Tioga CSD Coronavirus Emergency Response FAQ 3/18/2020

How can I get the most current information from the school district?

Our website will be the main hub for information to our students, families, and community. You should check https://www.tiogacentral.org/ frequently and also follow our twitter account @TiogaTigers for push notifications. Key alerts will be sent out using our school messenger phone call system. You can contact us by calling 607-687-8000. Any questions about your child(ren)'s program should be directed to their school main office.

Will the school year need to be extended to meet the 180 day requirement?

No. The State Education Department has issued guidance that we can request a waiver for any days of instruction that we were closed at the direction of our local department of health and office of emergency management. We will need to change May 1 and May 22 into days of student attendance to qualify for this waiver.

What access to the campus will be available during this emergency?

The campus is closed to all students, parents, and community members until the schools are reopened. We will have minimal staff on campus during business hours as directed by their supervisors and only to keep basic services running. The campus will be open for those teachers who need to come on campus for instructional purposes, but only from 7:30-4:00 on Wednesdays. Any other access such as deliveries or appointments to pick up items from a student locker must be pre-approved by the supervisors of that school or department.

How will we continue the instructional program for students while they are at home?

Students in high school and college courses will receive direct instruction from teachers using google classroom and would be responsible for completing and returning work for a grade. All other students would receive optional educational materials that do not be returned to their teacher for grading. The district website, google classroom, and screencastify are the preferred method of delivery. Students without internet access at home can access the district's wifi by parking in the bus loop in front of the high school main entrance where we have extended the range of our guest wifi signal. Plans for students with disabilities are customized based on their program and needs. Students in outside placements such as BOCES follow whatever instructional plans are being followed by their program.

How will we monitor students while they are at home?

PK-6 classroom teachers and Special Education teachers are responsible for a minimum 1x/week call to all of their students. Grade 7-12 and all other teachers (PE, Music, Art, Spanish, etc) will coordinate to reach out to students on a rotating basis such that every student receives at least one call per week from one of their teachers. Teachers of High School classes will use email and messaging options within google classroom to stay in touch as well.

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How will we provide food to students who need it during this emergency?

The district has established food pick-ups at our HS Main Entrance from 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm Mondays and Thursdays. Families who come to these pickups will be provided multiple days of breakfast and lunches for all children under 18 in that household. This program is operated under the approved summer feeding site rules that we have already been approved to run. If you are unable to come during the pick-up time, please call your child's school and arrangements will be made to have food delivered.

Will students be expected to take the grade 3-8 ELA and Math tests this spring?

New York State announced on March 18th that 3-8 ELA tests are cancelled for spring 2020. They have not issued guidance or made a similar decision regarding 38 Math tests but it is likely those will be cancelled as well once the date gets closer.

Will students be expected to take the regents exams this spring?

We have no direction from State Education on this topic as of March 16th but it is more likely that New York State will either hold these tests in June as scheduled or come up with an alternative plan to hold these exams. The regents exams are entirely at the discretion of New York State Education Department to modify, reschedule, or adjust passing rates based on the situation. We are likely to find out more once we get closer to the originally scheduled dates in late June. It is important that students who are currently enrolled in a course that ends in a regents examination do the work assigned remotely by their teachers so they can ensure they are prepared for these exams whenever they are schedule.