, parents or students can call the numbers listed below between the hours of 8:00 AM and 3:30 PM during the school closure for students:

- Early Learning Center: 614.413.7903
- Primary School: 614.413.7903
- Intermediate School: 614.413.8321
- Middle School: 614.413.7903
- High School: 614.413.8389

More information about technology support can be found on the district’s website: Remote Learning Resources

Internet options for the community
To help ease this transition and make it possible for students to have access to WiFi, Spectrum and Comcast are now offering internet services for free or at a discounted rate for 60 days to any K-12 or College student.

Charter-Spectrum’s Free WiFi Deal
Charter-Spectrum is offering free access to broadband and WiFi services to households with students who do not already have the services. The WiFi access will be available for 60 days to households with students from kindergarten to college who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription at any service level up to 100 Mbps. To enroll in the service you can call 1-844-488-8395 or click the link above to learn more.

Comcast “Internet Essentials” Program
Comcast says applicants who qualify will get a 25 Mbps connection for free for two months. All new customers in this program will receive a free self-install kit that includes a cable modem and WiFi router. There is no term contract. Click the link above to learn more.

Sample Student Daily Schedule
The following is a sample schedule to help families who may wish to retain a sense of structure and consistency to their child’s day:

- 7:30 a.m. - Get up, get dressed, eat breakfast, brush teeth, etc.
- 8:15 a.m. - Organize learning space, turn on computer/device, log in to Schoology
- 8:30 a.m. - Review any announcements from the teacher(s) and get the necessary learning materials organized.
- 8:45 a.m. - Engage in your first remote learning assignment provided by your teacher.
10:00 a.m. - Take quick stretch and nutrition break
10:15 a.m. - Return to assignments, keep working, be creative, exercise, or document learning in whatever way is required
11:00 a.m. - Check Schoology for any additional announcements
11:15 a.m. - Lunch and movement (Take a walk, dance, do jumping-jacks, or run in the yard: just follow some sort of workout routine.)
12:00 p.m. - Return to assignments, keep working, document learning in whatever way is required
1:00 p.m. - Engage in second online session or chat session or video tutorial or whatever you know you've been asked to do
1:45 p.m. - Take a quick stretch and nutrition break
2:00 p.m. - Return to assignments, keep working, document learning in whatever way is required
3:00 p.m. - Summarize your learning in whatever way your teacher(s) have requested, submit your evidence online or via email, if required, and review learning expectations for tomorrow

Resources and Information

The Ohio Department of Health opened a call center to answer questions regarding COVID-19. The call center is open seven days a week from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m. and can be reached at 1-833-4-ASK-ODH (1-833-427-5634.)

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has published specific guidelines on “How To Protect Yourself” which may be found here. Our local health officials strongly recommend that families limit group play, events, sleepovers, and more until further notice.

Click here to access COVID-19 resources on the New Albany-Plain Local Schools website.
Click here to view/print Coronavirus Information and Frequently Asked Questions posted by the Ohio Department of Education.
Click here to view/print letter from the Ohio Department of Health March 11, 2020
Click here to view/print letter from Governor Mike DeWine March 11, 2020
Click here to view/print Ohio Department of Health Coronavirus Disease 2019 FAQs
Click here to view/print Ohio Department of Health Coronavirus Disease 2019 Prevention Letter
Click here to view/print the Coronavirus Guidelines Issued by the President of the United States

We thank you in advance for your continued understanding and patience during this unprecedented time. Please know that we are committed to keeping you informed of any new information as it becomes available. Our principals and teachers will be communicating with parents and students shortly to share student assignments and learning opportunities effective Thursday, March 19, 2020.

Respectfully,

Michael L. Sawyers
Superintendent

Our Purpose

The New Albany-Plain Local School District is committed to creating a culture of accountability that achieves the best academic and developmental outcomes for each student.