Remote Instruction Plan

Overview

For the 2020-2021 school year, the TEA has announced that student attendance may be earned through the delivery of Remote (virtual) Instruction. Remote Instruction will follow the McGregor ISD curriculum provided by certified McGregor ISD teachers and be open to all students, Prekindergarten through Grade 12, residing within the District's attendance boundaries.

McGregor ISD will utilize an asynchronous model of instruction for the Remote Instruction plan. This model involves instruction that does not require having the teacher and student engaged at the same time. The student will learn from instruction that is not necessarily being delivered in-person or in real time. This type of instruction may include various forms of digital and online learning, such as prerecorded video lessons or game-based learning tasks that students complete on their own, and pre-assigned work and formative assessments made available to students online.

McGregor ISD's TEA approved instructional plan will determine the daily engagement, instructional materials, progress monitoring, and teacher supports the students receive in order to earn daily attendance.

Parent/Guardian and Student Expectations

Parents/guardians wanting their student(s) to participate in remote instruction beginning the first day of school will be able to select remote instruction during registration for the upcoming academic school year. In addition, all parents will have the option to choose remote learning for their student at any point as the year progresses. Parents/guardians who choose remote instruction for their students will be asked to commit to remote instruction for a full grading period (six-weeks), but will not have to make that commitment more than two weeks in advance, so they may make a decision based on the latest public health information. Once selecting Remote Instruction, students will participate in the McGregor ISD Remote Instruction program for the remainder of the grading period before being given an option to return to On-Campus Instruction.

By selecting Remote Instruction, a parent/guardian must agree to become a *McGregor ISD Remote Instruction Virtual Learning Coach* for your student at home. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Ensuring that your student(s) attends to daily posted activities in Google Classroom.
- Responding to teacher communication as needed.

Students participating in Remote Instruction will be assigned to a traditional home campus and teacher(s). In order to implement high-quality curriculum and instructional delivery that can transition between On-Campus and Remote Instruction for all students, McGregor ISD will use Google Classroom as their Learning Management System (LMS). During remote instruction, parents/guardians and students may view the student's assignments through Google Classroom, view weekly announcements, and communicate with teachers. As done previously, McGregor ISD will continue to use Skyward Family Access to view the student's official grades and attendance.

To successfully participate in Remote Instruction, McGregor ISD recommends the following hardware, software, and device specifications:

- MISD supplied device (grades 2-12);
- Reliable broadband Internet connection; and
- Current version of Google Chrome.
- Other hardware and software may be required for some courses and will be indicated in each course syllabus.

Families desiring to participate in Remote Learning who do not have a reliable broadband Internet connection and can demonstrate need may apply to receive a mobile "hot spot" provided by McGregor ISD. In addition, numerous providers are making plans available at reduced rates.

Questions about technology requirements should be directed to Melissa Seward at mseward@mcgregor-isd.org or 254-840-2828. Campus administrators will also be available when needed.

Attendance

Attendance will be recorded daily. Under an approved learning plan, each student will earn daily attendance through daily engagement measure(s). Per Texas Education Code (TEC) §25.092, students must attend 90% of the days a course is offered (with some exceptions) in order to be awarded credit for the course and/or to be promoted to the next grade level. This requirement remains in force during the upcoming school year. The approved engagement methods are listed below:

- Daily progress in the LMS, as defined in the approved learning plan; or
- Daily progress via teacher-student interactions, as defined in the approved learning plan; or
- Completion/Turn-in of assignments from student to teacher (potentially via email, on-line, or mail).

Student engagement with the LMS or other instructional avenues and/or any daily contact by the teacher with a student focused on supporting or monitoring student academic progress, as defined by the approved asynchronous instructional plan, will establish daily attendance. A student will be considered absent if the student does not have documented engagement with the LMS and/or daily contact with the teacher, and/or documentation of completion/turn in of daily assignments. A teacher or campus representative will input the student's daily attendance into the Student Information System (SIS) for the asynchronous method, based on the student's daily engagement with the LMS or other instructional avenue and/or the daily contact with the teacher, by marking the student remote asynchronous present or absent on that day.

Students must show daily curricular progress that can be measured by the District in the following ways.

