

Hopewell Area School District

2354 Brodhead Road
Aliquippa, PA, 15001

October 18, 2020

Dear Hopewell Parents/Guardians,

In light of the positive COVID 19 cases over the past week, the **District will utilize virtual learning for all students on Monday, October 19, 2020**. During this time, the District will continue to disinfect schools and ensure that PA Department of Health has completed their investigation stemming from last week's positive COVID case.

The PA Department of Health has provided numerous resources to the District, including consultations with epidemiologists, over the past two days. However, as of this morning, the Department of Health has not made a recommendation regarding school closure due to the complexity of the recent case. Therefore, the District is choosing to hold a virtual learning day on Monday, October 19 out of an abundance of caution and concern for the health and safety of all Hopewell's students, staff, and families. If the Department of Health recommends a longer closure, we will contact families via the phone blast system immediately.

Please see below for information on district wide virtual learning days. Should you have any questions during virtual learning days, please contact your child's teacher, school counselor, or principal. Offices will be open to assist you in any necessary communication or concerns.

At this time, I would encourage families to monitor their children's health each day. If your child has any symptoms that could potentially be COVID, please keep them home and contact your medical provider. If someone in your family has been tested or is showing symptoms of COVID, please consider keeping your family at home until you receive the test results. This is also a reminder for all of us to continue to wash hands and wear a facial covering.

At this time, our county is in the "moderate" level of transmission. We are at 3.3 percent positivity rate and 52.8 cases or incident rate per 100,000. Over the past several weeks, we have watched these statistics increase. This is a time for our families and community to continue to stay vigilant so that we can keep our schools open and focused on student learning. We need everyone to assist in these efforts, while students and staff are in school, and while out of school.

With Viking PRIDE-
Dr. Michelle Miller
Superintendent

Virtual Learning Days

Student Virtual Schedule

On virtual instruction days, students will follow a 2 hour delay schedule. This is important for synchronous learning opportunities.

The schedules for virtual learning are:

Elementary		Junior High		High School	
Period 1	10:00-10:25	Period 1	10:00-10:25	Period 1:	9:30-9:55
Period 2	10:30-10:55	Period 2	10:30-10:55	Period 2:	10:00-10:25
Lunch A	11:00-11:30	Period 3	11:00-11:25	Period 3:	10:30-10:55
Lunch B	11:40-12:10	Period 4	11:30-11:55	Period 4:	11:00-11:25
Lunch C	12:20-12:50	Period 5	12:00-12:25	Period 5:	11:30-11:55
Period 3	1:00-1:25	Period 6	12:30-12:55	Period 6:	12:00-12:25
Period 4	1:30-1:55	Period 7	1:00-1:25	Period 7:	12:30-12:55
Period 5	2:00-2:25	Period 8	1:30-1:55	Period 8:	1:00-1:25
Period 6	2:30-2:55	Period 9	2:00-2:25	Period 9:	1:30-1:55

Student Attendance

Students are required to do the following in order to be considered present for school:

High School: Check-in in first period class by 9:30 AM

Junior High: Check-in in Homeroom/first period class by 10:00 AM

Elementary: Check-in by 11:00AM

Posting of Assignments

Senior High: All instruction and assignments for the day will be posted on the instructional platform by 9:00AM.

Junior High: All instruction and assignments for the day will be posted on the instructional platform by 9:00AM.

Elementary: All instruction and assignments for the day will be posted on the instructional platform by 10:00AM.

If there is any delay in a teacher in meeting this deadline, the teacher will post when the lesson or assignment will be available (i.e. please check back for your assignment. It will be posted by 10:00AM).

Synchronous Learning

Junior and Senior High: If a teacher is requiring synchronous learning, it will occur during the time the student would be regularly scheduled for class (i.e. 4th period from 11:30-11:55).

Elementary Teachers: If a teacher is offering synchronous learning, it may occur at any time during the student school day. Students are not required to participate.

All teachers will record any synchronous session and will post the recording. Students in grades 5-12 may be required by their teacher to participate in the synchronous session. If there is a conflict or concern, the student must communicate the conflict with the teacher using the learning platform communication tools or call the school office to report the conflict. This communication must occur before the synchronous class begins.

Students in grades 5-8 should contact teachers on Microsoft Teams and students in grades 9-12 should contact teachers through Schoology. If this communication is not possible, please communicate with the school office.

Special Education Services

Related Services

Services through Special Education will occur virtually at the time indicated by the therapist. These services include, but are not limited to, Speech, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Vision, and Hearing. Therapists will create a virtual schedule for each day that can be communicated to families by 9AM. Services must be provided and may be provided in small group settings, but parents may choose to opt their child out of related services.

Grades 5-12 Learning/Emotional Support Services

Grades 5-12 Learning Support Teachers will hold synchronous instruction and/or support during scheduled instructional periods. Parents may choose to opt their child out of the synchronous learning. Teachers may choose to record instruction, if appropriate.

K-4 Learning Support:

Direct instruction: Teachers will hold instructional sessions for all Direct Instruction provided to students. Teachers will group students as appropriate. Parents may choose to opt their child out of the synchronous learning. Teachers may choose to record instruction, if appropriate.

Learning Support Resource Time: Teachers will hold two optional virtual support sessions (one in the AM and one in the PM) for students on his/her roster. The purpose of these support sessions is to identify any learning needs and to assist in mastery of skills or completion of assignments. The teacher will either address the learning needs or assign a paraprofessional to contact the student/parent to assist in the student's learning needs.

Autistic Support and Life Skills Support

Special Education teachers will tailor plans for each student assigned to him/her. The teacher will connect virtually with each student for 20-30 minutes to provide instruction and assignments. Paraprofessionals will then be assigned to contact the student/parent for additional support.

Instruction will be posted or communicated for individual students or groups of students. Synchronous opportunities to review assignments and provide instruction will be made available to all students. Parents may choose to opt their child out of the synchronous learning. Teachers may choose to record instruction, if appropriate.

