



April 9, 2020

Elementary Online Learning Plan

Weekly Update #5

Curriculum Updates

It is amazing to think how we transformed into remote learning on March 17, and you continue to amaze our school community with your energy, creativity, and dedication to your students. As we begin to head into spring break, we hope you find time to relax and rejuvenate. This update includes reminders and considerations for remote learning when we return on April 20, 2020. Best wishes for a healthy, safe, and well-deserved break.

Guiding Principles for Elementary Remote Learning:

- Remember, **synchronized instruction, face-to-face interactions, should not be utilized at this time**; however, there are exceptions for CST meetings, related services, PSD, Autism, MD, and ESL instruction. Contact your supervisor if you have questions.
- Students continue to appreciate hearing from their teachers every day and to receiving feedback
- **Lessons with new content should include a self-recorded video or voice over presentation as part of your instruction.** Unless you are providing a read aloud, these mini-lessons should be no longer than 5 minutes of your overall timeframe.
- Continue to review the email of remote learning Dos and Don'ts for additional guiding principles.

Reminder on Daily Emails: Daily emails sent to families/students will occur between 8:00 - 9:30 a.m.

Grading Due Date Reminders:

- All third marking period grades must be entered into PowerSchool by the morning of **April 22, 2020**
- In the afternoon of **April 22, 2020**, you will receive an email with a draft of the report cards of your homeroom
- Teachers will make necessary changes on **April 23, 2020** in PowerSchool
- Final report cards will be emailed to parents via K-12 Swift (PowerSchool) on **April 24, 2020**

Staff Evaluations: The Governor announced changes regarding staff evaluations. However, we are waiting for further clarification from the NJDOE prior to formally releasing any of this information. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Update Reminders: All updates and elementary communication can be found at <https://www.wtps.org/Domain/2340>.

Grade Level Considerations

Grade K-2 ELA: Report Card Guidelines:

When determining the rating for students' instructional reading level, use the February DRA assessment levels and expectations, NOT April.

- **Kindergarten:** February expectation - instructional level B/C = Developing
- **First grade:** February expectation - instructional level I = Developing
- **Second grade:** February expectation - instructional level L/M = Developing

Please include the following statement in the comment section of the report card: *Instructional reading level and expectation was determined using February assessment data.* For your reference, a copy of Reading Level Benchmark Goals has been added to Teams under K-2 resources in the *Tools for Readers* folder.

Grades K-2 ELA: New resources this week: Lots of resources in our K-2 folder in Teams!

- During this week's **Seesaw Showcase**, Kristin Seymour and Angela Otto shared easy, practical, and fabulous strategies for personalizing Seesaw lessons and celebrating students' growth. You can find **Angela's Sticker Book Wakelet** under Files in the Seesaw Resources channel in Teams, and a **recording of the showcase** in Online PD Schedule under *Recordings by Topic*.
- **K-2:** *Virtual Field Trip* folder: You can find the Friday field trips and activities archived here
- **K-2:** Question Wheel activity for Seesaw (*Tools for Readers*): An online version of question cubes
- **K:** Phonemic Awareness poems, songs, and routines (*Tools for Readers*)
- **Grades 1+ 2:** Mentor Sentence Power Point slides (*Tools for Writers*)
- **Grade 2:** Newsela articles with response activities, formatted for Seesaw (*Tools for Readers*)

Where to find uploaded tools and resources:

- In Teams, click on *WT Elementary Schools*
- Next, click on the hidden channel *ELA Resources*
- Go to Files, and click on *K-2 Resources*
- Three folders: *Tools for Writers*, *Tools for Readers*, and *Virtual Field Trips*

Continue to feel free to contribute tools that you've used which have been helpful for your students, and if there's a resource that you need, reach out to Beth Neiderman. As we move forward with our curriculum, we'll continue to add to the tools in each folder.

Grades 3-5 ELA (Wit and Wisdom Teachers):

- A separate TEAM for teachers of ELA Grades 3-5 Files (Wit and Wisdom) has been created which includes material necessary for remote instruction with Core Text.
- Mike Otto conducted a training meeting last week to assist teachers that use Wit & Wisdom. It has been recorded and is posted in the TEAM's general posts for viewing or reference.
- Core texts posted in the TEAM files are specifically for internal district use only. They are NOT to be shared outside the district.
- Be sure to include a form of an e-version of core text in lessons AND either enable immersive reader, or audio created by yourself or a colleague to support students.
- Feel free to contribute ideas and lessons in the ELA Grades 3-5 Files, including core texts files that have been segmented by chapters, sections, etc.
- Moving forward into Marking Period 4, refer to Module 3 and 4 Overview documents posted in the ELA Grade 3-5 Files for identification of focus standards.

Grades K-5 Math:

Pacing: If you have not already done so, please consider analyzing your pacing to determine how much of the EM4 curriculum you will teach by the end of fourth marking period.

- If you are on-pace with teaching lessons in the remaining units, kindly continue instruction as outlined in previous updates.
- If you predict you may finish the curriculum before the end of the school year, please extend lessons by using additional EM4 resources for practice, enrichment, or games.
- If you are behind in being able to teach all lessons in the remaining units, kindly reach out to your BSI math team or Janine Ryan for support in focusing upon essential standards.

Grading: Regular participation in First in Math is part of the expectation for remote learning in grades 1-5. However, there may be reasons outside a student's control for inconsistent FIM use. If any of your students have not regularly participated in FIM, kindly reach out to the family for tech support or to clarify expectations. **Please do not reflect non-participation in FIM in the student's weekly supplemental grade until you have confirmed that the student is able to consistently use the program at home.** Thank you, again, for your encouragement and support of FIM!

Grades K-5 Social Studies Curriculum Committee Members:

Save The Dates!

The Social Studies Curriculum Committee members will be participating in virtual program presentations. More information to follow.

10:00 am

- Monday April 27th- *TCI*
- Wednesday April 29th- *Pearson*
- Monday May 4th- *Nystrom*
- Wednesday May 6th- *Teacher Created Materials*

SCLD/POR:

- Information regarding ARC Support has been shared out. Please keep an eye out for the link to sign into the sessions.
- If you are teaching multiple grade levels, you are welcome to attend whichever you would prefer.

COLLABORATION WITH COLLEAGUES:

The collaboration among grade level teams has been remarkable and greatly appreciated! Teachers can easily set up a collaborative meeting with colleagues through TEAMS:

1. Open TEAMS
 2. Go to Calendar
 3. Click New Meeting
 4. Give it a Title
 5. Select time and date you want to meet
 6. Add Attendees- e-mail addresses of participants
 7. Click Save
- They will receive an e-mail invitation with a link to Join the Meeting.