



April 17, 2020

Dear Tiger Families,

It's hard to believe that we have just finished week 5 of distance learning! While it seems like there is still so much change in our lives, the changes on the school front are becoming less each week. This is a good sign that we are on the right track! There are just a few updates and reminders for this week.

CONTINUITY OF LEARNING PLAN

We are happy to report that we have received full approval on our distance-learning plan from Lake Superior State University. To review the plan, please visit the Tipton Academy website or visit the following link.

http://www.tipton-academy.org/images/pdf/Tipton_ContinuityOfLearning.pdf

SPECIALS CLASSES

We want to send a special thank you to our specials teachers for putting a great deal of thought and planning into meaningful and creative projects for our students. We are looking forward to seeing pictures and videos of these projects and hoping that they are able to not only continue learning in these areas, but also do so while interacting with their families when possible!

REPORT CARDS

Third quarter report cards should have been individually sent to you by your child's teacher through DOJO today. If you did not receive your report card, please contact your child's homeroom teacher.

DIGITAL 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 to Dr. Lackey at klackey@tipton-academy.org. Comcast is also making its Xfinity Wi-Fi hotspots free for anyone to use. Millions of the hotspots are scattered throughout the country; you can find hotspot locations at wifi.xfinity.com.

SUPERINTENDENT OFFICE HOURS

I will be offering ZOOM office hours for parents and staff this week. This is an opportunity to just ask questions, inquire about resources, or just check in with us for a few minutes. If you would like to attend the links are below. If you need assistance please email me at angela@trgschools.org.

Tuesday April 21, 2020 from 11am-12pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84183857448?pwd=VHZZdGFjL1QxSE95S3NvMXpwUklPdZ09>

Thursday April 23, 2020 from 11am-12pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82802374177?pwd=WC9GdTI3NW5uTjVYOU1wck1NeHVZz09>

COVID 19 UPDATES

We have received updates that one of the families that had COVID 19 has recovered and thus far there are no further symptoms in the household. Unfortunately, we received word that a third family has a confirmed case in their household. The information 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

We are receiving fewer changes legislatively and hope to just continue on our way. As we are moving forward, we are talking about opportunities for family virtual events and/or face-to-face events into the summer. Additionally, as May approaches, we will begin planning for next year, as we are currently accepting enrollment. If you did not complete re-enrollment information and would like to, please contact the main office. WE MISS YOU!!! WE WANT TO SEE YOU NEXT YEAR!!! Watch our video to see our message to our Tiger families.

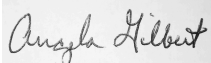
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bdjVvM9waws>

THANK YOU

It will be my finish to every letter each week because I have to 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,



Mrs. Angela Gilbert
Superintendent, Tipton Academy

REMINDERS

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.

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.

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 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:

2-Way 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.

SPECIAL EDUCATION, 504, ELL, Homelessness

Our team members that are 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 (Ends June 10th)

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