



Kentwood Public Schools

Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

as Described in [Public Act 149](#), Section 98a

On August 20, 2020 Governor Whitmer signed House Bill 5913 into law as Public Act 149. Section 98a states that in order to receive state aid for 2020-2021, districts must provide for instruction under an extended COVID-19 Learning Plan (“Plan”) that has been approved by an intermediate district or authorizing body. The Plan does not replace the District’s/PSA’s COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, it is an additional plan that includes new assurances and sections on educational goals, instructional delivery, grading, and equitable access. PA 149 does not apply to districts that operate as a cyber school.

District/PSA educational goals written for all students and all subgroups must be established no later than September 15, 2020 and submitted in their Plan to the ISD or Authorizing Body, as applicable, no later than October 1, 2020 for approval. ISDs and PSAs will transmit the approved plan to the superintendent of public instruction and the state treasurer.





Kentwood Public Schools Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Address of School District/PSA: 5820 Eastern Ave. SE
Kentwood, MI 49508

District/PSA Code Number: 41160

District/PSA Website Address: www.kentwoodps.org

District/PSA Contact and Title: Michael Zoerhoff, Superintendent of Schools

District/PSA Contact Email Address: michael.zoerhoff@kentwoodps.org

Name of Intermediate School District/PSA: Kent ISD

Name of PSA Authorizing Body (if applicable):

Date of Approval by ISD/Authorizing Body:

Assurances

1. The District/PSA will make their ISD/Authorizing Body approved Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan accessible through the transparency reporting link located on the District's/PSA's website no later than October 1, 2020.
2. The District/PSA will create and make available on its transparency reporting link located on the District/PSA's website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the educational goals contained in its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan not later than February 1, 2021, for goals its expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-2021 school year for goals the District/PSA expected would be achieved by the end of the school year.
3. Benchmark Assessments: The District/PSA will
 - select a benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments that is/are aligned to state standards.
 - administer the approved benchmark assessment, or local benchmark assessment, or any combination thereof, to all pupils in grades K to 8 to measure proficiency in reading and mathematics within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year and again not later than the last day of the of the 2020-2021 school year.
4. If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the District/PSA will
 - provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction, and
 - expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil's grade level or courses in the same scope and sequence as the District/PSA had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.
5. The District/PSA, in consultation with a local health department will develop guidelines concerning appropriate methods for delivering pupil instruction for the 2020-2021 school year that are based on local data that are based on key metrics. Note: A determination concerning the method for delivering pupil instruction shall remain at the District/PSA Board's discretion. Key metrics that the District/PSA will consider shall include at least all of the following:
 - COVID-19 Cases or Positive COVID-19 tests
 - Hospitalizations due to COVID-19
 - Number of deaths resulting from COVID-19 over a 14-day period
 - COVID-19 cases for each day for each 1 million individuals
 - The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests over a 4-week period
 - Health capacity strength
 - Testing, tracing, and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID-19
6. If the District/PSA determines that it is safe to provide in-person instruction to pupils, the District/PSA will prioritize providing in-person instruction to pupils in grades K to 5 who are enrolled in the District/PSA.



7. The District/PSA assures that
 - instruction will be delivered as described in this plan and approved by the District/PSA Board,
 - the description of instructional delivery in this plan matches the delivery of instruction to be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year,
 - the District/PSA will re-confirm how instruction will be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year thirty days after the approval of the plan, and every 30 days thereafter at a meeting of the Board, and
 - public comment will be solicited from the parents or legal guardians of the pupils enrolled in the District/PSA during a public meeting described in PA-149.

8. The District/PSA will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.

9. The District/PSA will ensure that two (2), 2-way interactions occur between a pupil enrolled in the District/PSA and the pupil's teacher or at least one (1) of the pupil's teachers during each week of the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled in the District/PSA. The District/PSA will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each District/PSA Board meeting where it re-confirms how instruction is being delivered. The District/PSA will make those rates available through the transparency reporting link located on the District/PSA website each month for the 2020-2021 school year.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Michael Zorhoff".

District Superintendent or President of the Board of Education/Directors

9/23/2020

Date



Learning Plan Narrative

Opening Statement

- Please provide a statement indicating why an Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan is necessary to increase pupil engagement and achievement for the 2020-2021 school year.

COVID-19 continues to impact our community and our schools in a variety of ways. Parents, guardians and caregivers face challenging decisions about the educational choices for their students while weighing health, work and financial concerns. Equity issues are more pronounced and are impacting more students. Teachers are learning new ways to provide quality instruction while trying to support students' social and emotional health.

As we return to school, our first priority will be to ensure the safety of our students and staff. Kentwood Public Schools has a comprehensive plan to address the health and safety needs of our students and staff. Disinfecting and cleaning protocols have been established. Screening procedures are in place. The use of masks and other personal protective equipment are required in designated situations and places. The District is committed to communicating safety procedures and timely information related to COVID-19 positive cases while following the Kent County Health Department guidelines.

