



2020-21 Phase Four: Continuation of Learning Plan for Districts_11092020_14:29

2020-21 Phase Four: Continuation of Learning Plan for Districts

Augusta Independent
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Table of Contents

2020-21 Phase Four: Continuation of Learning Plan for Districts	3
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The purpose of this diagnostic is to support the district in designing and implementing a plan for a continuation of learning during times when nontraditional instruction may need to be implemented in order to prevent a loss of learning. The basis of the continuation of learning plan comes from [KRS 158.070\(9\)](#) and [701 KAR 5:150](#), which state the following:

KRS 158.070(9):

Notwithstanding any other statute, each school term shall include no less than the equivalent of the student instructional year in subsection (1)(f) of this section, or a variable student instructional year in subsection (1)(h) of this section, except that the commissioner of education may grant up to the equivalent of ten (10) student attendance days for school districts that have a nontraditional instruction plan approved by the commissioner of education on days when the school district is closed for health or safety reasons. The district's plan shall indicate how the nontraditional instruction process shall be a continuation of learning that is occurring on regular student attendance days. Instructional delivery methods, including the use of technology, shall be clearly delineated in the plan. Average daily attendance for purposes of Support Education Excellence in Kentucky program funding during the student attendance days granted shall be calculated in compliance with administrative regulations promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Education.

701 KAR 5:150, Section 1(5):

"Nontraditional instruction plan" means the strategy approved by the commissioner and implemented by a local school district to ensure instruction on nontraditional instruction days is a continuation of learning that is occurring on regular student attendance days as required by KRS 158.070(9).

Based on the most critical areas for improvement identified in the completed needs assessment per [703 KAR 5:225](#), Section 3(2)(b), what are the district's plans for implementing nontraditional instruction to provide a continuation of learning during times (both short-term and long-term) when in-person instruction may not be feasible and to support continuous improvement?

To seek the Commissioner's approval, pursuant to KRS 158.070 and 701 KAR 5:150, for the district's nontraditional instruction plan providing for a continuation of learning, please complete the following:

1. Please provide an overview of the districts vision for ensuring a continuation of learning when implementing nontraditional instruction.

Augusta Independent School has developed a non-traditional instructional (NTI) program to provide instruction and learning due to weather cancellations and/or emergency situations. The NTI Program will provide a comprehensive system to deliver instruction to encompass all components of the curriculum using a hybrid model, combining traditional teaching methods and effective digital learning. NTI will be varied by grade level to ensure all students are learning at a rigorous level and that content from curriculum pacing guides is being delivered. All levels will

reinforce appropriate grade and subject level core concepts with the development of instructional plans using technology platforms. A multitude of assignments will be included on the platform including, but not limited to a combination of paper and pencil activities, project-based learning, and web-based activities. Work within the platforms will be specific to each students' academic needs and schedule. Web-based and digital learning for elementary students will be accessible through various free and paid educational programs including: Schools PLP, SeeSaw, iReady, Smarty Ants, Google Classrooms, MobyMax, ABC Mouse, readwrite.org, ereadingworksheets.com, readworks.org, PBS Kids, YouTube, and Scholastic News. Each of these programs and/or websites are accessible from home for each child to receive differentiated and/or enriched learning experiences. Web-based access to digital learning for middle and high school students include: Google Classroom, Schools PLP, Achieve30000, iReady, Blackboard, biogs, Youtube, Newsela, MobyMax, Digital Copies of Textbooks and ILPs. NTI activities will be intentionally aligned with the Kentucky Core Academic Standards and will reinforce the concepts and skills taught in the classroom.

2.a. How will instruction be delivered when in-person instruction is not feasible?

Augusta Independent School has developed a non-traditional instructional (NTI) program to provide instruction and learning due to weather cancellations and/or emergency situations. The NTI Program will provide a comprehensive system to deliver instruction to encompass all components of the curriculum using a hybrid model, combining traditional teaching methods and effective digital learning. NTI will be varied by grade level to ensure all students are learning at a rigorous level and that content from curriculum pacing guides is being delivered. All levels will reinforce appropriate grade and subject level core concepts with the development of instructional plans using technology platforms. A multitude of assignments will be included on the platform including, but not limited to a combination of paper and pencil activities, project-based learning, and web-based activities. Work within the platforms will be specific to each students' academic needs and schedule. Web-based and digital learning for elementary students will be accessible through various free and paid educational programs including: Schools PLP, SeeSaw, iReady, Smarty Ants, Google Classrooms, MobyMax, ABC Mouse, readwrite.org, ereadingworksheets.com, readworks.org, PBS Kids, YouTube, and Scholastic News. Each of these programs and/or websites are accessible from home for each child to receive differentiated and/or enriched learning experiences. Web-based access to digital learning for middle and high school students include: Google Classroom, Schools PLP, Achieve30000, iReady, Blackboard, biogs, Youtube, Newsela, MobyMax, Digital Copies of Textbooks and ILPs. NTI activities will be intentionally aligned with

the Kentucky Core Academic Standards and will reinforce the concepts and skills taught in the classroom.

2.a.i. Does your district utilize a learning management system to make instructional design more adaptable?

K-6 uses Seesaw, iReady, Zoom, Schools PLP and Smarty Ants (Achieve 3000) 7-12 uses Google Classrooms, Google Meet, iReady, Achieve 3000, and Schools PLP

2.a.ii. What are your delivery options for students with limited internet access (i.e. digital off-line) or who are off-line (i.e. paper)?

All students are one to one with their own Chromebook provided by the school with wi-fi hot spots. Teachers are providing paper packets of the assignments if necessary. The district will survey students, or the parents of younger students, to determine who has reliable Internet access and devices in their home. This will allow teachers to identify students who would not be able to complete online learning lessons, instead providing those students with a hard copy of the materials. Regardless of how students complete the lesson, teachers will be responsible for collecting and monitoring students' lessons. Students will be given seven calendar days after returning to school to submit the lessons completed during the non-traditional instructional day. Access to lessons may also be altered based on students' individual needs.

2.b. What will the district do to ensure a continuation of learning will occur when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented?

All activities will be aligned to the specific grade and subject level curriculum and will cover content currently being taught per the curriculum pacing guide. The activities will echo the lessons/activities of a traditional day of classroom instruction as far as design, process, and content.

2.c. How, if at all, will the district ensure a continuation of learning occurs for those students utilizing, for any reason, nontraditional instruction during time periods when the district may be offering and providing in-person instruction to other students?

Students who are virtual learners are assigned to a virtual learning teacher who keeps in constant contact with the student and parents and helps the student with work and assignments through Schools PLP. All activities will be aligned to the specific grade and subject level curriculum and will cover content currently being

taught per the curriculum pacing guide. The activities will echo the lessons/activities of a traditional day of classroom instruction as far as design, process, and content.

2.d. How will the district ensure a continuation of learning for students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs) when in-person instruction is not feasible? Please also address how the Admissions and Release Committee (ARC) will be involved for students with IEPs.

Special Education teachers will collaborate with all appropriate instructional staff to ensure students with disabilities receive appropriate accommodations with all assignments. Special education teachers will collaborate with regular education teachers when planning and designing packets and digital learning for NTI instruction. Special Education teachers will also monitor their student's submitted NTI work. They will be available at school during NTI days as weather permits. Special education staff will also be available electronically or by phone to assist students on NTI days. Students' Admissions and Release Committee (ARC) will be involved in planning and making decisions related to the participation and needs of students with disabilities on NTI days. If it is determined a student will most likely not be able to have a successful learning experience on a NTI day with their appropriate accommodations and electronic or phone assistance, the ARC will make changes to the student's individual education plan to help ensure success. Students with IEPs are scheduled weekly one at a time to the school and work with the teacher and receive their services and teachers provide instructional materials for the week at that time. These students also have Zoom meetings with the Special Education department each week as well.

2.e. Please describe additional efforts necessary to ensure a continuation of learning for other special populations of students, including, for example, English Language Learners with a Program Services Plan (PSP), students with a Gifted Student Services Plan (GSSP), and students placed in alternative education programs served by the district.

Teachers will work diligently and collaboratively to meet the needs of all students including Program Service Plans (PSP), English Learners, and Gifted and Talented Students. The ELL and Gifted and Talented teachers will collaborate with regular education teachers to design appropriate, differentiated lessons, and enrichment activities that will include modifications and accommodations for all students with PSPs or GSSPs. The ELL teacher will provide students with general instructional strategies and Specifically Designed Academic Instruction for English (SDAIE). The Gifted/Talented and ELL teacher will be available electronically or by phone to assist. High School gifted students will be required to report and/or work online using Blackboard to complete daily instructional assignments/projects for dual credit courses through Maysville Community and Technical College. These instructors will

also be available electronically or by phone to assist students during NTI days. Teachers ensure a continuation of learning for other special populations of students by differentiating instruction and programs. Most programs we have utilized place the students on their specialized learning path, which also addresses this issue.

