

Continuity of Education Plan

School	New Academy Charter School
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Goal of Plan

During this unprecedented time in education, new guidelines are in place to direct how students will learn while in-school classes are cancelled due to the Nationwide Pandemic (COVID-19). The Government has worked with the State of Pennsylvania, Governor Tom Wolfe, Secretary of Education; Pedro Rivera, local Intermediate units, technical training centers, public, private, charter, and cyber schools to identify how to continue teacher-directed learning for students across Pennsylvania. This decision was developed with a focus on the safety of our staff and students, ensuring resources continue to flow to the education system and providing schools with the flexibility required to meet the unique needs of their students.

Our primary goal is to continue to promote an environment that fosters student achievement. New Academy Charter School will provide all students resources, access and opportunities to learn utilizing contemporary and non-contemporary methods of instruction.

The New Academy Charter School is an educational institution that addresses the needs of students who are experiencing chronic truancy, suspension, and behavioral problems in the regular school environment. The goal of this Continuity of Education Plan is to provide enrichment and review opportunities as well as new content to a diverse group of students for whom an online/digital learning environment is not feasible.

Overview of Plan

During this school closure the New Academy Charter School will implement The Continuity of Education Program that has been designed to be educational and engaging, but not overwhelming to students or families who may need to provide assistance to their children. We will continue to focus on providing support to students academically and emotionally while maintaining a home and school balance.

It is our goal to transition from *Review and Enrichment* to *Planned Instruction* for all students in grades 8-12.

Expectations for Teaching and Learning

Review & Enrichment

On March 16th all students received a folder with schoolwork for 15 days for each of their scheduled courses. This was delivered to their home. In addition to the school work, the folders included teacher directions and contact information. A pencil, eraser, and sharpener and calculators, upon request, were provided to all students. During this time, teachers prepared, and students were provided enrichment and review materials and activities. All teachers made phone contact to their student(s) daily between the hours of 8:00am and 2:00pm. Teachers kept detailed phone logs documenting student participation and hours of content and instruction delivered. This phone contact provided student's the opportunity to ask questions, get clarification and/or work through the classwork with their teacher. New Academy Charter School will continue to carry out this same plan until Spring Break (April 8 – April 15).

Planned Instruction

On April 1st all students received a folder with schoolwork for 15 days for each of their scheduled courses. This was delivered to their home. This work will initiate the 4th quarter and will introduce new skills and standards. The New Academy Charter School will offer at-home learning opportunities, either through virtual platforms or through other accommodations, such as course packets and telephone check-ins for all grade levels.

The Government expects that every student, regardless of their geographic location or socioeconomic status, will continue to learn while in-school classes across the state are cancelled.

To identify what content needs to be delivered, teachers will prioritize remaining outcomes and evaluate curricular outcomes that have not yet been covered, based on what is manageable for students working from home, and will plan specific tasks and projects accordingly.

Communication Tools and Strategies

Teachers will be required to check in with all students on their roster via phone or other virtual means (i.e., email, Google Classroom, virtual conferences etc...).

Teachers are expected to make contact with their students during the hours of 8:00 am and 2:00 pm to work with students, answer questions, work through the review work, provide clarification and generally assist with student enrichment activities. Teachers should maintain detailed phone logs regarding their daily contact with students, and document student participation, hours of review and work completed on the written materials.

Access (Devices, Platforms, Handouts)

All students have access to teacher email and phone. Google Classroom, virtual conferences and any other virtual means will be developed between the student and the teacher. The Google classroom will be the virtual platform that is used by administration, teachers and students that have the capacity. All students are hand delivered course school work in the form of instructional packets that will bridge the digital divide.

Senior Students:

All senior students will be provided a school issued laptop on loan, if needed, to complete their graduation requirements.

Staff General Expectations

We realize that some students will not be available when teachers are, and vice-versa. The goal of blending contemporary and non-contemporary learning is to be respectful of everyone's ability to access and participate among the numerous challenges we are faced with at this current time. We know our students and teachers will approach this at-home learning phase with the same effort, patience and diligence with which they approach any challenges or opportunity placed before them. Regular student and teacher communication is key.

