

Memo from Tichenor Middle School: July 29, 2020

Greetings TMS Parents, Guardians and Caregivers,

On Monday, July 27, the Erlanger-Elsmere Superintendent announced that Erlanger-Elsmere students will be starting the fall 2020 semester learning from home.

I know there are many questions and concerns that need to be addressed, and I hope to start answering some of those with this memo.

There are a couple of items that I would like to explain in order to help your planning and decision making.

1. The district is providing two learning options for students in grades 7-12. One option is teacher-led, on-line, standards-based instruction and the other option is a self-paced, independent virtual learning experience that students can complete on their own time at their own pace.
 - a. **Teacher-Led Digital Learning** - In the Teacher-Led Digital Learning model teachers will have scheduled teaching times where students can log-in to a teacher-led virtual class and interact with the teacher in real time. Students that cannot attend class virtually at the scheduled time will be able to access a recorded version of the day's lesson. Teachers will be presenting content based grade level standards to students and students will receive feedback on assignments, receive grades and be held accountable for their academic progress. Teachers will also be available in the mornings and afternoons to address students' academic needs as they arise.
 - b. **Independent Virtual Learning** - In this model, students will work independently completing assignments, tasks and tests through a self-paced, state approved learning platform. Students will be assigned specific subjects and then work independently at their own pace to complete computer generated assignments and tests. Student progress will be monitored and tracked by school and/or district level employees. Students can receive assistance while working through the independent modules, but will not receive direct teacher instruction.

Please contact me if you have additional questions or desire more clarification on these learning options. I support both learning options, however, I would like to discuss the Independent Virtual Learning option in more detail with any family that is strongly considering that mode of learning for their middle school student. mac.cooley@erlnager.kyschools.us or 727-2255

2. Students will need a computer, laptop or chromebook for either Teacher-Led Digital Learning or Independent Virtual Learning.

3. TMS will allow students to borrow Chromebooks. Students will be able to keep the Chromebooks at home during the time of virtual instruction.
4. The district can provide support for families that do not have access to in-home internet and home wifi service. Please let me know as soon as possible if your family needs assistance with this issue.
5. Students will be expected to log-into their classes and complete work daily. Students will be graded on the quality and correctness of their completed assignments and tests.
6. TMS will provide detailed guidelines to support the use of Chrombooks, Google Classroom and Infinite Campus (our grading system).

Hopefully this letter begins to address some of the questions you might have at this time. In future communications, I will discuss the daily school schedule, virtual learning behavior expectations, academic expectations and other topics to support student social, emotional and academic growth.

I look forward to working with all of you and your students this school year. Feel free to reach out to me with questions and concerns. I will do everything I can to support you and your student.

Sincerely,

Mac Cooley
Principal
Tichenor Middle School