

# KEYSTONE SCHOOL DISTRICT



## COVID-19 School Closure Continuity of Education Plan

*Revised April 29, 2020 for the Period of May 4-29*

School District	KEYSTONE SCHOOL DISTRICT
Superintendent	Mr. Shawn A. Algoe
Address	451 Huston Avenue, Knox, PA 16232
Email/Phone	<a href="mailto:salgoe@keyknox.com">salgoe@keyknox.com</a> (814) 797-5921
Website	<a href="http://www.keyknox.com">www.keyknox.com</a>

### Goal of Plan

Given the serious nature of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent trauma (physical, emotional, and financial) caused by mitigation efforts across Pennsylvania, the Keystone School District's Continuity of Education (CoE) Plan will be achieved through planned activities pertaining to Enrichment and Review. The goal of Enrichment and Review is to provide students and families with opportunities to maintain and improve upon prior learning. During the last month of school, students will also be presented with new concepts/skills aligned to grade level standards and planned courses of instruction.

### Overview of Plan

First and foremost, the Keystone School District wishes to preserve the health, safety and welfare of our students and other members of our school community. We recognize the serious impact the COVID-19 pandemic is having on our local school community. Principally, our efforts will focus on ensuring the basic needs of our students and families are supported to the greatest extent possible.

Enrichment and Review consists of informal activities that reinforce or extend students' prior learning through multiple delivery methods. While the Keystone School District website contains a variety of applicable links and other recommended activities, organized Enrichment and Review will be provided through paper packets sent via United States Postal Service to ensure equal access to the greatest extent possible. During the last month of school, students will also be presented with new concepts/skills aligned to grade level standards and planned courses of instruction. The district's professional staff will incorporate meaningful opportunities for students to engage with novel material in an effort to introduce students to new materials. Subsequently, all of this material will be integrated and covered when schools reopen or transition to hybrid learning in the fall of SY 2020-21.

### **Expectations for Teaching and Learning**

Throughout the school closure, we encourage all Keystone School District students to continue engaging in meaningful learning activities. We are keenly aware of the unique challenges that a school closure and “stay-at-home” order presents to our school community. We’ve been asked to reconsider educational delivery methods and to ensure equal access for all students, while also abiding by the Governor’s guidance for aggressive social distancing of at least six feet between individuals. This requires a significant change from the traditional structure of classroom-based teaching and learning.

### **Communication Tools and Strategies**

Principally, and to ensure equal access to the greatest extent possible, the Keystone School District’s faculty and staff are providing paper packets containing enrichment and review activities that are designed to reinforce or extend students’ prior learning. New standards and skills will be addressed through this form of educational practice during the last month of the school year.

Additionally, teachers and students may remain in contact via Google Classroom, school issued email accounts, phone correspondence, and other forms of communication technology (i.e. Remind, ClassDojo). We encourage students/families and staff to remain connected to the greatest extent possible during the school closure.

### **Access (Devices, Platforms, Handouts)**

Access to internet and technology presents a barrier to online, self-directed distance learning for many of our families. Internet access (or reliable internet access) is only one aspect of the larger barrier. Many students and families access the internet through cellular data plans, although they do not have high-speed broadband access that is suitable for online learning. Further, cellular devices are not always practical for engaging with online resources and materials and can be costly to consumers. Also of concern, is the fact that many households have fewer devices than required for the individuals (i.e. parents working from home, students learning from home) that need them. Parents/guardians cannot afford to be without their phones or other personal devices for hours on end as students attempt to navigate various learning platforms.

Principally, and to ensure equal access to the greatest extent possible, the Keystone School District’s faculty and staff are preparing paper packets containing enrichment and review activities that are designed to reinforce or extend students’ prior learning. New standards and skills will be addressed through this form of educational practice during the last month of the school year. While we’ve made web-based extension activities available via the district’s website or through other communication platforms, access to technology is not required to engage with Keystone’s Continuity of Education Plan.

### **Staff General Expectations**

Teachers will present with enrichment and review activities in order to reinforce or extend students’ prior learning. New standards and skills will be presented during the last month of the school year

along with planned enrichment and review activities. With that said, we understand the inherent challenges that coincide with the facilitation of teaching and learning equitably outside of the school environment. Teachers are expected to organize materials in a way that is conducive to the learner. No activities should require that parents/guardians purchase materials or supplies for completion of the activity. All teachers are encouraged to collaborate with one another in an effort to build capacity and share ideas. Furthermore, all staff members should be responsive to email contacts to the greatest extent possible.

### **Student Expectations**

Students are encouraged to engage with enrichment and review activities in order to reinforce or extend their prior learning and to explore new skills and concepts that will be presented during the final month of instruction. Like most learning opportunities, the benefit will directly correlate to the effort that is applied to the activity. Enrichment and review activities will not be graded. Participation in all educational activities is strictly voluntary. We encourage all students and parents to establish a framework for structured learning time, however, we recognize that each family is dealing with a complex set of issues. We ask that you do your best to encourage continuity of education, inclusive of activities that are enjoyable and of interest to your child(ren).

### **Attendance / Accountability**

Participation in all educational enrichment and review activities is highly encouraged, but strictly voluntary based on the social and emotional well-being of the child. Students will not receive a grade for enrichment and review activities, nor will attendance be taken during the mandatory school closure.

### **Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students**

Principally, and to ensure equal access to the greatest extent possible, the Keystone School District's faculty and staff are utilizing paper packets containing enrichment and review activities that are designed to reinforce or extend students' prior learning. During the last month of school, students will also be presented with new concepts/skills aligned to grade level standards and planned courses of instruction. While we've made web-based extension activities available via the district's website or through other communication platforms, access to technology is not required for organized enrichment and review opportunities or to access new concepts/skills.

Communications with our school community have been made through the district's emergency notification system, parent/guardian letters, the district's website, phone and email correspondence. Meal service information has been shared through all available means, including posting flyers in area businesses (i.e. grocery stores, Borough building).

Keystone School District is making every effort to provide continuity of education for all students in the most appropriate and accessible ways possible, while also honoring the Governor's guidance for aggressive social distancing of at least six feet between individuals. The district continues to comply with IDEA and other federal protections that remain in effect during the school closure.

### **Special Education Supports**

The Keystone School District is temporarily closed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. During the state ordered closure, Keystone will provide materials, resources, and frequent communication and consultation by email, US mail, and phone calls with parents/guardians and/or students. To ensure that Keystone School District continues to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to students who receive special education, each students' Individualized Education Program (IEP) will be implemented to the fullest extent possible during the closure. Unless agreed upon otherwise by the IEP team, the IEP in effect will resume full implementation once the mandatory closure concludes. If necessary, the IEP team will reconvene upon school reopening in order to review the IEP and make revisions or updates as needed to evaluate the impact of the closure.

The following supports will be provided during the period of closure: Tangible materials and resources will be mailed through the US mail; frequent communication and consultation by email, US mail, and phone calls with parents/guardians; ideas and resources for active learning in the home will be made available in various forms; related service collaboration and consultation will be available; case manager consultation for access to community support and resources; IEP/RER meetings conducted via teleconference.

The provision of services during the period of closure will be implemented through enrichment and review packets mailed directly to each students' home. Materials will be adapted and modified to meet the individualized needs of students to the greatest extent possible in light of current circumstances. Each students' IEP, including, but not limited to, locations of services, goals and specially designed instruction, modifications, and related services will resume following the period of school closure.

### **EL Supports**

Please contact Ms. Suzanne Chomas for additional information related to supports for English Language Learners.

### **Gifted Education**

The Keystone School District is temporarily closed as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. During the state ordered closure, Keystone will provide materials, resources, and frequent communication and consultation by email, US mail, and phone calls with parents/guardians and/or students. To ensure that Keystone School District continues to provide a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) to students who receive gifted education, each students' Gifted Individualized Education Program (GIEP) will be implemented to the fullest extent possible during the closure. Unless agreed upon otherwise by the GIEP team, the GIEP in effect will resume full implementation once the mandatory closure concludes. If necessary, the GIEP team will reconvene upon school reopening in order to review the IEP and make revisions or updates as needed to evaluate the impact of the closure.

The following supports will be provided during the period of closure: Tangible materials and resources will be mailed through the US mail; frequent communication and consultation by email, US mail, and phone calls with parents/guardians; ideas and resources for active learning in the home will be made available in various forms; related service collaboration and consultation will be available; case manager consultation for access to community support and resources; GIEP/RER meetings conducted via teleconference.

The provision of gifted services during the period of closure will be implemented through enrichment and review packets mailed directly to each students' home. Materials will be adapted and modified to meet the individualized needs of students to the greatest extent possible in light of current circumstances. Each students' GIEP, including, but not limited to, locations of services, goals and specially designed instruction, modifications, and related services will resume following the period of school closure.

<b>Building/Grade Level Contacts</b>	
Mr. Shawn Algoe, Superintendent	<a href="mailto:salgoe@keyknox.com">salgoe@keyknox.com</a>
Ms. Suzanne Chomas, K-12 Director of Special Education	<a href="mailto:schomas@keyknox.com">schomas@keyknox.com</a>
Mr. Brad Wagner, Junior-Senior High School Principal (7-12)	<a href="mailto:bwagner@keyknox.com">bwagner@keyknox.com</a>
Mr. Michael McCormick, Elementary Principal (K-6)	<a href="mailto:mmccormick@keyknox.com">mmccormick@keyknox.com</a>
<b>Resource Links</b>	
<a href="http://www.keyknox.com">www.keyknox.com</a>	
<a href="http://www.education.pa.gov">www.education.pa.gov</a>	
<a href="http://www.health.pa.gov">www.health.pa.gov</a>	