Our second priority will be to give parents choices. School related decisions are more important, and stressful, for families when the health of their children is involved. Some students have underlying health risks or emotional/mental health difficulties that make it necessary for the school system and our programs to be flexible. As much as possible, we commit to providing parents with options so that they can make the best decision for their circumstances.

Our third non-negotiable is providing a quality learning experience for our students. Because of the wide range of experiences students had during the remote learning portion of the 19-20 school year, students will come to school in the fall of 2020 with a wider than usual range of competencies. We expect that many students will be behind and will need opportunities to catch up. Teachers will need opportunities to collaborate with each other as they examine student work and determine what comes next in the learning for each student.

Kentwood Public Schools is committed to ensuring that necessary supports and structures are in place to ensure student engagement and achievement for all. This plan will focus on teaching and learning with an emphasis on equity for all learners and the well-being of students and staff.

Educational Goals

- **Please outline and describe** the educational goals expected to be achieved for the 2020-2021 school year. The District/PSA must establish all of its goals no later than September 15, 2020. Authorizing bodies expect PSA educational goals will be aligned to the educational goal within your charter contract.
- **Specify** which goals are expected to be achieved by the middle of the school year and which goals are expected to be achieved by the end of the school year.
- **Ensure** that all of the following apply to the educational goals described in this section: (a) The goals include increased pupil achievement or, if growth can be validly and reliably measured using a benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments, growth on a benchmark assessment in the aggregate and for all subgroups of pupils; (b) The District/PSA benchmark assessment(s) are aligned to state standards and will be administered to all pupils K-8 at least once within the first 9 weeks of the 2020-2021 school year and not later than the last day of the 2020-2021 school year to determine whether pupils are making meaningful progress toward mastery of these standards; and (c) the District's/PSA's educational goals are measurable through a benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments.
- To the extent practicable, the District/PSA will administer the same benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments that it administered to pupils in previous years.

Kentwood Public Schools will benchmark students within the first nine weeks of school and again before the last day of school. The benchmark assessments will be aligned with the state standards and will be administered to all pupils in K-8. Kentwood Public Schools will use the same benchmark assessments that we used last school year. The following goals will be intentionally implemented to achieve student success.

ELA

Goal 1 - *All students (K-8) will improve performance in Reading/ELA from Fall to Spring as measured by our benchmark assessment.*

- *All teachers will use the formative assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of Reading/ELA academic standards.*
- *Results from Reading/ELA benchmark assessments, local Reading/ELA summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously monitored and analyzed by staff.*



Goal 2 - *All students (K-8) will improve performance in Mathematics from Fall to Spring as measured by the district benchmark assessments.*

- *All teachers will use the formative assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of Math academic standards.*
- *Results from Math benchmark assessments, local Math summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously monitored and analyzed by staff.*



Instructional Delivery & Exposure to Core Content

- **Please describe** how and where instruction will be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year. (e.g. instruction may be delivered at school or a different location, in-person, online, digitally, by other remote means, in a synchronous or asynchronous format, or any combination thereof).

Starting on August 24, 2020 and continuing through September 3, 2020, all Kentwood Public Schools students will participate in remote learning. The focus for these first two weeks of remote learning is to:

1. Help students learn how to be an effective remote learner using a variety of digital tools.
2. Build relationships between students and teachers through virtual sessions using Zoom and Google Meet.
3. Start academic content instruction and learning in each content area.

In grades K-5:

- Remote Learning will include academic instruction in reading, writing, and math.
- Academic content will be provided through Google Classroom, Seesaw and ClassDojo.
- A normal day will consist of 3-4.5 hours of remote learning activities depending on grade level.

In grades 6-12:

- Remote Learning will include academic instruction for most of the courses that Kentwood Public Schools offers in person. Remote Learning elective and AP course offerings will be limited.
- Academic content will be provided through Edgenuity and Google Classroom.
- A normal day will consist of 4-5.5 hours of remote learning activities depending on grade level.

Starting September 8, 2020, parents/guardians will have the option to send their student(s) to school for in person learning or continue in remote learning. In person learning will be very similar to classroom instruction and learning in prior years. All students, both remote and in person, will be assigned at least one hour of learning activities to complete at home, as part of their school day. Assignments may include: art, music, physical education, independent reading, additional support work.



- **Please describe** how instruction for core academic areas will expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil's grade level or course in the same scope and sequence as the District/PSA had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.

All learning activities and coursework provided by a Kentwood teacher or digital resource (iReady, IXL, Edgenuity, Google Classroom, etc.), whether taught to in person learners or remote learners, are aligned to the content expectations that are required by the State of Michigan. Grade level and content area teachers have reviewed and modified the materials that we have sourced from vendors and partners to ensure that the materials we are using with students are appropriate and necessary. Remote learning instruction will follow the same scope and sequence that is used for in person students.

