



May 1, 2020

Dear Tiger Families,

I hope that this Friday update finds you enjoying this sunshine! I cannot believe it is already May! We only have a few updates this week.

GRADUATIONS AND YEAR-END CELEBRATIONS

We are currently putting plans together to provide a meaningful celebration of these milestones. Our goal is to be able to have these plans solidified and communicated in the next two weeks.

Your Voice Matters

Thank you to everyone that has completed the survey from last week. There will be additional surveys in the coming weeks with more specific questions regarding the planning we are doing for the possibility of blended learning next year. If you have not yet completed the survey, please do so with the link below.

We are discussing the feedback and making changes and decisions based on your voice. One example is requesting teachers to create a guide for each week. This will help you and your child to plan better for what to do each day. Another example is trying to reduce the number of software programs being used. While we can't eliminate some of them, we are working with grade levels to try to consolidate those programs. Additionally, we are already looking for a system to organize and make this more user friendly for our parents and students as we move into planning for next year.

Complete Survey 1: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/572KRYC>

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

We understand that people may still need help with understanding technology, as well as have questions about school now and in the future. We have this time set up for you! 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 or simply check in with us. If you are struggling with accessing us through ZOOM, please email klackey@tipton-academy.org.

Superintendent office hours for the week of May 4th are as follows:

Tuesday May 5th, 2020 from 11am-12pm

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

Meeting ID: 886 0948 1943 Password: 402321

Thursday May 7th, 2020 from 11am-12pm

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89873146936?pwd=YW95UzRjQkYxcjQ3NGFGdG0cWhzUT09>

Meeting ID: 898 73146936 Password: 890925

CHAMPIONS

You may hear from Champions if you have participated in their program in the past that they will not be continuing at Tipton. We are currently planning to make a change for the

upcoming school year to a program that is more affordable for our families. While we loved working with Champions, we realize that their cost made it challenging for many families to participate, as they needed to. We will have updated information on the new program as guidelines for next year come out from the Governor. Please know that we are taking steps to do what is best for our families as your needs are always at the forefront of our planning.

MEALS SERVED

Our frontline meal service team has been hard at work for the last seven weeks! They served 3160! Our highest week to date was 4200 meals, with a slight fluctuation each week.

SUPERHEROES OF EDUCATION - TIPTON STAFF APPRECIATION DATES

May 1st (TODAY) is Principal Appreciation Day! If you didn't have a chance to shout out how AWESOME they are, please do! They really have worked so hard seven days a week to ensure that everyone is being supported! Please send them a DOJO or email! Filling their buckets with love would mean so much to them!

May 4-8th is Teacher/STAFF Appreciation Week - We are celebrating 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. Please check your email for and EBLAST regarding details of support from PTO.

CARES ACT

You may be hearing about the funding that the federal government has provided to each state to help with the costs incurred to schools because of the COVID 19 pandemic. This funding is so that schools can financially support the continuity of the learning plan, as well as support for the future impact of possible distance learning into next school year. At Tipton, we are discussing plans to try to move to a 1:1 technology school. This means that each student would receive their own form of technology that they could dedicate and utilize at home for distance learning. These are early discussions as we await the budget guidance from the Michigan Department of Education and determine the current COVID 19 impact on our school budget. One-to-one technology is our goal.

COVID-19 UPDATES

Fortunately, we have received no information regarding new cases of COVID-19 in our direct Tipton family. The previous families are stable and recovering at home. 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

From now through the end of the year be on the lookout for some virtual celebrations and events we are trying to plan. Our goal is to keep the Tiger family connected in non-academic ways.

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!!!

Please click for the 2020-2021 school year enrollment form:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeuXujYEBq0snITi6jNjWFWHfKf6feJA2bPTgajFSeI3FYATA/viewform>

THANK YOU

This week, I'd like to send a special thank you to our principal, vice principal, and each of our food service team members. Thank you for putting our Tipton family needs ahead of your own. Thank you for making sure everyone has the support that they need. Thank you for putting yourself on the frontlines and ensuring that our families and community have the meals they need. We are stronger and better because of YOU!

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.

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>