



Planned Instruction | Student & Family FAQ

What is planned instruction?

Planned instruction is formal teaching and learning *similar to* what occurs in a classroom setting. We cannot replicate exactly what happens in the classroom. In addition, the virtual learning environment is different for all students and families.

Teachers will provide instruction of new content and skills aligned to grade level standards, and there will be an assessment of new learning. This will be done through Schoology or recorded Google Meet sessions. Students can access this instruction anytime it is possible for them.

When will students begin planned instruction?

Our secondary teachers and students will move to planned instruction on Tuesday, April 14. Our elementary teachers and students will move to planned instruction on Monday, April 20.

What is expected of students during planned instruction?

Students must complete course requirements, tasks, and assignments and communicate with their teacher(s) during planned instruction. Modes of communication include but are not limited to: email, Schoology, posted assignments, phone calls, and Google Meet. Students are not required to be online every day, but students should demonstrate meaningful participation.

What does “meaningful participation” mean?

Simply, this means that the student completes assigned tasks, work, or projects and has regular connections with their teachers.

How will attendance be recorded during planned instruction?

Attendance will be based on meaningful participation and recorded in PowerSchool.

What will happen if a student does not participate meaningfully during planned instruction?

We ask that teachers monitor participation based on meaningful work. If this is not occurring, teachers should contact the parent/guardian of the student. If the student is still not engaging in meaningful participation after this contact, the school counselor and building administration will be notified so these staff members can reach out and offer appropriate support.

NOTE: This FAQ is accurate as of 4:00 p.m. on Thursday, April 9. We will notify students and families of any updates.



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Why would a district staff member call my house from an unknown/blocked number?

As most of our district staff members, including teachers, specialists, counselors, principals, and technology staff, are working remotely, we are establishing systems and processes for communications. District staff members may call your household from an unknown or blocked phone number. While students or families may be reluctant to answer a phone call from a blocked or unknown number, we hope you will consider doing so to facilitate better communication. Should you miss our call, the staff member will leave their contact information and message on your voicemail.

What are the elementary learning platforms?

Elementary virtual classroom communication should occur in Schoology/Google Meet. Consistent ELA, Math, and Science materials related to practice and assessment will be available in Spark (Odysseyware) for Grades K-2, Odysseyware for Grades 3-5, and Edgenuity for Grade 6. Social Studies materials are online (Pearson) and teachers will post assignments in Schoology. Special Area Teachers will continue to post assignments in Schoology and use Google Meet/Schoology for communication. Focus will remain on project based learning. Students will not be asked to purchase any items for assignments. All teachers will also focus on wellness activities (not to be graded).

What are the middle school learning platforms?

Consistent curriculum for core subject areas in middle school (ELA, Math, Science, Social Studies, and ELD) will be available in Edgenuity for grades 7-8. Edgenuity also offers embedded formative assessments that ensure the security of student assessment data and accurate measures of student ability. Teachers can create additional projects or assignments in Schoology that will allow students to demonstrate learning. Exploratories (Art, BCIT, FCS, Health/PE, Music, Tech. Ed., World Languages, Interventions) will be project-based learning experiences. However, students will not be asked to go out and purchase items.

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How will a student log in to Edgenuity?

Username and passwords are the student's Hempfield active directory username and password. Remember, they are case sensitive. If students have any issues with logging into Edgenuity or their iPad, contact the tech department hotline, 717-618-5549, or email internet_support@hempfieldsd.org.

What are the high school learning platforms?

Schoology will be used primarily for high school communications and management of materials and assignments. Teachers can create additional projects or assignments in Schoology that will allow students to demonstrate learning. Edgenuity and learning extensions will be available for students who progress quickly through the designed learning opportunities.

What does planned instruction look like for students receiving special education?

Itinerant Teachers and Therapists will provide direct and consultative support to students and teachers, virtually and through Schoology. Teachers will monitor progress, adjust lessons, and support student learning.

How much time should students be engaged in planned instruction?

Teachers should provide a time estimate for learning opportunities, discuss these estimates with the class, and then actively monitor progress and outcomes. Teachers will remain conscious of the need for students to learn both online and offline. Teachers will also remain conscious of minimizing the amount of screen time. Recommended time allotments for both on and offline learning experiences will be provided to teachers next week.

What are the expectations for teachers to connect directly with students?

Teachers will maintain daily dedicated virtual connection times, just as they did during the period of enrichment and review. Again, this is dedicated time that teachers are available to connect with students to answer questions, provide support, give feedback, etc. Teachers and students should not participate in one-on-one conferences, unless the student is receiving special education services that necessitate one-on-one outreach.

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How will teachers assign grades during planned instruction?

A team of individuals from across the district is exploring how grading will occur during planned instruction at both the elementary and secondary levels. There will be more information coming on grading next week at the April 14 School Board meeting. After that meeting, details will be shared with teachers. Because of this, grading **will not** occur prior to Monday, April 20.

What are the expectations for assessments and finals?

District common summative exams and finals are suspended for the remainder of 2019-20 school year.

What happens if a student needs tech support during planned instruction?

Students who have a technology issue and need assistance should call 717-618-5549 and leave their contact information, OR email internet_support@hempfieldsd.org. A Hempfield School District technology representative will be in touch to help as soon as possible.

Are there changes to the 2019-20 calendar to make up missed school days because of the forced closure in March?

The PA Department of Education (PDE) asked school districts to make a good faith effort to adhere to the day and hour requirements outlined in school code, despite forced closures in March. As students, staff, and families look to complete the 2019-20 school year, we have adjusted our school calendar.

The following recommendations were approved by our School Board on April 7, 2020 and will be important for student and family awareness.

- **April 9** - Maintain Early Dismissal (Virtual)
- **April 10 & 13** - Teacher In-Service Days (No new virtual learning for students)
- **April 14** - School Day for Teachers, Staff, & Students (planned snow make-up day)
- **May 22, June 2, June 3** – Will be full school days (Early Dismissals removed)
- **Thursday, June 4** - Last student day (remains an Early Dismissal)

You can find the most up to date calendars on the Hempfield School District website here.

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