



School Closure

A Report to the Galway Central School
District Board of Education
May 7, 2020



Executive Order

New York State Schools are closed for the remainder of the academic school year.

Decision to close summer school will be made by the Governor at the end of May.

Three Requirements During Closure



**Continuity
of Learning**

Meals

Childcare

Continuity of Instruction - Goal

Despite the unprecedented nature of the current situation, we are striving to maintain focus on the overall health, safety, achievement and welfare of our students while engaging our students in meaningful, and interactive learning opportunities.



Continuity of Instruction - Instructional Platform

Teachers will connect with their students through written feedback, web-based programs, email, phone calls as well as digital platforms such as Class DoJo, Flip Grid, and Google Meet. Google Classroom is the primary platform for our remote learning.



Continuity of Instruction - Instructional Platform

Special area teachers will connect with students through their homeroom teachers Google Classroom. Special area teachers will provide weekly/monthly activities for students to have multiple options to choose from.



Continuity of Instruction - Learning Expectation

Synchronous Communication

Students will have the option to connect with their classmates via read-alouds, show and tell, Kahoot Games, Flip Grid videos, Class DoJo messages, and Google Meets, or web-based challenges.

Asynchronous Communication

Students will have the opportunity to meet with their teacher, service provider, or counselor during office hours, Teletherapy, or 1:1 Google Meet sessions.



Continuity of Instruction - Attendance

Participation will be monitored by the classroom teacher and special area teachers. Teachers will be the primary contact and reach out to students and families with concerns if there is a lack of participation to better understand the reasons for such.

Our School Resource Officer and support staff such as school counselors, social workers, and psychologists will be notified when teachers are unable to connect with students or families. The SRO will make home visits to encourage participation and check on welfare of students/family.

7-12 teachers will monitor student attendance and class activity during each week of study. Teachers will report student inactivity to administration using a Google Form.



Continuity of Instruction - Grading

Teachers in grades K-5 will be documenting evidence of student mastery of revised/condensed power standards. Teachers will note this on a rubric to share with next year's teacher. Students who do not show mastery of standards during remote learning will not be considered for retention. Students who did not show mastery of standards prior to remote learning may be considered for retention.

There will not be formal grading of standards on the 3rd trimester report card k-5. Teachers will use a narrative to identify student strengths and goals for the summer.



Continuity of Instruction - Grading

1.

6-12 students, in the third quarter, were assessed on assignments and assessments assigned prior to or on Friday, March 13, 2020 were graded and factored into the third quarter. Limited new material was presented to students until the 4th quarter began as students transitioned into online learning .

Review material was evaluated and given proper feedback to students.



Continuity of Instruction - Grading

1. 6-12 students' course work assigned or due on or after Monday, April 20, 2020 will be graded and counted on the fourth quarter. Students are expected to complete assignments and assessments per the teachers' instructions through the remainder of the fourth quarter. Teachers will continue to be flexible with timelines and grading. Students who do not show evidence of learning during remote learning will not be considered for non-completion of the course. Students who did not show evidence of learning prior to remote learning may be considered for repeating course work.



Continuity of Instruction - Grading

Advanced Placement and College Level Courses will continue to follow college and course standards with new material and grading to ensure compliance with college regulations.



Continuity of Instruction - Schedule

Each classroom teacher K-5 is to set-up a schedule to meet with and teach new material. The focus of new instruction is ELA and Math.

Instruction should be approximately 30 minutes per subject per day. An additional 30 minutes per week should also be included for optional special area activities.

Science and Social studies assignments may be presented as optional activities.



Continuity of Instruction - Schedule

Students in grades 6-12 classes are set-up on google classroom platform. Weekly schedules are posted for students and parents for google meets where new instruction will occur. Teachers post videos of instruction for students who can not participate in scheduled meetings. Teachers focus on 1-2 hours of school work per week per class in grade 6-8 and 2-3 hours of school work per week per class for grades 9-12.

Online Instruction is approximately 60 minutes 1-2 times per week. Additional office hours are available for students to meet with the teachers for class support 2-3 times per week.



Continuity of Instruction - Related Services

Support services noted on a student's IEP including: Counseling, Behavior Interventions, Speech, Language Therapy, and Occupational and Physical Therapy will be provided through remote learning activities. Parents can expect a student's service provider to contact them to discuss how services on the IEP will be delivered.



Continuity of Instruction - Related Services

Speech Language Therapy and Occupational Therapy: Therapists will plan and provide specific activities designed to work toward individual student goals and provide instructional phone calls and/or videoconferences to guide these activities, answer questions, and check in on progress.

Physical Therapy: The Physical Therapist will offer synchronous sessions, provided through teletherapy on digital platforms to work toward individual student goals.



Continuity of Instruction - Related Services

Counseling: Social Workers, School Psychologists will continue to provide resources and strategies for building social-emotional skills and will provide sessions via telephone and/or video conferencing with parents and students to work toward individual goals.



Continuity of Instruction - CSE and 504 MEETINGS

CSE and 504 meetings will be held via video conference using Google Meet and telephone conference. Invitations will be sent to parents via email/mail . If your child was recommended for an evaluation that requires a face-to-face assessment or observation, the evaluation will be delayed until school reopens. Evaluations and reevaluations that do not require face-to-face assessments or observations may take place while schools are closed, if the parent or legal guardian provides consent.