Call Schedule

Time	Monday			Tuesday			Wednesday			Thursday			Friday		
	Teacher	Period	#	Teacher	Period	#	Teacher	Period	#	Teacher	Period	#	Teacher	Period	#
8:00-11:00	Chemistry	3	2	World Culture	2 & 3	16	Biology 1	4	16	Chemistry	7 & 8	19	Geometry	2 & 4	12
	US History	2 & 8	19	Pre-Algebra	3	4	English 8	4	2	Senior Sem.	3 & 5	9	Per. Finance	4, 6, 8	22
	Biology 1	6 & 7	15	PE/Health	2	9	Biology 2	3 & 6	20	English 1	2, 3, 6	29	Algebra 1A	5 & 7	11
	Gen. Science	3	12	English 1	5 & 8	18	PE/Health	3	6	Algebra 1B	3, 8, 7	20	English 8	2	1
	Algebra 2	2 & 5	6	PE/Health	5	10	Chemistry	2 & 5	18	PE/Health	7	14	Biology 2	4 & 7	19
	PE/Health	3 & 6	16	US History	3 & 7	20	Algebra 2	6 & 8	11	PE/Health	6	9	PE/Health	8	14
				English 4	2, 3, 8	11				Car. Planning	4	2			
				Pre-Algebra	7	4				Car. Planning	8	6			
11:00-11:30	Lunch			Lunch			Lunch			Lunch			Lunch		
11:30-2:00	Technology	6 & 8	23	Civics	5 & 6	21	Civics	3 & 7	20	World Culture	6 & 7	18	Algebra 1A	6 & 7	12
	Car. Planning	7	12	Geography	8	2	English 2	6 & 8	19	English 4	7	6	Algebra 1A	2, 3, 6	19
	Civics	2	4	English 2	4 & 7	15	English 3	3 & 5	24	PE/Health	7	16	Geography	6	2
	Psychology	2, 6, 7, 8	14	PE/Health	2	12	Gen. Science	5	3	Geometry	7 & 8	14	Car. Planning	6	17
	PE/Health	3 & 6	16	English 3	2 & 8	15	PE/Health	4	8	Gen. Science	2	3	Car. Planning	8	10
	Algebra 1B	5 & 8	16	Senior Sem.	6 & 7	8	Per. Finance	2 & 3	8	PE/Health	8	10	Car. Planning	3	15
										Technology	2, 3, 5	17	Car. Planning	2	17

Key	
Color	Grade Level
Dark Blue	8 th Grade
Yellow	9 th Grade
Light Blue	10 th Grade
Orange	11 th Grade
Light Purple	12 th Grade
Dark Purple	PE/Health
Teal	Career Planning
Pink	Special Education

Student Expectations

Grades 8

- Education content will focus on core mathematics, literature, science, social studies and health/PE curriculum outcomes.

- Teachers will assign an average of 3 hours of work per student per day (this is comprehensive of all courses), and will be expected to work with their students and parents/guardians on the delivery of these materials.
- Content from other courses (i.e., electives) will be delivered where possible, and accommodations for students unable to complete courses are in place.

Grades 9 -12

- Education content will focus on specified and core courses required for high school graduation requirements, social studies, mathematics, science, literature and health/PE.
- Content from other courses will be delivered where possible, and accommodations for students unable to complete courses are in place.
- Teachers will assign an average of 3.5 hours of work per student per week, and will be expected to work with their students and parents/guardians on the delivery of these materials.

Attendance / Accountability

Attendance- Student participation in at-home learning is required. Attendance will be taken through weekly check-ins and completion of academic assignments.

Grading- We will maintain the same grading scale and standards with the understanding that students are self-guiding. The primary reason of maintaining this scale is to provide effective feedback to students with the opportunity to resubmit work to demonstrate their understanding and earn a passing grade. For students who choose to participate or submit work, a failing grade will be assigned.

Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students

Special education teachers will provide accommodations and modifications to assignments as well as providing related services that may be outlined in a student’s IEP. Information on this matter continues to evolve daily. As such, the Department of Education has advised schools to make a good faith effort to provide some type of continuity of education for ALL students in the most appropriate and accessible ways possible.