2.f. How has the district coordinated with other educational entities (e.g. area technology centers, community colleges, other dual credit providers, regional schools, etc.) to ensure a continuation of learning?

Our district has agreements with Maysville Community and Technical College as well as Mason County Area Technology Center. Our high school, in collaboration with the higher education institution and technology center will make accommodations for students' learning on NTI days. The NTI will mirror regular days to the fullest extent possible. AIS has coordinated with the area technology center and community college by attending all meetings and discussions on the matter. A system for disseminating information is in place through the school for the students and parents.

2.g. Please describe how teachers will instruct, support, and communicate with students when in-person instruction is not feasible in order to ensure academic progress as well as promote social and emotional wellbeing.

AIS has begun utilizing instructional programs such as Schools PLP, Achieve 3000, and iReady for instruction and practice of skills being taught. Seesaw and Google Classrooms, as well as Zoom, are being utilized for class meetings and direct instruction of the standards. Teachers are also available online for 2 hours each night to assist students who may need it or have questions. The goal is to make sure all students can participate and be active learners.

2.h. Please describe what professional learning activities the district will provide certified staff to ensure they have the skills necessary to provide a continuation of learning when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented.

Teachers are involved in professional learning activities through the purchased programs the district has. Multiple Zoom meetings and online training about virtual learning and the mental health of our students have also be attended. Augusta Independent School will devote two days of professional development prior to the Non Traditional Instruction Program implementation and provide program expectations, guidelines and protocols. Certified staff will participate in one day of technology training designed to effectively use digital and blended instruction, online resources and utilization of Google Classroom, the districts Learning

Management System. Furthermore, day two of PD will be a collaborative effort of certified staff to develop NTI instructional plans for each grade level and content areas. The NTI instructional planning process will ensure adequate student work time, as well as rigor and modifications of the assignments as recommended by special education and gifted and talented teachers' input.

2.i. Please describe the deployment of all staff when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented. This response should include all certified staff, especially teachers, and all classified staff. What duties will staff perform to ensure contractual obligations are met?

Certified and classified staff will still work from the school building when possible to work with students one on one and deliver instruction as usual from the hours of 9-2 with a modified online class schedule and will implement the 2 hour per night help period. Instructional assistants will collaborate with the teacher they work with to help deliver the instruction to the students and to help work one on one with students. They will also share the 2 hour per night contact time period to help students and parents with assignments and technology platforms. This schedule will be the same if staff cannot enter the building. Cafeteria staff will work the same schedule in person and virtual getting meals ready for delivery and pick up. Custodial staff will continue duties as usual with extra sanitizing occurring throughout the school.

2.j. Describe established partnerships with other community agencies that will increase opportunities for a continuation of learning when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented.

The Augusta Independent School District is unique in the fact that the majority of the student body lives within a two-mile radius of the school itself; therefore, it is very conveniently located within walking distance to the majority of the students in the district. Due to the fact that the staff will report on NTI days, students in the district will be able to walk to school to take advantage of assistance from teachers as well as the two computer labs located on campus in order to access WIFI. The City of Augusta also offers free WIFI on Main Street which can be accessed in the public library or any of the restaurants located on the street.

2.k. What is the district's communication plan for parents, students, and community members when in-person instruction is not feasible and nontraditional instruction is implemented?

AIS utilizes Facebook, Twitter, District Website, teacher websites/platforms, and the All Call system to keep all stakeholders informed when NTI is implemented. The district will communicate with the parents/families/community at the opening of the new school year and continuously prior to the winter season to explain the process of NTI days and the expectations the district has for those days. This will take the form of a letter and informational materials being sent home with students, as well as that information being posted on the district website, social media platforms, and school newsletter. Families will be alerted when a non-instructional day will occur via our automated call system (Blackboard Connect), local news outlets, social media (Facebook and Twitter), and the district web site. Specific, more detailed instructions concerning the NTI day will be available on the district web site and our district Facebook page. For specific information about the online lessons, students can access their Google classroom pages.

3. How does the above nontraditional instruction plan providing for a continuation of learning relate to district goals?

By utilizing instructional learning programs and platforms both in person and virtually, students will make a better transition between the two. Our district goals are to deliver the best instruction possible and ready students for success in life. Rigorous teaching and standards mastery whether in person or virtually are necessary tools.

Attachment Summary

Attachment Name	Description	Associated Item(s)
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