

Monmouth-Roseville CUSD #238 Remote Learning Plan

March 30, 2020

Introduction

The COVID-19 Pandemic has created an unprecedented situation the likes of which most of us have never seen. We are proud of how our staff and community have rallied together to face this adversity and risen to the challenge to provide opportunities to feed our students and provide learning opportunities for our students.

Upon the closure of our schools, we implemented our e-learning plan which had already been approved by the Regional Office of Education. That plan was intended to support students in the event of a closure of 1-2 days. We quickly modified that plan to provide support for an extended closure, and we will continue to rely on our e-learning plan for the remainder of the closure regardless of how long it lasts.

Communication

We will communicate critical information to our community using the district website (www.mr238.org), social media (Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter), the district all call system, and local media. Schools and teachers have also been using their school websites and social media accounts to communicate information, along with other web-based tools such as Google Classroom. We are checking email regularly, as well as the voicemail at each school and the district office. Please contact us if you have any questions and we will respond as soon as possible. The phone numbers of each building are listed below:

Lincoln Early Childhood	734-2222
Harding Primary	734-4915
Central Intermediate	734-2213
Monmouth-Roseville Junior High	426-2682
Monmouth-Roseville High School	734-5118
District Office	734-4712

Remote Learning

As of March 31, schools in Illinois are required to implement a Remote Learning Plan. For schools such as us, our Remote Learning Plan will be based on our e-learning plan which had been previously approved. The following information outlines our remote learning plan, and how

we will continue to support students through remote learning. Our remote learning plan will start on Monday, April 6th. Until that time, students will continue to work on assignments they have previously received.

Remote Learning is learning that happens outside of the traditional classroom because the student and teacher are separated by distance and/or time. Remote learning can be real-time or flexibly timed, and it may or may not involve technology.

First and foremost, we recognize that remote learning is not an ideal situation. There is no substitute for the interaction between students and staff, and the learning activities that take place daily in our schools. This plan is not intended to replace that, but to be the next best option given the current circumstances. Therefore, this plan is an opportunity for students to continue to be engaged in learning activities during the closure. It will only be successful if students take time daily to complete the activities provided for them, whether in paper-and-pencil form, or digitally. We strongly encourage parents to create time and a physical space for students to take part in activities regularly.

Second, we realize that this situation has put all families under a great deal of stress, and that varies from family to family. Some of you live in single parent homes, while others in homes where parents/guardians are employed in essential positions and therefore aren't home during the day. Some of you may have other family members living with you, and some may have family members who are ill, frail, or weak. And some of you live in homes where the mental health of some family members, such as anxiety or depression, may have an impact on the rest of the members of the household. We know that each family is different, and each family has unique stresses that are a challenge. Our commitment is to be understanding, reasonable, and flexible. There are some situations where we are limited in what we can do, but we will work hard to work with you as long as you communicate your needs to us. Again, you can do that through email, or calling the district office or any of the school buildings.

Grades

One of the common questions during the closure has been whether or not student work will be graded. None of the assignments or assessments that have been provided for students will negatively impact student grades. Students will receive feedback on their progress. If an assignment is graded it can ONLY help the child's grade.

Grading will focus on the continuation of learning and prioritize the connectedness and care for students and staff. All students should have the opportunity to redo, make up, or try again to complete, show progress, or attempt to complete work assigned prior to the remote learning period in that time frame. A focus on keeping children emotionally and physically safe, fed and engaged in learning is our first priority during this unprecedented time.

Guidelines

- Students should be completing some learning activities every day, as well as any assignment or assessment that is part of each activity. The State Board of Education has issued guidelines for teachers when providing activities and assessments to students. We will continue to use those guidelines so that the activities are reasonable in length and what students are being asked to do.
- Students should contact your teacher if you have any questions, if you want to share your work with them, or you just want to say 'Hi'! Teachers will be checking email regularly, and they are available to help during the closure, look at assignments/assessments, and say 'Hi' back. The closure is just as isolating for our staff as it is for you. Stay in touch and engaged.
- Teachers will not have "office hours", but they will be available daily Monday-Friday for any help needed. Email is the best way to reach them. They will respond as soon as possible; usually within a few hours or within 24 hours at the latest.
- Our classroom aides, or paraprofessionals, will be engaged in learning opportunities, too. If students have a question, or just want to say 'Hi', they can contact our support staff during the closure, too.

In closing, we will do our absolute best to support you and your students during this time. That includes responding to questions, connecting with you, serving meals, and being flexible. We know this is a trying time, and we're all in it together. We are hopeful that we can return to school soon, but please know that we are preparing for an extended closure if that is ordered. Complying with social distancing and other measures in order to minimize the spread of COVID-19 is of the utmost importance. Too many people have been infected, and have died. School is important, but nothing is more important than the well-being of our students, staff, and community. Stay strong, stay safe, and we will get through this together...**#Titan Nation**