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## **MARGATE: Margate Schools Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services during Remote Instruction**

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### **Purpose of Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan**

On August 18, 2021, the New Jersey Department of Education published “Local Educational Agency Guidance for Chapter 27 Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs for the 2021-2022 School Year”. In April 2020, Governor Murphy issued an executive order that became P.L.2020, c.27. This law provides for the continuity of instruction in the event of a public-health-related district virtual or remote instruction so that LEAs can utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. This plan would be implemented during a district virtual or remote instruction lasting more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, a declared public health emergency or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related virtual or remote instruction. A day of virtual or remote instruction, if instituted under a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education, is considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance for the purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements.

The 2021-22 Safe Return Plan, which contained these guidelines, was board approved on October 6, 2021.

### **Equitable Access to Virtual Instruction**

To prepare for potential school closures, the Margate School District has:

- Issued 1:1 laptop devices to all students, grades 2-8
- Provided chromebooks for home use, when requested by parents in grades PreK-1
- Provided students in grades K-8 with Google accounts for virtual learning
- Students in grades 2-8 also have access to individual email accounts through Google for communication

To support families in need of wifi or technology, a survey is available for guardians to request assistance. Low cost options for wifi are available on our website for guardian use.

Our teaching staff utilizes Google Workspace for Education Plus (including Google Classroom and Meet), as well as other web-based services to assist with a transition to virtual learning if needed.

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In the event of a public-health-related school shutdown resulting in the need to move to virtual or remote instruction:

- Teachers will maintain communication with students and parents daily to ensure continuity of learning. Modes of communication will include, but are not limited to: phone calls, individual webpages, email, Oncourse Information System, Google Classroom, Dojo App, Classtag App, Zoom, Google Meet, and other web-based communication resources.
- Staff will be available during school hours to answer student/parent questions and provide additional support. In addition, teachers will provide daily instruction via platforms such as Zoom, Google Meet, etc. Times and methods will be communicated to students by their teacher via Google Classroom, email, and teacher webpages.
- All instructional activities will be aligned to the District approved curriculum and the NJSLs.

### **Instructional Plan**

#### **Daily instruction**

Students and teachers will start and end their day at their regular time. 8:15-2:55 for students, 8:05-3:05 for staff

- Students and teachers will follow their in-person schedules to the fullest extent possible
- Students in grades 2-8 will use their district issued Chromebook to receive instruction and communication from their teachers via Google Meet
- Students in grades PreK-1 will stream with their teachers through Google Meet
- Teachers will utilize Google Classroom as the platform for posting assignments and communicating with students and families in grades 2-12
- Teachers in grades PreK-1 will communicate with parents through email and Dojo
- Support services (ESL, Basic Skills, Special Education) teachers will utilize their own Google Classroom and Google Meet sessions to service identified students

#### **Special Education Services**

Child Study Team Meetings, I&RS Meetings, 504 Plan Meetings, ELL Planning

- All meetings will be held virtually through Google Meets

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- Electronic signatures will be accepted for all documents
- Evaluations will continue to be conducted in-person as long as safety and health protocols can be followed

#### In-Class Support/Replacement Classes

- Special education, ELL, and basic skills teachers will follow the instructional plan for general education students
- Special education, ELL, and basic skills teachers will create Google Classrooms to post modified assignments as needed
- Printed copies of lessons/activities will be made available as needed
- Continued collection of data (behavior plans, progress towards goals and objectives, I&RS action plans)

#### Speech-Language Services, Occupational/Physical Therapy, Counseling and Social Skills

- Lessons, activities, and related materials can be posted through Google Classrooms
- Google Meets will be used to the greatest extent possible for all therapy sessions

#### **Meal Service Plan**

Meal distribution will be offered on the first day following the school closure, if possible. The procedure will be similar to other times we were closed due to covid.

- Meals to be claimed per day: 1 (lunch)
- For all students and their siblings under the age of 18, a grab-and go bag lunch will be available for meal service delivery to their home
- Parents will need to email [jmichener@margateschools.org](mailto:jmichener@margateschools.org) or call 609-822-1447 x 318 to order a meal between the hours of 8:00am – 9:30am
- Lunches will be delivered to your porch between the hours of 10:00am – 12:00pm
- An adult must be available to receive the meals.