



March 24, 2020

Dear Sunrise Families:

These are difficult and challenging times. The last 10 days have been trying on us all. My prayers and thoughts are with you and your families. Please make sure you are taking precautions and staying safe. Attached to this email are several resources for you and your family regarding how to talk to your children about the Coronavirus and also how you can reach out to our school counselor, Mrs. Trill. Please make use of them!

First, I want to express my heartfelt and sincere thanks to all of our families for your understanding, flexibility, and kindness during this incredibly difficult time for our school district. We are working tirelessly to try to bring some “normal” back into your child(ren)’s lives and also your life!

Second, due to the COVID-19 crisis occurring in our country and world, Penn-Trafford School District will be taking unfamiliar steps and requiring great flexibility from our families in order to implement a flexible instruction model **starting, Monday, March 30th**. This model will be in place until students are permitted back into the buildings.

Third, Sunrise will only have personnel present in the building when deemed essential and absolutely necessary and employees will be working remotely. Therefore, if necessary, arrangements can be made by contacting Dr. Coiner should items be needed from the school.

Finally, in order to make the process as smooth as possible, we are asking for your support with the following items:

Technology

- We are asking our students to use the 1-1 Chromebooks and chargers that we have provided to students in grades 2-5.
- Please take the time to make sure that your child’s technology is up and running.
- If you have a technology issue, please complete this link to have the technology fixed: [CHROMEBOOK REPAIRS LINK](#)
- If the issue is different, please email Dr. Coiner so that she can figure out what needs done to address it.
- If you are in need of some type of device (Gr K and 1), please reach out to Dr. Coiner and we will see if we can arrange for something to support learning at home.
- If you do not have internet services in your home, we encourage you to use the information provided by Dr. Harris: Comcast is currently providing services for free for 60 days. Please see the following link for information: <https://www.internetessentials.com/> .



Instruction

- We will be initiating our flexible instruction model starting on Monday, March 30, 2020.
- You will be receiving an email from homeroom and specials teachers by Wednesday, March 25th outlining some expectations, along with asking students to login to Google Classrooms, complete a small task, and familiarize themselves with the online environment by Friday, March 27th.
- The educational packets that were just sent home in grades K-2 will assist with our instructional plan for the younger students. There are additional expectations for our younger students. We will also be asking students to log into online resources that we use in school to assist with the learning and also the assessment of student growth.
- Sunrise expects that all students will complete the learning activities and assignments as if they were in school.
- Grading and assessments will be completed during this time, they will just look different from what the students were familiar with from school. Please be flexible with us during this time, as this is new for all of us and changes may be made as we move forward with this flexible instruction plan.
- Students will not report to school, but will receive attendance credit if they engage in and complete the teacher directed learning activities using information shared with Google classroom, emails to parents/students, their websites, and technology provided in grades 2-5.
- We are incredibly grateful for parents, as it will now become necessary for you to take a very active role in this process. We understand that it will be challenging for you at times, and we stress the importance of reaching out to the staff so that they can help out in any way possible. We do intend to use Google Classroom, Google Hangouts, Google Meet, or even Zoom meetings to assist with the learning and offer our support.

Communication

- All Teachers will have Office Hours - All Sunrise staff will be available online each school day for 2 hours. There will be a designated hour in the morning and in the afternoon/evening. These hours are when the teachers can communicate with you or your child in real time either using video chats, online chats, emails, or phone calls.
- Emails can be sent at any time to ask questions and ask for support.
- Students and parents can also schedule 'appointments' with staff to have questions answered or ask for help.
- Please visit teacher websites regularly and make sure your child has logged into each teacher's Google Classroom for updates and information.
- Should you need help beyond the classroom teachers, please email Dr. Coiner.

Grades

- Powerschool will continue to be used for grading in Grades 1-5. Please look here for updated information. <https://powerschool.penntrafford.org/public/home.html>



Additional Support

- Gifted, Learning Support, and Speech staff will be reaching out to families of students that have Individualized Education Plans. Updates and changes to these plans will be communicated to families based on the unique situation that we are in, especially since teachers and students cannot have physical contact with each other. We will make every effort to ensure that your child(ren) receives the necessary SDIs and accommodations that will be outlined in the IEP. Please direct questions that you have to your case manager so that we can work together to make this a successful transition.
 - Learning Support: Miss Caitlin Borden, bordenc@penntrafford.org
 - Gifted Support: Mr. Walt Bechtell, bechtellw@penntrafford.org
 - Speech and Language Support: Mrs. Tracy Dulemba, dulembat@penntrafford.org
- All IEP meetings will still be conducted, but using Zoom, Google Hangouts, or Google Meet. If that is not possible, we will manage a phone conference with you.
- ****We are lucky to have three staff members that are available for tutoring and real time support, in addition to the classroom teachers.** Please reach out to these staff, should you need more assistance for your child.
 - Grades K-2 -Mrs. Danielle Gordon, gordond@penntrafford.org
 - Grades 3-5 -Mrs. Sara Watt, watts@penntrafford.org
 - Grades K-5 - Mrs. Kristie Drew, drewk@penntrafford.org
- School Counseling Services are still available to you and your child. Please reach out for help, questions, and support during this time.
 - School Counselor, Mrs. Lauren Traill, trailll@penntrafford.org

Events

- All events that were previously scheduled on our school calendar have been postponed until further notice. If and when we are able to reschedule any events, we will let you know at that time.

We recognize that we are navigating into new territory and that this will be a work in progress. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this time. Problems may arise as we work through this. We have full intentions to solve these and make changes as necessary to better meet the needs of our students and families.

With sincere thanks,

Dr. Karin Coiner
Principal