



April 23, 2020

Dear Tiger Families,

I hope that this Friday update finds you healthy and staying safe! We are almost half way through the 12-week distance-learning plan that unexpectedly happened on March 13th. Please give yourselves a pat on the back for doing what is needed to keep our children moving forward! We are well on our way to the end of the 2019-2020 school year and beginning our planning for the fall. While we have some updates for the current needs, we also have some updates for the 2020-2021 school year.

CURRENT NEEDS

We understand that some of the technology, apps, and software programs can be challenging. In order to best support you with questions and learning how to use them, please reach out to our admin team and/or please attend our Superintendent office hours. These office hours can be used to show you how to use the technology, as well as answer questions and find solutions to challenges that you are having. If you are struggling with accessing us through ZOOM, please email klackey@tipton-academy.org.

Superintendent office hours for the week of April 27th are as follows:

Tuesday April 28, 2020 from 11am-12pm

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88609481943?pwd=dS92bEtTWXlrNmZzcHJ2cDIPbHJ3QT09>

Meeting ID: 886 0948 1943 Password: 402321

Thursday April 30, 2020 from 11am-12pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89873146936?pwd=YW95UzRjQkYxcjQ3NGFGdTg0cWhzUT09>

Meeting ID: 898 73146936 Password: 890925

PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

This is the typical time period that we begin planning for the upcoming school year. While we would love nothing more than to go back to business as usual, conversations are already taking place across the country, as well as in Michigan, that school may look different in the fall due to the current circumstances. We are proud, that in record time, we were able to hit the ground running at Tipton and we want to make sure we are prepared to do so in the future. In order to do this successfully, we need to hear from you! Please participate in a short survey by clicking the link below. Your feedback will help drive our planning the ability to best meet the needs of not just your child, but your family too. We know that with more time to plan, we can do even better, which is our ultimate goal!

Complete Survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/572KRYC>

STAY PUT EXTENSION

You may have heard that today Governor Whitmer extended the stay put order until May 15th. This means that we are still not permitting access to the school building. If you have something critical that your child needs, please contact Dr. Lackey or Mrs. Orlando. It is important that we are keeping our families safe and healthy by honoring the order and limiting exposure to people outside of our homes. We will make arrangements for everyone to collect their things when it is safe to do so.

PTO UPDATES

Our parent organization is still working hard for our school! From fundraisers to communication to planning for Teacher Appreciation Week May 4-8th, they have been continuing to make the school a priority. With that said, they have two requests:

1. Please respond to the DOJO message regarding Teacher Appreciation Week.
2. All of the officer positions are open for next year because their two-year terms are up. A message straight from them to you...

“We’d love to see YOUR name on the ballot for the 2020-2021 PTO board! Please submit your name to TiptonPTO@gmail.com by Friday May 1st. We will hold an electronic election on Monday May 11th.”

MEALS SERVED

Our frontline meal service team has been hard at work for the last six weeks! Tipton is currently serving an average of 3500 meals per week! That is an average of 250 families on Monday and 250 families on Wednesday. Our highest week to date was 4200 meals, with a slight fluctuation each week.

SUPERHEROES OF EDUCATION - TIPTON STAFF APPRECIATION DATES

May 1st Lunch Hero Day - We currently have 10 full-time and 2 substitute food service heroes. Show them your love on FB on May 1st!

April 22nd Tipton Secretaries Day – Oh DEAR! We missed it this week, so we are celebrating next week April 29th! It has nothing to do with our lack of love for our secretaries, it is only because life has made the days blend together. Please show them your love on FB next Wednesday!

Teacher/STAFF Appreciation Week – May 4-8th We celebrate all of our superheroes during this week! We believe that all of our staff members are teachers because we are all part of the village helping to support the growth and education of our Tipton students.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Fortunately, we have received no information regarding new cases of COVID-19 in our Tipton family. One of our families is now in the clear and the other two are still recovering. 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

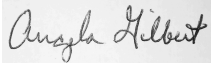
It seems each new week brings a little nuance of information and we do what is needed to address it. Now that we have a plan in place for this year, we are working on our plans for summer and fall. This includes budgets, calendar, schedules, and procedures. We are still accepting enrollment for next year. 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!!!

THANK YOU

I wish I had words that were stronger than this, but thank you is what it is! 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. Thank you to all of the essential employees out there that are keeping us all moving forward in whatever way you do! 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

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.

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 as information is finalized.

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

We'll be there for you...Watch our video to see our message to our Tiger families.

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