



Date: 04/20/20

To: Navigator Schools Board of Directors

From: James Dent (CAO)

Subject: Distance Learning April-June, 2020

Objectives

- 1) The Board will receive an update on Navigator's Distance Learning plan for this spring
- 2) The Board will be made aware of next steps in Navigator's Distance Learning plan for spring

Distance Learning Plan

Navigator rolled out a two-phase approach to distance learning. For the first two weeks prior to spring break, all students received iPads and weekly packets. Teachers focused on communicating with families to make personal connections and identify who had access to wifi and who did not. Student Services department staff began holding amendment IEP meetings to adjust student IEPs to match the distance learning limitations. At this point, there was no guidance from the state requiring student work to be mandatory.

Phase 2 Shifts

Upon return from spring break on April 13, Navigator's IT department began deployment of internet "hot spots" to some seventy families. As this technology is critical for distance learning activities, the online expectations for students and teachers were rolled out to launch during the weeks of April 20th and April 27th. Teachers began tracking student performance as a means to develop a fourth quarter report card. Because of the difficulties of rolling our distance learning mid-year, grades will be participation based and based on teacher discretion due to lack of connectivity or other family issues that some students may be facing. The Student Services department began providing support to students with IEPs through zoom meetings, phone calls and some Facetime meetings. Annual and triennial IEP meetings were also held with parents to maintain compliance with special education laws.

See below for further detail on which activities were slated to begin each week.

Initiatives Launching April 20th

- Khan Academy added to our math program in grades 2-8
- Accelerated Reader (AR) from home launched but will not be part of student grades nor is it a requirement for students.
- Teachers will continue to produce packets for printing each week.
- Daily practice will be housed on Google Classroom for grades 3-8. This platform will

allow teachers to communicate directly with students via chat and students will be able to virtually "turn in" selected activities.

- Coaches will return to working with staff at the site level. Principals created new coaching assignments.
- Coaches developed weekly Zoom schedules and office hours with grade level teams to support live instruction and communicated this schedule to families by April 22nd.

Initiatives Launching April 27th

- In Quarter 4 students will be graded on participation through:
 - Meeting weekly blended learning goals which will remain the same
 - Actively participating in the daily practice for STEM and Humanities
- Teachers will track primary data using site data trackers that will be used to:
 - Determine participation grades for blended and daily practice
 - Determine which families are not participating and need to be contacted
- All students will be provided an opportunity of a minimum of 30 minutes per day for STEM or Humanities instruction in live meetings. Principals will make available additional support staff for grade levels that would like help for these meetings. The live meetings can take the form of:
 - Whole group direct instruction
 - Classroom / grade-level huddles
 - Daily review of instructional slides
 - Small group instruction
 - Leveled group instruction
 - Blended support
 - Intervention
 - Other instruction
 - SEL meetings
 - Special projects
- Each teacher will hold at a minimum of two hours per week as "Office Hours" to support students needing individualized support.

Next Steps

1. Continue to support families in acquiring wifi connections in their homes
2. Continue to find the most effective practices for kindergarten and first grade students
3. Build a robust summer learning program
4. Be prepared for a prolonged school closure scenario if Covid-19 shelter in place orders continue into fall