Continuity of Instruction - SCHOOL COUNSELORS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS

School counselors in grades K-12 will communicate with students directly, as needed. Counselors will continue to support students and families in course and transition planning. Remote support may consist of written communication, telephone calls, or video conferences.



Continuity of Instruction - SCHOOL COUNSELORS, PSYCHOLOGISTS, AND SOCIAL WORKERS

School psychologists, counselors, and school social workers will provide resources for supporting students' emotional health at home. Parents who have questions about how to support the social and emotional needs of their child should contact their principal who will help them make connections to personnel and resources. Be mindful that students need routines and structures related to sleep, nutrition, and physical activity, as well as the new expectations of remote learning.



Continuity of Instruction - Technology

To the extent possible, we will utilize technology platforms that are familiar to students. See school-specific guidelines in the sections above for the platforms being used to coordinate and communicate distance learning expectations.

Galway will continue to support students K-12 with 1:1 devices. Families without access to WiFi will be provided with a MiFi based on accessibility. Students and families who experience issues with connectivity or technology issues can use the Eagle Help Desk to access tech support: eagletechsupport@galwaycsd.



Meals

We are providing for about 130 students. Food service is sending home meals with dessert for the week along with a bundle of goodies for families every Monday morning.

Meals

Families in need of food will be added to our weekly meal delivery by contacting mlmcdougall@galwaycsd.org.

Childcare

Childcare is provided for families of Health Care workers and First Responders. Our district is working with our BOCES to provide these services.

Childcare

Healthcare and first responders in need of childcare should contact mmiller@galwaycsd.org.

Budget and Voting Requirements

On Friday, May 1, 2020, Governor Cuomo issued Executive Order No. 202.26 which modifies the rules under which school districts are to conduct the 2020 annual meeting for the election of school board members and budget votes.

Election will be held June 9, 2020



Budget and Voting Requirements

School Board Nominations

NOMINATION OF CANDIDATE

For member of the Board of Education, Galway Central School District, as required by the Education Law.

Requirements: Candidates must be eighteen years of age or older and a resident of the District for a period of one year prior to June 9, 2020. The deadline for filing petitions is 5:00 p.m. on Monday, May 11, 2020.

NOTE: Due to the COVID-19 crisis, the collection of required signatures for nominating petitions is suspended. A candidate may self-nominate but the nominating petition must include any applicable residency and age requirements, such that the eligibility of the candidate may be verified by the District Clerk.

To the Clerk of the Board of the Galway Central School District, Galway, New York: I, _____, hereby state and affirm the following to be true:

am a duly qualified voter of the Galway Central School District,

I am 18 years of age and

I will have been a resident of the district for one year, at the time of the vote (since June 9, 2019).

I reside at _____.

ask that my name be placed on the ballot to run for a seat on the Board of Education of the _____ School District.

Budget and Voting Requirements Candidate Expenditure and Reimbursement Statements

Board Member candidates must submit campaign expenditure and reimbursement statements. Filing dates:

May 11 - 30 days prior to the election

June 4 - 5 days preceding the election

June 29 - 20 days after the election

Budget and Voting Requirements

Legal Notice of the Budget Vote

Executive Order reduces the number of publications from four to two, with the first publication occurring no later than May 12th.



Budget and Voting Requirements

Other Type of Notice of the Budget Vote

School Districts are required to send out a postcard that provides notice detailing:

- date of the election
- date of the budget hearing
- definition of a qualified voter

Our Postcards will be sent May 13th.

Budget and Voting Requirements

Budget Hearings

School Districts are required to hold a budget hearing between May 26th and June 2nd.

Hearing will be held virtually.

Our Budget Hearing is May 28th - 6:30pm

Budget and Voting Requirements

Voter Registration

Voter Registration for our district will take place on May 28th, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Additional ways to register:

- Electronically through the DMV
- Saratoga County Board of Elections

Budget and Voting Requirements

Mailing of Absentee Ballots

The Executive Order requires this year's school budget vote and board election be conducted entirely by absentee ballot.

Our district will be sending absentee ballots on May 26th.

Budget and Voting Requirements

Receipt of Completed Absentee Ballots

The ballots may be returned by mail or in person, and must be received in the office of the district clerk by 5 p.m. June 9th.

There will be drop box under the outside overhang from 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. for personal return of ballot.

Budget and Voting Requirements Election Inspectors

District appointed Chairman of the Election and Election Inspectors at the July 2019 reorganization meeting.

Linda Dumblewski
Janet Van Riswick

Linda will contact election inspectors.

Budget and Voting Requirements

Important Dates

May 11th - Petition for BOE seats due end of day to District Clerk

May 13th - Postcards mailed to all eligible voters

May 19th - BOE Meeting to Adopt the Budget

May 20th - Tax Report Card due to NYS Education Department

May 28th - Public Hearing on 2020-2021 Budget

May 29th - Budget Newsletter mailed to all eligible voters

June 9th - Vote

All good except...

If the new State Runs are available, as the first look back period is behind us, we may have to meet to determine if our budget can be supported at the same level by state aid.

Our Business Administrative Team is actively working on budgets that reflect different scenarios.

Please keep May 15th open as a tentative date in case we have to adopt a budget other than the presented Preliminary Budget.

**Adirondack Area School Boards Association
Saratoga County School Boards Association**

May 14th at 4 p.m.

Managing the Budget Vote and Board Election

and

Other Urgent Legal Issues