



LHSD Virtual Learning - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

- ***Are we required to make up these missed 10 days of school?***
 - Currently, LH has been **strongly encouraged by PDE** to complete as many of the 180 days of required instruction (or the hourly requirement.) There is a new bill being signed by the Governor that requires the district to submit a Continuity of Education plan. Our remote learning plan will help us meet the PDE guidelines. A new calendar will be sent out as soon as possible.

- ***Will LHSD continue providing food for families.***
 - Yes, at this time we are still permitted to provide pick up lunches Monday through Friday from 11:00-12:00

- ***In grades 6-12, how will instruction be completed?***
 - Teachers will use various forms of communication with students (i.e.: email, ConnectEd, Class Dojo, Google Classroom, Zoom mtgs., Google Meet, etc.)
 - If students do not have a phone or internet, we have installed a WIFI/Internet access near the front entrance of every building so that parents/students can access it from the parking lot in their cars.
 - If students do not have internet access, we have many free resources to add FREE internet. The information is located in the FAQ section below.
 - The last resort would be to develop a packet of papers to complete.
 - Your teacher(s) will be in contact with you.

- ***In grades K-5, how will instruction be completed?***
 - Teachers will use various forms of communication with students (i.e.: email, ConnectEd, Class Dojo, Google Classroom, Zoom mtgs., Google Meet, etc.)
 - If students do not have a phone or internet, we have installed a WIFI/Internet access near the front entrance of every building so that parents/students can access it from the parking lot in their cars.

- If students do not have internet access, we have many free resources to add FREE internet. The information is located in the FAQ section below.
 - The last resort would be to develop a packet of papers to complete.
 - Your teacher(s) will be in contact with you.
- ***How will students receive the packets?***
 - The school will contact you to pick up a packet or mail it if needed.
 - It is recommended that documents are either scanned or photo taken of the document and returned electronically to the teacher.
- ***Can students pick up their materials in school (i.e.: books, Chromebooks)?***
 - Yes, email and schedule an appointment with your principal.
- ***Can students borrow Chromebooks?***
 - LH wants to help as much as possible. We have some Chromebooks at each building that the district can loan if needed as long as supplies last.
 - Email your principal to schedule an appointment.
 - If so is there an insurance/technology fee? It will be temporarily waived, but we ask that students take care of them.
- ***As a student, will attendance be counted?***
 - Yes, your teacher will explain the process.
- ***How will teachers grade students?***
 - Grades will be issued for the 3rd & 4th nine weeks
 - Based on the completed assignments
 - There will need to be a sense of flexibility as we move to this unprecedented time in education.
- ***What about students who may not have internet available?***
 - The district is installing WIFI access points at the entrance of every building so that (if needed) parents could drive to the parking lot to access.
 - See the options below for free or discounted WIFI access
 - ***Atlantic Broadband*** is offering internet service to low-income families at no cost for a 15/2Mb connection for 2 months and it's \$9.99/month after that---please contact them. ***Families will need to contact Atlantic Broadband Direct Sales at 888-640-9761***
 - ***Internet Assist*** provides 2 free months of the internet for children to keep up with school work. Call 1-888-536-9600 and ask about Remote Assist.
 - ***Comcast***
 - <https://corporate.comcast.com/covid-19>
 - Free XFINITY WIFI hotspots (public spaces)

- Data caps paused for 60 days, all plans temporarily unlimited
 - Internet Essentials (normally \$9.95/mo) for low income households are now free for 60 days
 - **Verizon Wireless**
 - <https://www.verizon.com/about/news/our-response-coronavirus>
 - **Verizon FiOS**
 - <https://www.verizon.com/about/news/verizons-covid-19-relief-efforts>
 - **T-Mobile**
 - <https://www.t-mobile.com/news/t-mobile-update-on-covid-19-response>
 - Existing customers with data plans automatically moved to Unlimited SMARTphone Data for 60 days (excluding roaming)
 - Data allowance extended to schools and students to provide 20GB of data/month for 60 days
 - **Sprint**
 - <https://newsroom.sprint.com/covid-19-updates-sprint-responds.htm>
 - Existing customers with metered data plans will be moved to unlimited plans for 60 days (expected ready on 3/20/2020)
 - **AT&T**
 - <https://about.att.com/pages/COVID-19.html>
 - Additionally, they will continue to offer internet access for qualifying limited income households at \$10 a month through our Access from AT&T program.
 - AT&T Wifi is also free (not sure about timing for how long)
 - **RCN**
 - <https://www.rcn.com/hub/about-rcn/coronavirus/>
 - No reported special changes to network at this point
 - **US Cellular**
 - <https://www.uscellular.com/covid-19>
 - Waiving late fees, not terminating accounts
 - Wifi hotspots open for the next 60 days
 - Teachers will need to provide alternate offline assignments.
- **Will the 2019-20 School Calendar be re-adjusted?**
 - Yes, the revised calendar will be sent upon completion.
- **Are students required to complete the work?**
 - Yes, in order for the online to count towards the 180 days of school and for grade level matriculation.
- **What if a teacher is unable to work?**
 - If a staff member is unable to work, we will set up for a substitute to fill in.

- **Will special education and related services continue during this school closure?**
 - Yes, teachers will continue to provide students with disabilities equal access to the same learning opportunities as students without disabilities as well as provide special education via specially designed instruction and the related services as identified in their IEP/GIEP/504 to the greatest extent possible. In addition, a link to access the chromebook accessibility features has been posted on our Laurel Highlands website to make all parents, students, and staff aware of the support that the accessibility features can provide.
 - Related service providers will access students/parents remotely via, telephone, zoom meetings, and/or email. In addition, online resources have been posted to our website under the Special Education Tab.
 - Related service providers include - Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, Speech Therapy, Social Work Services, Assistive Technology and Hearing and Vision Services.
 - IEP/RR/GIEP meetings will be held by conference calls or Zoom meetings. The special education case manager will be responsible for initiating RR and IEP meetings.
 - IU#1 will continue to provide instruction to our English Learners. EL teachers will reach out to the families and to the teachers to coordinate support for those students.
 - Once school resumes, a child's IEP team (or appropriate personnel under Section 504) will make an individualized determination if compensatory services are needed.

[READ MORE ON OUR WEBSITE UNDER "RESOURCES"](#)