The New Academy Charter School will make every effort to ensure that students with disabilities are provided the Special Education and related services identified in the students’ Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Section 504 Plan. See our Special Education Support section for more detailed plans.

The New Academy Charter School will provide physical instructional handouts, as well as virtual platforms for all students. Teachers will consistently, at regular intervals, communicate with all students to make every attempt to provide a reasonable and appropriate education based on student need and current circumstances.

Throughout this plan it is noted the numerous ways and methods our administrators and teachers will communicate with all students and families.

Special Education Supports

Student's with IEP's and GIEP's will continue to receive accommodations/modifications, supports, services, and specially designed instruction outlined in these plans to the extent possible in the at-home learning environment. All Special Education Teachers will collaborate with their regular education teachers and make contact with their students. Special Education teachers will provide assistance to their students, as well as encourage students to contact them for further guidance. Attention to sound instructional strategies that differentiate learning opportunities, expected learning outcomes, student-specific supports, and student voice can help maximize student success.

Related Services such as speech, occupational and physical therapy, counseling etc... will be provided through the tele-therapy approach. This tele-therapy will occur over the telephone or other virtual means. ***Your student's service provider(s) in partnership with his/her caseload manager will communicate with you regarding this.***

IEP/GIEP meetings and multi-disciplinary team meetings will be held virtually and all documents will be provided to all necessary parties digitally.

The caseload manager will contact families and IEP team members to schedule a time for a meeting that is convenient for everyone. Meetings will be held via conference call or other virtual means.

Supports

Special Education teachers will provide parents and guardians support in the areas of behavior, instruction and daily living skills via phone or other virtual means.

EL Supports

The instruction delivered by the Allegheny Intermediate Unit K-12 ESL Program will continue for the duration of the school closure and while being delivered remotely. The ESL Program Specialists assigned to the students prior to the closure will continue providing English Language Development instruction to the students via the platforms identified by the school district (ex. Google Classroom, etc.) The curriculum used by the program is available digitally therefore students will be able to continue their progress through the content and standards as they would have previously and online assessment will allow the teachers to track the students' progress. The ESL teachers are available for ongoing support to both the students and their families and will collaborate with the students' classroom and content area teachers to assure that the students are able to successfully transition to remote instruction in all of their subject areas. Supports for translation and interpretation will be used where necessary and appropriate for both students and families.

Gifted Education

See Special Education Supports

Building/Grade Level Contacts

Name	Position	Email Address	Phone Number
Kristen Harpster	Director of Building Operations	Harpsterk@theacademysystem.com	412-889-7082
Amy Abraham	Principal	Abrahama@theacademysystem.com	412-951-6255
Jamie Hopkins	Assistant Principal	Smithja@theacademysystem.com	412-680-9232
Chelsea Doran	Special Education Director	Doranc@theacademysystem.com	412-613-7033
Melissa Miller	Attendance Counselor & Homeless Liaison	Millerm@theacademysystem.com	412-580-2964

Resource Links

Online Resources- Web-Based							
Resource	Grade Levels	Math	Language Arts	Science	Social Studies	Encore	Brief Description
BrainPop	8-12	X	X	X	X	X	Content including movies, quizzes, games, and activities covering Math, Science, Social Studies, English, Technology, Arts & Music, and Health
ChemCollective	8-12			X			Courseware covers General Chemistry I and General Chemistry II

<u>CK-12</u>	8-12	X	X	X	X		Nonprofit providing free K-12 resources aligned to state curriculum standards
<u>CommonLit</u>	8-12		X				Collection of free reading passages for grades 3-12
<u>CommonSenseMedia</u>	8-12					X	Resource for digital learning and digital citizenship
<u>Core Knowledge</u>	8 th		X	X	X		Provides free materials for learning core subjects
<u>Curriki</u>	8-12	X	X	X	X	X	A community for K-12 resources
<u>Gizmos</u>	8-12			X			Provides math and science simulations
<u>Illustrative Math</u>	8-12	X					Provides resources for helping students learn math and science
<u>Khan Academy</u>	8-12	X	X	X	X		Provides free materials for learning core subjects