- Data from the district's learning management system, Google Classroom, that records data on student engagement in learning activities.
    - Students must log into Google Classroom a minimum of once every school day.
    - An absence may be recorded if a student does not log in at least once per school day.
- Teachers will record evidence of student interaction with the teacher each day.
    - Examples of interactions include phone calls, emails, and attendance at Instructional Support using Google Meet or Zoom.

      o   Evidence of student interaction with the teacher may be used to record attendance.
- Teachers will monitor completion and submission of daily assignments, and an absence can be recorded if all activities and assignments are not completed.

Truancy Notice

- If a student is absent from class or Remote Instruction 10 (ten) or more days or parts of days within a six (6) month period, the student's parent/guardian is subject to prosecution, and the student is subject to referral to truancy court.
- If a student has been absent from class or Remote Instruction without excuse on three (3) days or parts of days within a four (4) week period, McGregor ISD shall issue a warning notice to inform the parent/guardian that the student is subject to truancy prevention measures in addition to other statutory requirements found in Education Code §25.095.

Transition

If a parent/guardian who chooses virtual Remote Instruction wants their student to switch to On-Campus Instruction, they may do so, but McGregor ISD is permitted by the TEA to limit these transactions to occur only at the end of a grading period, if it will be beneficial to the student's instructional quality. For the 2020-2021 school year, transitions from Remote Instruction to On-Campus Instruction may occur on:

- Tuesday, October 13, 2020
- Monday, November 30, 2020
- Monday, January 25 5, 2021
- Monday, March 15, 2021,
- Monday, April 265, 2021

Extracurricular Activities

Remote Instruction students may not participate in any in-person, on-campus McGregor ISD sponsored University Interscholastic League (UIL) program or other extracurricular activity and event. The District will await direction from the UIL and other activity officials on the final plan for virtual competitions.

Parent/Guardian and Teacher Communication

Parents/guardians will be able to communicate with their student's teacher through Google Classroom, email, and phone calls during scheduled conference times. Parents can expect a response within twenty-four (24) hours.

Access to Student Assignments

McGregor ISD will be utilizing high-quality instructional materials that are designed to ensure instructional continuity between On-Campus and Remote Instruction. Through the use of Google Classroom, teachers will post course content, information, and additional resources to their course page for student access.

Remote Instruction Coursework Access

Students will log into their Google Classroom account to access course materials. For McGregor Elementary School students, the parent/guardian may have to assist the student with these steps. More information about how students access their online content can be found on the McGregor ISD Remote Instruction FAQs page located here: (INSERT ADDRESS HERE).

Submission of Student Assignments

Remote Instruction students will use Google Classroom for assignment submission and completing exams and quizzes. Teachers will provide students with specific instructions for their assignments, exams, and quizzes. More information about submitting assignments, exams, and quizzes can be found on the McGregor ISD Remote Instruction FAQs page located here: (INSERT ADDRESS HERE).

Grading/ Feedback

McGregor ISD uses Skyward as the official gradebook for students. Teachers will update grades according to the timeline requirements posted in the Student Handbook.

Feedback is separate from the grade, and teachers will provide academic feedback on assignments, quizzes, and exams through Schoology on the same timeline as required for grades in the Student Handbook. Feedback will include next steps and necessary academic remediation to improve performance.

Technology Access

McGregor ISD recognizes the need for device and internet access for students participating in remote instruction. If students do not have access to the above mentioned, McGregor ISD will provide district-owned devices for students in grades 2-12.

Families desiring to participate in Remote Learning who do not have a reliable broadband Internet connection and can demonstrate need may apply to receive a mobile "hot spot" provided by McGregor ISD. In addition, numerous providers are making plans available at reduced rates.

Questions about technology requirements should be directed to Melissa Seward at mseward@mcgregor-isd.org or 254-840-2828. Campus administrators will also be available when needed.

Meals

For Remote Instruction students, lunch and breakfast meals will be served from 1:00-2:00 p.m. each school day. Parents/Guardians must contact McGregor Elementary School at (254) 840-2665 by 11:00 a.m. each day to place an order with the Food Service Director, John Carpenter, to allow the McGregor Child Nutrition Program to plan for the number of meals needed by each family. The lunch/breakfast pick-up location will be outside the entrance to the McGregor Elementary School cafeteria. Please note that the student must be enrolled in McGregor ISD to receive the lunch/breakfast meals and the District will not make home deliveries. Lunch/Breakfast meals will be made available to all students enrolled in Remote Instruction at the price levels that they are currently receiving benefits.