

**Pleasantville Public Schools  
Remote Instruction Plan  
2023-2024**



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## **Introduction**

In April 2020, Governor Murphy signed A-3904 into law (P.L.2020, c.27, or “Chapter 27”), which in part requires each school district, charter school, renaissance school project, and Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities, hereinafter referred to as Local Educational Agencies (LEA), to annually submit a proposed program for emergency virtual or remote instruction (Plan) to the New Jersey Department of Education (Department). This law provides for the continuity of instruction in the event of a public health-related district closure by permitting LEAs to utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. To assist LEAs in submitting their Plans, the Department is issuing “Local Educational Agency Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs for the 2022-2023 School Year (SY),” which includes a checklist identifying components that must be included in an LEA’s Plan.

The Pleasantville Public School’s Remote Instruction Plan provides for continuity of instruction in the event of a public health-related district closure, in accordance with A-3904 which permits LEAs to utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. The LEA will ensure that essential employees are identified and a list is provided to the county office at the time of transition to remote or virtual instruction. In the event of an extended period of closure, buildings will be maintained by the custodial and facilities staff at the discretion and direction of the Superintendent.

This Remote Instruction Plan was approved by the Pleasantville Board of Education on August 8, 2023.



## **Technology and Connectivity**

All students K-12 will receive district-issued Chromebooks to use both within the school building and at home. Any family with inadequate Internet connectivity will be provided with equipment from the district to ensure a continued, seamless connection.

Support tickets for any issues related to the Chromebooks, Apps, or other online resources can be submitted by students or parents/guardians using a link on the district website. Every attempt will be made to resolve issues remotely. However, if this is not possible, the Information Technology team will schedule a time for a replacement device to be picked up.

As an additional layer of support, the technology office has installed Go Guardian on every district-issued Chromebook or laptop to filter content for all students and ensure time on task and productivity.



## **Food Services**

“Grab and Go” breakfast and lunches will be available to all students, PreK-12th grade at neighborhood schools and additional designated locations throughout town. Two meals will be available to pick up every Monday and three meals will be available to pick up every Wednesday. The district will make appropriate delivery accommodations for families in need who are unable to pick up their children’s lunches from the identified locations.

Meal pickup time and area will be determined by the neighborhood school. These times will be posted on the district website and individual school pages.



## Remote Learning Expectations

In the event that the district is required to transition to remote learning, the instructional length of the school day will follow the length of the regular in-person instructional school day, ensuring compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3 and local attendance policies. Moreover, students will be afforded the same quality and scope of instruction and other educational services through live, direct instruction, and independent/guided learning. At the discretion of the Superintendent, essential employees will be identified and specific job responsibilities/work locations will be determined.

The following is an overview of key components of instruction in the remote learning environment:

- The instructional day will start and end at the regular times:
  - Early Childhood: 8:50 - 3:05
  - Elementary School: 8:50 - 3:05
  - Middle School: 8:20 - 2:44
  - High School: 7:45 - 2:10
- Instruction will primarily be delivered through live, direct instruction via video streaming platforms such as Google Meet.
- Teachers will utilize Google Classroom as the platform for posting assignments and assessments, and communicating with students and families in all grades. If a student has an excess of missing assignments, teachers will contact parents using their building's preferred method of communication (ClassDojo, Remind App, phone calls).
- Current growth measurement tools, including but not limited to i-Ready in grades K-8, Edmentum for grades 9-12, and Achieve3000 in grades 9-12, will be implemented per the district assessment calendar.
- Support services (ESL, Basic Skills, Reading Specialists, CST) staff members will utilize their own Google Classroom and Google Meet sessions to service students.
- Extra-Curricular programs, extended learning opportunities, and 21st Century



Community Learning Center programs will take place after the scheduled instructional hours.