<u>KidsRead2Kids</u>	8 th		X				Provides free video-audiobooks read by kids for kids
<u>OER Commons</u>	8-12	X	X	X	X	X	Public digital library of open educational resources
<u>Project Gutenberg</u>	8-12		X				Library of over 60,000 free eBooks
<u>ReadWriteThink</u>	8-12		X		X		Provides access to free reading and language arts materials
<u>Reflex Math</u>	8-12	X					Adaptive and individualized system for mastering basic math
<u>Scholastic Learn-at-Home</u>	8 th	X	X	X	X		Active learning journeys designed to reinforce and sustain educational opportunities
<u>Storyline</u>	8 th		X				Streaming videos of actors reading children's books with illustrations

Middle School: Non Web-Based Resources

Math Skills

Play a game with your child or as a family:

- Card Games
- Board Games: often involve math skills with counting spaces, strategy, etc. Some games also include reading skills as well.

Puzzles

Practice with money

- Count coins and write their value
- Practice making change
- Create a personal budget given a weekly allowance

Reading and Writing Skills

Read a book or magazine or newspaper article

- Write a summary
- Write a new ending or sequel
- Write a book or article review
- Rewrite a section of the story from a character's point of view
- Create a commercial for a book and demonstrate and/or video it

Indoor or outdoor scavenger hunt (remember to practice social distancing)

Create a scavenger hunt for family members

Write a summary of a TV show or movie

Write a note to a family member or friend

Keep a daily journal

Write your own story

Life Skills and Encore/Practical Arts

Teach your child household chores

- Laundry include folding and putting away
- Cleaning
- Cooking or meal prep
 - Read recipes to enhance reading skills
 - Measure to work on math skills
 - Write your own recipes to work on spelling and/or writing skills
 - Gather ingredients to work on following directions
 - Double or half the recipe to work on math skills
 - Make a dessert
- Create a grocery list
- Wash and put away dishes

High School: Non Web-Based Resources

Math Skills

Play a game with your child or as a family. These often involve math skills and strategy, etc. Some games also include critical thinking skills as well.

- Card Games
- Board Games

Puzzles

Practice with money

- Practice making change
- Learn to create a household or personal budget given a specific income
- Learn to balance a checkbook

Reading and Writing Skills

Read a book or magazine or newspaper article

- Write a summary
- Write a new ending or sequel
- Write a book or article review
- Rewrite a section of the story from a character's point of view
- Create a commercial for a book and demonstrate and/or video it
- Write a paper to compare/contrast 2 movies, TV shows, or 2 characters from a TV show or movie
- Write a letter to a family member or friend
- Keep a daily journal
- Write your own story

Life Skills and Electives

Teach your child household chores

- Laundry include folding and putting away
- Cleaning
- Cooking or meal prep
- Plan and make a meal for the family using available ingredients and/or recipe
- Create a meal for self or family to meet specific dietary and/or nutrition guidelines and make it
- Double or half the recipe to work on math skills
- Make a dessert
- Create a weekly grocery list given a budget. Must include necessary ingredients to feed the family for a week.
- Wash and put away dishes.
- Organize a bedroom closet or other area of the home

Special Education and Support Resources: Web-Based Resources

- Occupational Therapy related activities that would be beneficial to participate in for the further development of fine motor, visual and coordination skills.
- Physical Therapy activities to help with balance, strength and gross motor coordination.
- Speech and Language
 - Free downloads containing all consonants at the word level, phrase level, sentence level, and stories organized by sound in all word positions (ex. initial, medial, final).
 - Online games for receptive and expressive language.
 - Speech and Language Home Suggestions - provides information, tips and tricks, activities and games for parents to work on their child's articulation and/or language IEP goals at home.

COVID-19 Food Distribution Information for School Communities:

Pennsylvania sought and received approval from the Federal government to allow schools to distribute meals at no cost while closed due to COVID-19. Districts/schools that acted on this Federal approval applied and received approval from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

<https://www.education.pa.gov/Schools/safeschools/emergencyplanning/COVID-19/Meals4Kids/Pages/default.aspx>

Related Information:

COVID-19 Fact Sheet:

<https://www.health.pa.gov/topics/Documents/Diseases%20and%20Conditions/Coronavirus.pdf>