March 30, 2020

Re: Distance Learning Plan

Students, Parents, and Patrons:

I am writing you to explain our Distance Learning Plan. The intent of the plan is to give every student a reasonable opportunity to complete school work for the remainder of the year. While this is not necessarily “equivalent” to traditional school or education; we feel as though it is the best scenario for the circumstances. There are two parts to our district learning plan. One part will involve a weekly special publication of the Purcell Register Newspaper. This will include assignments and activities for every grade level. This portion of the plan can be successfully completed without the use of the internet or technological devices. The second part will involve more teacher-specific items and may require some use of technology. This combination will be the format for your education that will be used for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year. Dibble’s Distance Learning Plan will only include work for the Core Subjects (English-Reading, Math, Science, and Social Studies) at the Elementary and Middle School levels. High School students will also be required to complete Elective work on a per-teacher basis. Students with special needs will be contacted by their case managers to address any additional or special modifications that may be required. Mrs. Rea will be available via phone and email to assist our Spanish speaking students with any assignments or activities.

The special publication newspaper curriculum is a joint effort among five area schools. Teachers and Educators from Dibble, Washington, Purcell, Wayne, and Lexington are participating in the publication. The students from each school will all receive the same weekly publication. The special publication will be mailed to every single student. In cases where multiple students are within the same household; each student will be mailed their own copy. For example, three students within the same home will receive three separate newspapers. Extra newspapers will be available at the school from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. each Monday and Wednesday. You should receive the first copy of the newspaper by Monday, April 13, 2020. We will do everything we can to get it to you before then, but realistically, this is when we expect to have it ready, printed, and delivered. There will be six publications of this newspaper that will be sent on six consecutive weeks.

The second part of the Distance Learning Plan will involve more teacher-specific materials. This will look different from teacher to teacher. For example, some teachers may require you to do specific items through USA test prep. Some teachers may email you or send you a GroupMe message with specific tasks to complete. This is truly up to the individual teacher(s). Each Principal has communicated to each teacher that they need to establish a method of communication between each student. As a student or parent, I also recommend that you take the initiative to reach out to your specific teachers as well. You can access the email of every teacher in the district through the school website. All staff emails are available at (www.dibbleps.org) Simply click on the relevant site and you will have access to the
information. This will be extremely helpful as we may not have your most up-to-date email address. Please see below for a more site-specific narrative with regard to grading and expectations.

- Elementary and Middle School-The Distance Learning Plan will include the weekly Purcell Register special publication for all students. Individual teachers may require work and assignments above and beyond what is listed in the newspaper. Work associated with the newspaper will not be required to be turned in. Generally, the teacher-specific assignments will not be required to be turned in either. It is acceptable for teachers to require you to submit assignments or work electronically. Students interested in raising grades will have the opportunity to do so. Otherwise, grades will be locked in as of March 13, 2020. Each student is expected to complete all tasks even though it will generally not be submitted or graded. We ask that parents help to hold each student accountable for this material. If you are interested in feedback related to assignments we ask that you contact that teacher individually.

- High School-Similar to the Elementary and Middle School Distance Learning Plan, the High School students will receive the Special Publication Newspaper in addition to teacher-specific items. High School students will be required to submit assignments for teachers to grade. The method of turning in the items will vary from teacher to teacher. Because High School grades are transcripted as part of a permanent record, High School students will receive grades for their work. Only in instances where an Elective course teacher contacts the student or parent directly will the student be required to submit Elective coursework. If the teacher does not contact you, your grade will be locked as of the last day of school. Students can choose to raise any Elective course grades by arrangement with the Teacher and Principal. Examples of ways in which completed work may be submitted include emailing and submitting a photo via text message of completed work. In some circumstances, work may be submitted through regular mail and/or a drop box near the school building.

Lastly, I want to let you know that we fully understand that there will be issues and unforeseen circumstances that arise from this plan. We are working diligently to minimize problems, but with such short notice and unchartered events, it is inevitable that it will happen. Our approach will be to use common sense and work through these problems as much as possible. I have included my contact information below if you have continued questions. Thanks in advance for your patience and understanding as we continue to work through these unprecedented times.

Best Regards,

Chad Clanton
Superintendent

Email: clanton@dibble.k12.ok.us
Cell: 405-401-7375

p.s.—Lunches will continue to be made available each Monday and Wednesday from 11:00 am until 1:00 pm until further notice.