



April 11, 2020

Dear Tiger Families,

I hope that you have enjoyed your “home-cation” during spring break week! During this time, hopefully you and our teachers were able to take a much-deserved break and are ready to get back to teaching and learning on April 13th. During this time, the admin team has completed and submitted our Continuous Learning Plan. While not much has changed in the distance learning we have been providing, there are a few clarifications to help us move forward.

TIME ON SCHOOLWORK

There have been many questions about how much time your child should be spending on schoolwork each day. This is new to all of us and as we work on meaningful teaching and learning we want it to be appropriate for all of our children. Here is the guide that that we will be using at Tipton.

GSRP: Approximately 60 minutes per day.

K-2nd Grade: Approximately 90 minutes per day including all subjects. With an additional 15-30 minutes if needing additional services in MTSS, Special Education, or ELL.

3rd-5th Grade: Approximately 120 minutes per day including all subjects. With an additional 15-30 minutes if needing additional services in MTSS, Special Education, or ELL.

6th-8th Grade: Approximately 150 minutes per day with 30 minutes per subject for 5 subjects. With an additional 15-30 minutes if needing additional services in MTSS, Special Education, or ELL.

Please remember, this is our guide for parents and teachers. Some days may be a little more while other days may be a little less, but this information will help all of us to plan our days.

ATTENDANCE/ENGAGEMENT

We will be tracking our students’ attendance through their engagement in three areas:

Communication: We need to ensure that students are in communication with their teachers throughout the week. This can be through DOJO, email, phone, or Google Classroom. If they are responding to requests or asking questions, they will be marked engaged in this area.

Digital Learning Time: This is the amount of time spent on Khan Academy, Moby Max, and/or IXL. Each platform provides a report of the amount of time the students are engaged in learning. If students are participating in their assigned activities, they will be marked engaged in this area.

Live Lessons/Office Hours: These are the Zoom or Google meetings that your student’s teachers are hosting twice per week. If your student attends one or more of these meetings, they will be marked engaged in this area.

While it is much more difficult for us to track attendance, if your child is engaged in the learning activities we are providing, they will be marked present for the week. Engagement

is not the same as academic grades. Grades will follow our regular grading scale and be based upon student progress toward learning outcomes.

DIGITAL ACCESS

We are primarily relying on technology and Internet access. We have worked with several families to ensure everyone has access. If you are struggling with access to equipment or Internet, it is imperative that you contact us right away. Please send a DOJO message or email Dr. Lackey at klackey@tipton-academy.org.

UPDATED CALENDAR

We have been given approval for the time period that we began distance learning on March 16th, so we will not have to add days to calendar this year or next year. The updated calendar is as follows:

March 13 End of 3rd Quarter Marking Period (Q3-33 Days)
March 16 First day of Distance Learning
April 13 Grades due by teachers. Grades Stored April 13th.
April 6-13 Spring Break - No School
April 14 Resume Distance Learning
April 17 Report cards home digitally - Parents or teachers can request virtual conferences to discuss
May 27 Memorial Day – No School
June 11 Last Day of School (Q4-57 Days)
June 12 Teacher Work Day - Grades due for Q4 by 12pm to be stored.
June 15-19 Report Cards home - TBD either digitally or by mail

SUPERINTENDENT OFFICE HOURS

I would like to offer ZOOM Office hours this week. If you would like to attend, please email angela@trgschools.com and I will send you an invite to attend.

Tuesday April 14, 2020 from 11am-12pm
Thursday April 16, 2020 from 11am-12pm

REMINDERS

RETURN TO SCHOOL

Our last day of school remains June 11th for 1st-7th grades, June 10th for kindergarten, and June 8th for eighth grade. Other specific dates will be provided as we move forward.

DISTANCE LEARNING

The Governor's executive order requires that we continue providing learning as we have been. Please understand that participation in distance learning is not optional.

REPORT CARDS

We have planned to provide you with Quarter 3 report cards on April 17th. While navigating through changes, we are trying our best to meet this specified date. Please be patient. You will receive them digitally.

SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, ELL, Homelessness

Our team members providing these services and accommodations are working to provide support to those students that qualify in these areas. If you need additional assistance, please contact the following coordinators:

Special Education: Mrs. Heather Young, hyoung@tipton-academy.org

Section 504: Mrs. Karla Orlando, korlando@tipton-academy.org

English Language Learner: Mrs. Jessica Randles, jrandles@tipton-academy.org

Homelessness: Dr. Kyle Lackey, klackey@tipton-academy.org

OVERNIGHT FIELD TRIPS

We will be scheduling Zoom parent meetings with the families attending to discuss details.

STUDENT ITEMS AT SCHOOL

Our buildings are remaining closed at this time. If are in need of critical items that are at the school, please contact the school via phone, email, or DOJO.

MEAL SERVICE

Any child 18 and under or special needs child 26 and under is eligible.

Monday: 3 Breakfast Meals, 3 Lunch Meals, 3 White Milks, 3 Chocolate Milks

Wednesday: 4 Breakfast Meals, 4 Lunch Meals, 4 White Milks, 4 Chocolate Milks

SUPPORT

Social and emotional support during this time is essential for all of us and especially our children. If your child needs additional support, please contact the following members:

School Social Worker: Mrs. Julie Redwine, jredwine@tipton-academy.org

Vice Principal: Mrs. Karla Orlando, korlando@tipton-academy.org

Principal: Dr. Kyle Lackey, klackey@tipton-academy.org

Superintendent: Mrs. Angela Gilbert, agilbert@tipton-academy.org

COVID 19 UPDATES

We were informed of our first two families with members that have tested positive for COVID 19. Currently, the information that we have received is that they are being treated at home and they have not come into contact with others in our school community during the time they were contagious. If this information changes, we will update you. Please keep these families in your thoughts and prayers. We want all of our Tigers safe and healthy as we continue to move through this. Please be diligent about washing hands, social distancing, wearing non-medical masks if you leave your home, and not visiting with people that do not live in your home.

It is extremely important that if you or a member of your household are being tested for the COVID 19 virus that you contact Dr. Lackey, Mrs. Orlando, or myself through DOJO, email, or calling the school phone number as soon as possible.

WHAT NEXT

Now that we have started to settle into a plan, we will continue polishing it as we move forward. You may receive some new resources from your child's teacher. You may see additional expectations, live lessons, or additional check-ins from your child's teachers. Just as you are learning a whole new way of school, so are we. Over the break we had some

trainings and meetings to help us learn and grow in our distance learning support. Hopefully as we move forward, we will all get better at this as I know both in your home and ours, we are doing our very best.

THANK YOU

Lastly, I'll just keep saying it...THANK YOU... to our entire Tiger family for all of the hard work, support, patience, understanding, and everything that you are doing everyday to make it your best. And again, to each and every one of our Tiger family members, YOU ARE ENOUGH! YOU ARE SEEN! YOU ARE THOUGHT OF! YOU ARE IMPORTANT! AND YOU MATTER IN OUR LIVES!

We are in this together! Sending hugs and love to our entire Tiger family!

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angela Gilbert". The signature is written in black ink on a light-colored background.

Mrs. Angela Gilbert
Superintendent, Tipton Academy