

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School  
Frequently Asked Questions  
CoVID-19 Pandemic Planned Instructional Model

**Q: When will students return to school?**

On April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Governor Tom Wolf announced that all schools will remain closed for the remainder of the 2019-2020 academic school year.

**Q: Are children required to complete schoolwork at home during this time?**

The original Continuity of Education Plan submitted by the Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School was written to adopt an “enrichment and review” model for continued instruction. Under this model, all school work that was provided was not mandated or graded. Erie Rise teachers provided feedback; however, there were no grades assigned. Materials provided for students from Monday March 16<sup>th</sup> through Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> will not be graded and are not required to be completed.

As of April 17<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Pedro Rivera, the Secretary of Education for the State of Pennsylvania, updated the requirements for each school and suggested that all schools adopt a “planned instruction” model. Under this model, students are required to complete all materials and will receive a grade for their efforts. Grades for an abridged 4<sup>th</sup> quarter include “Exceeds Expectations,” “Meets Expectations,” and “Needs Improvement.” