

Stephen Doerr  
Superintendent



## EAST JACKSON COMMUNITY SCHOOLS OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

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April 14, 2020

East Jackson Families & Staff,

In response to the recent closure of all Michigan schools due to COVID-19, our school staff has been hard at work developing a Continuity of Learning Plan for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year. This plan has been formally approved by the Department of Education and is now available on our district website. Some important parts of the plan include:

1. All students will have access to instruction. The district surveyed families in early April to assess needs for devices and internet access. We were able to deploy many devices to families & are still working on internet access. For families that do not have a device or internet access, teachers will need to provide alternate modes of instruction during the weeks that online learning is not possible.
2. Students should be at the center of instruction, and special effort should be made by all EJ Staff to make students feel safe and valued. The first weeks of the plan will focus on connectedness and establishing routines. Teachers have been directed to not have formal deadlines and to minimize student workload expectations for the first several weeks as we make adjustments to this remote learning environment.
3. Internet connectivity is a known issue for many families. Unfortunately, all schools across the state and country are looking for internet devices at the same time due to the COVID-19 crisis. For families that do not have internet access right now, teachers and instruction staff are being directed to provide instructional packets or alternate modes of instruction for all students. Teachers are expected to connect with each student at least once per week. Students will not be penalized for lack of access to the internet. Meanwhile, the district is developing a plan to help support families without the internet and it might take weeks to resolve this issue.
4. As a part of this plan, our district will continue mobile food service. All children aged 18 or under are eligible for free lunch and breakfast at any of our 5 locations. Area churches and food pantries have made donations of food and personal care items that will also be available at these distribution sites. If you need delivery to an alternate location, please contact the Food Service Director at (517) 769-8958.
5. We are all experiencing this crisis together and there is no perfect plan. Together, we have made the very best plan to provide the best possible learning environment for our district's students. We will continue to adapt this plan, based upon the needs of our students and their families. Our district has created a Frequently Asked Questions document that is available on the district website: [eastjacksonschools.org](http://eastjacksonschools.org)
6. If your child is struggling, or if you have questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to call the school office and leave a message for the principal.
  - a. Grades K-6 (517) 764-1810
  - b. Grades 7-12 (517) 764-1700

Again, we thank you for your patience as we work through this crisis together with clean hands and warm hearts.

  
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*Home of the TROJANS*