

Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan (“Plan”)

Assurances

Date Submitted: April 9, 2020

Name of District: Spring Lake Public Schools

Address of District: 345 Hammond Street, Spring Lake, MI 49456

District Code Number: 70300

Email Address of the District: dfurton@springlakeschools.org

Name of Intermediate School District: Ottawa Area Intermediate School District

Name of Authorizing Body (if applicable):

This Assurance document needs to be returned to your Intermediate School District or, for Public School Academies, your Authorizing Body with your Continuity of Learning Plan and Budget Outline beginning April 8, 2020 to indicate that the District will adopt a plan to ensure continuous learning for all students through the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.

Districts should submit a single district plan that relates to all of their schools.

The applicant hereby provides assurance it will follow the requirements for a Plan for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year:

1. Applicant assures that all student learning will take place under the direction of a teacher of record for each student enrolled in the district.
2. Applicant assures that it will continue to pay school employees during the balance of the 2019-2020 school year under the same terms and conditions established prior to the school closure order period.
3. Applicant assures that the Plan was developed in collaboration with district administrators, school board members, teachers, and local bargaining units.
4. Applicant assures that food distribution has been arranged for or provided for eligible students.
5. Applicant assures coordination between applicant and Intermediate School District in which the District/PSA is located to mobilize disaster relief child care centers.
6. Applicant assures that to the extent practicable the District/PSA will in good faith provide students with IEPs/Section 504 Plans the opportunity to participate in learning consistent with existing plans.
7. Applicant assures that Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan, Assurance Document, and Budget Outline will be posted immediately following approval to the District’s/PSA’s website.

Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Response Plan (“Plan”)

The goal of a Continuity of Learning Plan and COVID-19 Response Plan is to ensure that each District or Public School Academy is providing, to the best of its ability, each student with alternative modes of instruction to help them stay on pace in their learning. This application recognizes that there is no “one-size-fits-all” solution; multiple means of engaging students and supporting families may be necessary that may vary by grade level, school building, or student population served.

For the purposes of the Plan, “district” refers to school districts and public school academies.

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District Code Number: 70300

Email Address of the District Superintendent: dfurton@springlakeschools.org

Name of Intermediate School District: Ottawa Area Intermediate School District

Name of Authorizing Body (if applicable):

In accordance with Executive Order 2020-35 a Plan must include all of the following parts:

1. Please describe the methods the district will use to provide alternative modes of instruction other than in-person instruction and a summary of materials each pupil and the pupil’s parents or guardians will need to access meaningfully the alternative modes of instruction included in the Plan. If the Plan relies on electronic instruction, the Plan must ensure to the extent feasible that pupils have access to a connected device capable of accessing the electronic instruction and must not penalize a pupil for the pupil’s inability to fully participate.

“Alternative modes of instruction” means modes of pupil instruction, other than in-person instruction, that may include, without limitation, partnerships with other districts or intermediate districts or community colleges or institutions of higher education, use of vendors, use of online learning, telephone communications, email, virtual instruction, videos, slideshows, project-based learning, use of instructional packets, or a hybrid of multiple modes of learning that still promote recommended practices for social distancing to mitigate the spread of COVID-19.

District/ PSA Response:

Spring Lake Public Schools (SLPS) will deliver a comprehensive remote learning program to students during the COVID 19 closure. Students will need internet access, a learning device and print materials related to their course(s). As of April 6, 2020, 100 percent of our students have internet access and 100 percent of our students have an electronic computing device. All students also have the print materials necessary to proceed with programming. We also have a plan in place to make sure students are able to maintain these resources through an asynchronous exchange. In the case of an interruption to any student resource, accommodations will be made to continue to support the learner. In the event that any learner cannot fully participate, that student will not be penalized in any way.

2. Please describe the methods the district will use to keep pupils at the center of educational activities, including outreach to continue building relationships and maintain connections, and to help pupils feel safe and valued.

District/ PSA Response:

SLPS has several methods in place to keep pupils at the center of educational activities, including maintaining connections and relationships. First, district administrators and teachers developed a list of core values for remote learning which has been shared with all stakeholders. These include: Emphasize Relationships, Establish Clear Expectations and Communication, Allow for Flexibility and Adaptability, and Focus on Essential Learning Targets only. Additionally, we have developed a Social Emotional Learning Committee that is building tier 1 and tier 2 supports for students and families. Third, we have developed a building support net at each of our school buildings composed of certified and non-certified staff who will be assigned a caseload of learners to support over the course of our remote learning. These caseloads will include students who are known to need extra support in a traditional setting as well as those who are referred for support based on the ongoing evaluation of their work and engagement in our remote learning setting.

3. Please describe the district's plans to deliver content in multiple ways so that all pupils can access learning.

District/ PSA Response:

Great Start Readiness Preschool students are included in this Continuity of Learning Plan. Alternative modes of instruction will be delivered, while incorporating principles of developmentally appropriate practices for preschoolers. The learning of the preschoolers will be monitored in collaboration with the parent, as young children are reliant on adult support to be successful learners. This means that teachers will work not only with the children, but also coaching/supporting the family in how to promote learning at home. A requirement from MDE outlines that each GSRP program must complete two parent teacher conferences in the 19-20

school year, and as a district we will support meeting this requirement. Finally, as children complete GSRP programs, districts will support the transition to Kindergarten.

