



Warren Township Schools Emergency Remote Instruction Plan

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Local Educational Agency Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs for the 2021-2022 School Year (SY)

The New Jersey Department of Education (Department) remains at the ready to assist every local educational agency (LEA) in returning to full-time, in-person instruction for the 2021-2022 SY. This includes providing LEAs with guidance in the event of declared emergencies resulting in a district-wide closure. The Department appreciates the challenges that LEAs had to overcome during the 2020-2021 SY as they faced a myriad of decisions affecting both the safety of their students and staff as well as the instructional experience. The Department is encouraging LEAs to reflect upon their experiences with virtual and remote instruction when planning for the 2021-2022 SY.

In April 2020, Governor Murphy issued an executive order that became P.L.2020, c.27. This law provides for the continuity of instruction in the event of a public-health related district closure so that LEAs can utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. In order to provide transparency and ensure that New Jersey students continue to receive high quality, standards-based instruction, each school district, charter school, renaissance school project and Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities (APSSDs) must annually submit its proposed program for virtual or remote instruction (plan) to the Commissioner of Education. This plan would be implemented during a district closure lasting more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure.

A superintendent must consult with the board of education, if practicable, prior to implementing the school district's plan of virtual or remote instruction. A day of virtual or remote instruction, if instituted under a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education, is considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance for the purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements, awarding of course credit, and such other matters as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

LEAs must include the statutory requirements listed in the "LEA Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs for the 2021-2022 SY," in their plans for virtual or remote instruction for the 2021-2022 school year. The 2021-2022 plans must be approved by the LEA's board of education or board of trustees (board), submitted to the county office of education for review and approval, and posted on the LEA's website. The board-approved plan and checklist are due to the county office of education no later than October 29, 2021. In the event that the LEA is directed to provide virtual or remote instruction before garnering county office approval, the approval date will be retroactive. Questions should be directed to the county office of education.

Attestation and Board Approval Information:

- [Attestation for the 2021-2022 School Year](#)
- **Date of Board Approval: 10/25/2021**
- **The Warren Township Emergency Remote Instruction Plan can be found on the district website: www.warrentboe.org**

District Overview

In order to provide transparency and ensure that students continue to receive high quality, standards-based instruction, the Warren Township Schools will use the following plan. This plan will be implemented during a district closure lasting more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure. The superintendent will consult with the board of education, if practicable, prior to implementing the school district's plan of virtual or remote instruction.

A day of virtual or remote instruction, implemented under this plan, is considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance.

Length of Remote School Day

In the event of an emergency closure lasting more than three days, Warren Middle School will maintain normal operating school schedules. In an effort to reduce screen time for young students, the four district elementary schools will employ an early dismissal schedule. The early dismissal schedule is inclusive of lunch and recess periods. Early dismissal scheduled times can be found in the district handbook and on individual school building webpages.

Staff will work full days and meet with small groups of students to provide additional instruction and support in the afternoon. Related services like speech and OT will coordinate services throughout the full contract day.

As occurs during normal operating procedures, teachers will balance student screen time through the developmentally appropriate use of mini-lessons, small group strategy sessions, and student teacher conferences. Google Meet will be used to facilitate all live instruction. All students will use Google Classroom to access lesson resources and videos that support classroom instruction, in addition to links the teacher links for live mini-lessons or conferences. All staff will be expected to work their full contract day. In addition, if necessary, staff will make arrangements for the provision of paper based products to support individual students who demonstrate a need for supports and modifications that cannot be addressed through available technology resources.

Technology Provision

The Warren Township Schools provides all K-8 students with a fully functioning Chromebook for use in school and at home. All staff have district issued laptop computers to manage all work flow. Chromebooks are issued to new students at the onset of the school year. Students previously enrolled in the district kept the device issued the previous year.

All instructional staff is expected to use Google Classroom so all students are able to access instructional resources and materials daily. The district uses ClassLink to facilitate single sign on to all district approved applications.

During the annual student registration, parents indicated whether they had reliable Internet access. The district has procured a number of hotspots to support families that are in need of connectivity support.

Impact on National School Lunch Program

In the event of an emergency closure lasting more than three days, the district will continue the process of collecting daily lunch orders from families. Families that have placed a NSLP lunch order will be provided with the opportunity to access a grab and go bagged lunch at a designated school facility at a designated time. This information will be communicated to all families who have indicated a desire to order from the NSLP on emergency remote days that fall under this plan.