

Spring
2020

Continuity of Education Plan



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Welcome and Introduction



March 26, 2020

Dear Students, Parents/Guardians, and Community Members,

Continuity of Education is the overall term for any educational practices that occur in the event of a prolonged school closure. We at EASTERN believe it is important for our students to have the opportunity to maintain and develop skills during this time. This is particularly challenging for our teachers because the key feature of our programs is the opportunity to engage in authentic, hands-on learning in our career fields. While a large part of our program instruction is hands-on, we have always stressed the importance of the theoretical knowledge that underpins our technical tasks. We have also always focused on developing leadership and employability skills. Our teachers have been working collaboratively over the past week to develop a Continuity of Education plan to continue to engage our students in new learning.

All learning provided by our teachers will align to industry standards and the program's approved task list. We are committed to helping our students reach their career goals. We are fortunate that many of our industry certifications can be obtained online and offered during this time. We are also fortunate the State Board of Cosmetology is now allowing our students to earn up to 250 hours via online instruction. Our Continuity of Education Plan will go into effect Monday, March 30, 2020 and will remain in effect for the duration of the school closure. Our school may be closed, but we are going to continue to provide instruction to our students.

We understand that these are unprecedented times for all of us. We ask that our students take advantage of this opportunity and to communicate with their teachers or our student success coordinators so that we may assist in removing any barriers to learning. Last week we asked all students to access their EASTERN email account so we could ascertain if any students would be unable to access online learning. For those students who reported access issues or who did not reply, we are mailing home learning materials provided by their teachers. These items were sent to the post office yesterday afternoon.

The Continuity of Education Plan will help to clarify expectations and provide additional information.

We wish everyone good health. We will continue to send updates to families through our e-messenger system.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cathleen Plesnarski".

Cathleen Plesnarski, Ed.D

Executive Director

Instructional Delivery

EASTERN's teachers will be providing meaningful education that relates to the Pennsylvania Department of Education Programs of Study and will be communicating directly with students on how to access assignments and educational materials.

Twelve of EASTERN's programs will use Microsoft Teams as a platform for educational delivery. This will allow instructors to post assignments, task sheets, videos, links, and other related material as needed. Students will be able to access course material, post questions, and receive answers from their instructional staff. Additionally, the Remind App has been set up in most courses for instructors and students to communicate.

In addition to Microsoft Teams, many programs will provide curriculum from other sites such as (but not limited to):

- Automotive Technology: MACS (Mobile Air Conditioning certification), ASE (Automotive Service Excellence) online, CDX and Ford ACE training
- Collision Repair Technology: SP2 Automotive and 3M Collision online
- Commercial Art: Commercial Art Website
- Construction Technology: Ted Talks construction topics and SP2 Construction online
- Cosmetology: Mindtap Cosmetology online
- HVAC: Quizlet and Kahoot online
- Networking and Cybersecurity: Montgomery County Community College online coursework

Please note instructors surveyed students and parents about access to a computer and availability of an internet connection. Students who were not able to be reached or who noted they do not have access were mailed photocopied packets of assignments on March 25, 2020.

Schedule

The instructional delivery for all EASTERN courses will commence online starting March 30th. Instructors will be available during regular school hours, 7:45 am to 2:45 pm to answer emails and questions students may have. Teachers may also communicate specific times during the day they will be available for students.

Grading Practices

Our teachers will provide grades and feedback on assignments given during this time. Students are expected to complete the assignments provided and seek out help as needed.

Marking Periods

The third marking period was scheduled to end on April 1st. Due to the state-mandated closure, we will probably extend the marking period deadline based on the extensions provided by our districts. We will send an e-message when a new date is determined.

Teaching Staff Points of Contact

Please contact your teacher if you have difficulty logging on, accessing instruction, or need assistance with assignments.

Allied Health: Ms. Windy Viernes, wviernes@eastech.org

Automotive Technology: Mr. George Stahl, gstahl@eastech.org

Business and Technology Professional: Ms. Marketa Crane, mcrane@eastech.org

Collision Repair Technology: Mr. Steve Parke, sparke@eastech.org

Commercial Art: Ms. Nicole Mohrey, nmohrey@eastech.org

Construction Technology: Mr. Jeff Pakula, jpakula@eastech.org

Cosmetology: Mrs. Wendy Leyden, wleyden@eastech.org and Ms. Amy Medneck, amedneck@eastech.org

Culinary Arts: Chef Ben Vozzo, bvozzo@eastech.org, and Chef Charles Zachmann, czachmann@eastech.org

Electrical Technology: Mr. Gary Felmey, gfelmey@eastech.org

HVAC: Mr. Brian Jacoby, bjacoby@eastech.org

Networking and Cybersecurity: Mr. Michael Refsnider, mrefsnider@eastech.org

Protective Services: Mr. Mark Zaslavsky, mzaslavsky@eastech.org

Veterinary Science: Mrs. Karen McGeehan kmcgeehan@eastech.org

Welding Technology: Ms. Meghan Cicchino mcicchino@eastech.org

Student Success Coordinators (SSC) Points of Contact

Additional support will be provided by our SSCs to our students with special needs. Our Student Success Coordinators are making sure our content is accessible and appropriate for all students.

Ms. Ferne Andre, fandre@eastech.org

Will provide student support to specific students. She will be reaching out to parents of these students.

Ms. Rebecca Ashworth, rashworth@eastech.org

Will provide student support to students with IEPs from the following districts: Upper Moreland, Lower Moreland, Jenkintown, Hatboro-Horsham, and Bishop McDevitt.

Ms. Veronica Stanley vstanley@eastech.org

Will provide student support to students with IEPs from the following districts: Upper Dublin, Cheltenham, Abington, Springfield Township, Dock Mennonite, Calvert Christian, and alternative schools.

Leadership Points of Contact

Contact any of the staff listed below if you have questions or concerns regarding our plan, implementation of instruction, or support received. We will answer your questions or direct your question to the appropriate staff member.

Executive Director – Dr. Cathleen Plesnarski cplesnarski@eastech.org

Assistant Director – Mr. Joseph Greb jgreb@eastech.org

Career and Technical Education Supervisor – Mrs. Allison Larson alarson@eastech.org