Based upon existing resources, technology, training, and curriculum, as well as the circumstances presented by any state of emergency or state of disaster, the district plans to provide equal access to alternative modes of instruction to students with disabilities from preschool through 12th grade via a Contingency Learning Plan or an IEP for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. This includes the provision of auxiliary services to Non-Public Schools within the district.

In addition, the district will be in compliance with guidance from the United States Department of Education, including its Office of Civil Rights and Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, and the Department concerning the delivery of alternative modes of instruction to students with disabilities in light of the impact of COVID-19.

The district will make individualized determinations whether and to what extent compensatory services may be needed for pupils after the school closure period prompted by the COVID-19 state of emergency and/or state of disaster ends.

4. Please describe the district's plans to manage and monitor learning by pupils.

District/ PSA Response: SLPS has a robust remote communication system and student management web that includes Schoology Enterprise, as well as PowerSchool. Teachers will continue to use these tools, as well as formative and summative assessments of all types, to manage and monitor pupil learning. In addition, grade level and departmental teams will continue to meet, as well as the district leadership team. "Monitoring pupil learning" will be included frequently on meeting agendas.

5. Please attach a budget outline estimating additional expenditures associated with the Plan and sources of revenue to pay for those expenditures.

District/ PSA Response: No anticipated additional expenditures at this time.

6. Please describe the manner in which district administrators, board members, teachers, and any representatives of teachers collaborated in development of the Plan.

District/ PSA Response: District administrators, board members, teachers, and representatives of teachers collaborated in development of the Plan via web-based meetings, emails, and phone conversations.

7. Please describe the methods the district will use to notify pupils and parents or guardians of the Plan.

District/ PSA Response: Broad aspects of the District's Continuity of Learning Plan have been shared with pupils and parents via email by District administrators. Principals have and will email parents regarding building-level plans. Teachers have and will use email and web-based platforms and apps to notify pupils and parents of classroom level aspects of the District's Continuity of Learning Plan.

8. Please provide an estimate of the date on which the district will begin implementation of the Plan, which must be no later than April 28, 2008.

District/ PSA Response: April 14, 2020

9. Please describe the assistance, to the extent feasible, to pupils enrolled in any postsecondary dual enrollment courses under Public Act 160 of 1996, as amended, MCL 388.511 to 388.524, and Career and Technical Preparation Act, 258 PA 2000, as amended, MCL 388.1901 to 388.1913, in completing the courses during the 2019-2020 school year.

District/ PSA Response: Students enrolled in dual enrollment courses during the current term will continue to be monitored by the dual enrollment supervisor and will continue to participate at the direction of the college of enrollment. Students attending the Careerline Tech Center will be given a variety of remote learning opportunities to complete the CTE courses. Careerline will work with the LEA's in ensuring that our students have the appropriate resources and continued supports in order to continue learning during this crisis.

10. Please describe how the district will continue to provide or arrange for continuation of food distribution to eligible pupils.

District/ PSA Response: Food Service staff continue to work with vendors to attain the needed supplies for the coordination of weekly preparation and distribution (pick-up and delivery) of meals. Food is available for pick-up each Monday at Central Office between the hours of 9:00 - 12:00 a.m. Requested deliveries are made each Monday afternoon. An email is sent to all district families each week to remind parents of eligible students that this service is available.

11. Please confirm that the district will continue to pay school employees while redeploying staff to provide meaningful work in the context of the Plan, subject to any applicable requirements of a collective bargaining agreement.

District/ PSA Response: SLPS will continue to pay school employees while redeploying staff to provide meaningful work in the context of the Plan, subject to any applicable requirements of a collective bargaining agreement.

12. Provide describe how the district will evaluate the participation of pupils in the Plan.

District/ PSA Response: Teaching staff will monitor student engagement on a daily and weekly basis. "Engagement" for purposes of this plan will include but not be limited to: login to web-based platforms or apps; presence and participation in web-based class meetings; submission of assignments via web-based platforms or apps; exchange of email; phone conversations; work submitted via USPS; work dropped off to a central location within the District; and other means, as appropriate.

13. Please describe how the district will provide mental health supports to pupils affected by a state of emergency or state of disaster prompted by COVID-19.

District/ PSA Response: The district will guide schools in implementing a multi-tiered system of mental health supports, and provide consistent messaging, appropriate staff training, crisis response protocols, and documentation systems for its teachers and school staff.

School counselors, social workers, and psychologists will continue to engage with students proactively based on baseline knowledge of individual student needs. In addition, mental health supports will be initiated to students via self-referral, teacher referral or parent referral.

Finally, a long-time partner to the District, Mosaic Counseling, will provide services as needed.

14. Please describe how the district will support the efforts of the intermediate district in which the district is located to mobilize disaster relief child care centers as described in Executive Order 2020-16 or any executive order that follow it.

District/ PSA Response: If called upon to do so, SLPS will offer space and workers.

Optional question:

15. Does the District plan to adopt a balanced calendar instructional program for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year? Does the District plan to adopt a balanced calendar instructional program for the 2020-2021 school year?

District/ PSA Response: SLPS will not adopt a balanced calendar for 2019-20 or 2020-21. The District may start the 20-21 school year before Labor Day, contingent upon negotiations.

Name of District Leader Submitting Application: Dennis Furton, Superintendent

Date Approved: 4/10/2020

Name of ISD Superintendent/Authorizer Designee: Pete Haines

Date Submitted to Superintendent and State Treasurer: 4/11/2020

Confirmation approved Plan is posted on District/PSA website: