

INTRODUCTION TO LAKER SCHOOLS CONTINUITY OF LEARNING PLAN



Under Governor Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-35, each District in the state must develop, distribute, and implement a Continuity of Learning (COL) Plan. This plan must address how schools will deliver instruction from a distance, how student learning will be monitored and assessed, and how families will be supported to ensure access to technology, materials, meals, and mental health resources. Our COL Plan has been developed by a Laker team, approved by the Huron ISD, and is posted on our website at www.lakerschools.org.

SUPERINTENDENT'S SUMMARY:

The Laker COL Plan includes a variety of teaching methods, which will be referred to as a Mixed Media approach. This means that teachers may use devices and web-based programs, books and paper packets, video lessons, reading and writing, project and problem-based challenges to help students learn.

All students are expected to participate and complete assigned work just as they would when school is in session. However, because distance learning is new and has unique challenges, students can expect their workload and time investment to be much lighter than it would be in a traditional week of school - less than half, to be precise.

We are all in this together and there will surely be obstacles and frustrations along the way. Just know that we are committed to supporting every student and family, so don't hesitate to call, message, or email your teacher or principal with any concerns.

When the COVID-19 pandemic has passed, we will have experienced a truly historic event and learned many things about ourselves and our society. It is my hope and prayer that we will all make it through safely and be able to have a grand reunion at school next fall. In the meantime, be safe, do your best, and stay Laker Strong!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Keim'.

Brian Keim
Superintendent

Below is a Q&A on important details of the Laker COL Plan.

WEEKLY LEARNING FORMAT:

- **What will school look like under the new Continuity of Learning Plan?** *Our Laker COL Plan will include three types of learning: Foundational, Supplemental, and Enrichment.*
 - *Foundational Learning is the basic core instruction that resembles what you would see in a typical class. Teachers have prioritized the most important elements of their courses and will present modest amounts of new material with manageable amounts of assigned work.*
 - *Supplemental Learning is an extension of Foundational Learning that will be accomplished in the form of projects, problem-solving scenarios, investigations, and special challenges.*
 - *Enrichment will be offered in the form of extra work for extra credit or just for the sake of personal growth. Things such as IXL, No Red Ink, Khan Academy, and AR would be examples of enrichment activities.*

- **How much work can I expect in a typical week?** *A typical week:*
 - *2-3 days of Foundational Learning*
 - *2-3 days of Supplemental Learning*
 - *Enrichment as offered or requested*

- **How much time am I expected to invest in my studies?** *We are following the guidance offered by the Continuous Learning Task Force, which gives different time recommendations for different grade levels. Teachers will honor these guidelines for their respective grade levels:*
 - *DK-1 Daily learning time of 45 minutes + physical activity and creative play*
 - *2-3 Daily learning time of 60 minutes + physical activity and creative play*
 - *4-5 Daily learning time of 90 minutes + physical activity and creative play*
 - *6-12 Daily learning time of 3 hours, including periodic movement breaks*

- **What is included in my “daily learning time?”** *This will look different for different grade levels. As an example, a Secondary student’s daily learning time might include the following, for a total of 30 minutes per class per day, or 150 minutes per week:*
 - *Reading and reflection*
 - *Writing*
 - *Recorded lectures*

- *Handouts or packet work*
 - *Discussion boards*
 - *Online resources*
 - *Content-based activities, projects, investigations, etc*
- **How will instruction take place?** *We will be using a “Mixed Media” approach that includes the following:*
 - *Lessons posted in Google Classroom and Seesaw*
 - *Virtual gatherings in Google Meet*
 - *Prerecorded video lessons*
 - *Traditional books and paper packets*
 - *Web sources*
 - *Reading and writing assignments*
 - *Projects and problem-based learning*
 - *Personal connections through email, phone, and other methods*

SUBMITTING WORK AND RECEIVING FEEDBACK:

- **Will there be lots of daily work and deadlines?** *No, to offer flexibility, all work will be turned in for credit and feedback at the end of the week. You have until 8pm each Sunday night, unless additional time is given by the instructor.*
- **What about bigger projects or assignments?** *For assignments spanning multiple weeks, a weekly progress check is required to ensure participation, provide feedback, and award credit for that portion of the work.*
- **When will I know if I have received Credit for my work?** *For work turned in, teacher feedback and credit will be given as promptly as possible and no later than Friday of the following week. For assignments spanning multiple weeks, feedback on progress will be given by Wednesday of the following week to ensure that the student has the guidance needed to remain on track for completion.*
- **Can I get feedback from my teacher sooner than that?** *For more frequent feedback (within 24 hours) on specific questions or concerns, parents and students are encouraged to contact their teacher by email or other media.*
- **What if I am having trouble with my device or wifi and can't receive or submit work?** *Please contact your teacher, principal, or Mr. Miklovic right away.*

GRADING FOR DAILY WORK AND END OF SEMESTER:

- **Am I required to do my school work for the rest of the year?** *Yes!*
- **How will my work be graded?** *Credit / No Credit*
- **How will this look in my gradebook?** *Credit = 100% No Credit = 40%*
- **Why do I still get 40% for earning No Credit?** *This is the “safety net” approach that has been used for Marking Period grading in the Secondary for many years, and it will be used for each assignment during this time. Because remote learning has unique challenges, we want to give students a little extra advantage.*
- **Can I hand something in and still get No Credit?** *Yes, if the teacher deems that your work is less than acceptable, you can receive No Credit.*
- **Can I make up late work or redo failing work?** *Yes, that may be possible.*
- **What happens if I’m not completing work or doing well in my classes?** *Your name will be given to your building’s Intervention Team and they will make contact with your family to offer extra support. You can also reach out for help.*
- **If my final grade is below 60%, will I really fail the 4th marking period?** *Yes, if you fail to redo or makeup work that was awarded No Credit.*
- **If I’m a Senior, could this keep me from graduating?** *Yes, depending on your final semester grade. But we intend to help you pass your classes.*
- **How will my semester grade be calculated?** *Semester grades will be an average of your 3rd and 4th marking period grades, as usual.*
- **Will I have final semester exams?** *No, not this year.*

GETTING EXTRA SUPPORT:

- **What if I have an IEP?** *Your IEP provisions will remain in place as usual.*
- **What if I am sinking?** *We are prepared to offer additional help or counseling. Just ask!*

CONTACT INFORMATION:

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