- Students needing to participate in credit recovery will do so through district selected resource (Edmentum).
- Accelerated Learning will follow a 5 week plan as designed by C&I, covering essential standards and focus skills in the main content areas.
- Summer school (Title I extended learning) will take place virtually if deemed necessary by the Superintendent.

### **Accelerated Learning Plan**

The district will follow a 5 week accelerated learning plan as outlined below:

- Focus standards and skills will be identified to enhance conceptual understandings necessary for students to learn grade level content based on the New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS).
- Objectives in the accelerated learning guide are written broadly. While creating lesson plans based on the guidance from the document, teachers' objectives should be more specific as to what they plan to teach each day.
- The 5 Week Plan is purposefully designed to be a broad guidance document. There are some specific lessons listed, but teachers have the autonomy to decide how to teach the standards. The document shares a variety of resources that may be used. Additional resources and activities are also available and sorted by standard in share folder on the district drive.
- Resources are identified and may be used in multiple components of a lesson. How it is used is to the discretion of the teacher. The intended use of the resource determines where teachers should place it within their lesson plans.
- Standards Post-Assessments will be given after every 5 days of instruction as indicated in the guide. Formative assessments should occur daily during instruction.
- Pacing has been adjusted to follow the accelerated learning guide. Any lessons that



have been shortened or deleted may be included in stations. A list of modified or deleted lessons is available for your reference.

- Assessments will be delivered online via the program's digital platform or Google forms. Only the identified chapters should be taught and administered digitally.

### **Special Education**

Special Education students will be afforded the same quality and scope of instruction and other educational services through live, direct instruction, and independent/guided learning. Special Education Teachers will utilize their Google Classrooms to provide extended time, set up breakout rooms for one-on-one instruction, and will use the embedded intervention time to address student-specific IEP goals and needs. Teachers will continue to use district-provided digital learning platforms to provide appropriate academic instruction. Severely disabled students will be allowed to continue with in-person instruction at their neighborhood school at the superintendent's discretion with all supports remaining.

Teachers and Child Study Team members will continue to use Frontline IEP to input teacher reports, collect IEP meeting notes, and log parent communication attempts. Case managers will have the ability to meet with families for IEP meetings, evaluations, and to ensure services are being implemented virtually through their Google Classroom and Google Meet platforms or by phone. On a case-by-case basis, families may be invited for an in-person IEP meeting.





## Addressing ELL Student Needs

In the event of a virtual learning transition, bilingual and ESL Teachers will continue to use district-provided curricular resources - *Corrective Reading*, *Maravillas*, *Envisions*, and *i-Ready en Espanol*. To support families and students, the following structures will continue with implementation:

- All instructional materials and assessments for all grades will be translated into students' native language
- Newcomer Liaisons will reach out to parents to provide support
- Bilingual Parent Advisory will assist with recommending family and student supports, as well as community programming.

All mainstream teachers are SEI Certified and all instructional units are designed based on the Universal Design for Learning to provide support for all students and to include extensive accommodations and modifications for ELL students.

Currently, the district provides ongoing professional development sessions on Culturally Responsive Teaching, Trauma-Informed teaching, Socio-Emotional Learning, and Forced Migration workshops and staff Mental Health & Wellness.

## Facilities Plan

The Pleasantville Public School Facilities Department continues to establish daily protocol for cleanliness during school closure. By understanding that school facility maintenance affects building appearance, equipment operation, student and staff health, and student learning. The district will continue to practice sanitizing procedures during the closing of school buildings. The sanitizing procedures performed by the facilities staff throughout each day are as follows: wiping down all common areas, including classrooms, hallways, offices, and bathrooms. The districts limit unnecessary visitors to the buildings during time of closure. Access is limited to only designated staff assigned to specific work areas. The use of approved cleaners and disinfectants maintain health and wellness during this time of facility closure. The



maintenance departments implement a detailed schedule to all maintenance workers for HVAC maintenance of all closed buildings. This practice is the structure of a system to remove all dirty HVAC filters and substituting old filters with new filters.

