

Loyalsock Township School District

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April 27, 2020

Dear Loyalsock Township School District Families,

First and foremost, I hope that you and your family are in good health. Thank you all for your patience and support over the past two weeks. Our administrative team and teachers have worked very hard as we prepare to provide learning activities for our 1,580 students. We know this is a challenging time for our students, their families and our school employees. We continue to work through the challenges of social distancing, business and school closures, travel restrictions, and many other challenges associated with the COVID-19. Our team of teacher, administrators and support staff have come together to prepare a plan for our Loyalsock families as we navigate the challenges of educating our students.

The guidance from the Pennsylvania Department of Education is listed in the next three paragraphs. Loyalsock is prepared to offer education in both Planned Instruction and Enrichment and Review.

Continuity of Education is the overarching term for any educational practices that occur in the event of a prolonged school closure. It is important that students have the opportunity to develop and maintain skills while away from the customary school environment. This can be achieved through Planned Instruction, Enrichment and Review or a combination thereof.

1. Planned Instruction: Planned Instruction is formal teaching and learning similar to that which occurs in a classroom setting. Within this process, teachers use planned courses of instruction of new concepts/skills aligned to grade level standards.

2. Enrichment and Review: Enrichment and Review consists of informal activities that reinforce or extend students' prior learning. New standards and skills are not addressed through Enrichment and Review.

Effective Monday, March 30, 2020 the Loyalsock Township School District will deliver our educational programs as follows:

The Loyalsock Township High School will deliver **Planned Instruction** to students in grades 9 through 12. Our teachers will provide instruction on new concepts/skills aligned to grade level standards. Our high school team has prepared well and are equipped to deliver planned instruction. With our 1 to 1 initiative throughout the high school, we feel confident that we can provide a quality educational program and continue to move our students forward.

The Loyalsock Township Middle School will deliver **Enrichment and Review** to students in grades 6 through 8. Our teachers will provide a series of online activities to reinforce prior learning. Our plan will be to acclimate

our students and their families to establish structure and routine over the next two weeks as it relates to delivering online education. **On April 6, 2020 the Loyalsock Township Middle School successfully transitioned to planned instruction for all middle school students.**

The Donald E. Schick Elementary School will deliver **Enrichment and Review** to students in grades K through 5. Our teachers have compiled packets of information for students to complete over the next two weeks. We want to work with our families to assist our students in completing this enrichment and review information. Many of our grade levels have provided proposed timelines to complete the work. This will help our families break the work into small chunks and enable our students not to get overwhelmed. **Effective April 13, 2020 grades 4 and grade 5 transitioned to planned instruction for all students in grades 4 and 5. Effective April 27, 2020 grades K-3 transitioned to planned instruction for all students in grades K-3.**

We know that your structure at home has definitely changed since March 13, 2020. We know this will be challenging for many of our families. There are some things you can do help provide a sense of normalcy for your school aged children. These include:

- Establish a space that could become a study space for students
- Eliminate distractions such as cell phones, video games, television and other forms of technology that are not needed.
- Make a daily schedule for school work and try to follow the schedule on a consistent basis.
- Work with your younger children to help them review and understand their packets of information from the elementary school.
- Provide brain breaks for your children and make sure they have opportunities for exercise and related arts that are outlined in the packets.
- Music and Art are great stress relievers for students. Take advantage of all the information provided by our teachers at all levels.
- Try to make each day a school day. Make sure your children are getting to bed at normal times and staying in a fairly consistent sleep pattern.
- Reach out to your teachers and administrators for support. We are all here to support our students.

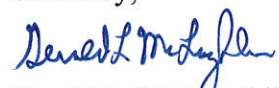
Our team is here to support you. That includes all of our employees who are willing to help and assist. Feel free to contact your building principals with any concerns or needs. Also, we have set up an email account at Itsadministration@loyalsocklancers.org for your convenience.

Thank you for your continued support of our students. We look forward to the day that we can all get back to school. Nothing can replace your teacher in the classroom setting. Nothing can replace seeing your teachers and friends on a daily basis. Nothing can replace seeing your children at band and choral concerts, track meets, baseball and softball games and so many other spring activities. Together, we all look forward to the day when we are all able to come together and return to our daily activities.

Our community has come together to support each other during this crisis. We will get through this challenging time together and I appreciate all the efforts from the Loyalsock Township community.

Together we are strong and we will come out of this stronger than ever!

Sincerely,



Gerald L. McLaughlin
Superintendent of Schools