- **Please describe** how pupil progress toward mastery of the standards described within this section will be graded or otherwise reported to the pupil and the pupil's parent or legal guardian.

The intent of assessment is to assist teachers, administrators and support staff as they make instructional decisions for individual students, classrooms, grade levels and schools. This is the case whether students are learning remotely or in person. Student learning will be assessed through various methods including paper and digital quizzes, tests, student assignments and work product. Student level of achievement is measured by formulated assessments of each standard. Principals monitor instruction to assure that the standards are taught and design interventions to support the student and/or teacher to successfully meet the expectations. Parents/Guardians and students have access to their learning progress data through digital tools such as iReady, IXL, Edgenuity and Google Classroom. Parents of secondary students can access student grades through ParentVue and StudentVue.

K-12 report cards tied to the State content standards as well as EL and special education report cards will be provided to parents at least twice yearly. Continuing to provide ongoing communication regarding student achievement to parents and students will provide a clear partnership for all stakeholders in student learning.



Equitable Access

- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, please **describe** how the District/PSA will provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction.

All Kentwood Public School students will be assigned a Chromebook to use for both remote and in person learning. The district will communicate options for families to obtain Internet access. For those families who are unable to purchase their own Internet access, “hotspot” devices will be provided through the District or District partners.

Students who need technical assistance with their District provided technology should email studenthelp@kentwoodps.org.



- **Please describe** how the District/PSA will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.

Kentwood Public Schools adheres to all state and federal laws related to students with disabilities including but not limited to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The district has an articulated Child Find process and provides a full continuum of services for students with disabilities from Birth to age 26. Relevant staff in the district are trained to assess students for suspected disabilities and to provide for their unique needs in order to maximize the student's potential. All students with IEPs will also have a Contingency Learning Plan in place to address their unique needs in a remote setting. Each building in the district utilizes a Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) to address the individual needs of students as well as make data based decisions on interventions. Individualized Education Plans, Section 504 plans and intervention plans are developed with parent input and all appropriate team members in order to consider all options and support students in the Least Restrictive Environment. Kentwood Public Schools is a partner in regular monitoring by the Kent Intermediate School District in coordination with the Michigan Department of Education and we participate in all district improvement plans as recommended. Kentwood Public Schools also monitors all State Performance Plan data and adjustments are implemented when/if Performance Plan data does not meet state expectations. Kentwood Public Schools Board policies and district procedures for Special Education and Section 504 along with MTSS procedures are focused on individualized student growth in the General Education Curriculum.

• **Optional Considerations for District/PSA Extended COVID-19 Learning Plans:**

1. In addition to the students with disabilities noted above, please describe how the District/PSA will ensure that the needs of other vulnerable student populations, such as but not limited to, early English Learners and Fledgling/struggling students, are met.

2. Please describe how the District/PSA will ensure that students will, during pandemic learning, have continued access to programs such as, but not limited to, Early Childhood, CTE, Early-Middle College, Dual Enrollment and Advanced Placement as applicable within the District/PSA.

Kentwood Public Schools will continue to provide high quality instruction and language assistance for both in person and remote learning English Learner (EL) students. All ELs will be offered with the same opportunities, regardless of chosen path. Instruction will continue to focus on English language, literacy, and academic language development by embedding language support within content to ensure individual mastery of different grade-level content. Whether it is an elementary pull out or self-contained content-based secondary model of instruction, EL teachers will deliver both synchronous and asynchronous lessons with resources and assignments through Google classroom. EL students will use literacy and language development software and online resources daily (e.g., Imagine Learning, System, 44, Read 180, etc). EL interventionists and EL paraprofessionals will push into classes virtually or face to face. ELD support in the classroom or virtual ELD support for school or home learning will be offered. EL staff will also offer real time language support in a breakout room during virtual lessons or in the classroom ELD lessons when face to face is allowable. In addition, general education and EL teachers will collaborate and/or co-teach to develop academic language and design accommodations. EL teachers/interventionists/paras will hold scheduled drop in times (e.g., virtual office hours) for help with content and class work, providing additional lessons that support content when necessary. The District will continue to provide training to teachers, on ways to support EL students, such as SIOP strategies and other research-based strategies for distance learning. Schools will communicate with multilingual students and families by sending out regular, translated information through mail, email, and messaging applications (e.g., Liaison Linguistics, Synergy Email, SchoolMessenger, Google Translate, etc.).

All instructional programs that are normally provided to District students will continue to be provided for both remote and in person learners, including: PEAKS, East Kentwood Middle College, Crossroads Alternative High School, Dual Enrollment, Advanced Placement, Kent Career Technical Center, Kent Transition Center, Life-Learning Center, Kentwood International Virtual Academy. While all of these options remain available, there may be course specific restrictions for remote learners due to the nature of the content being taught.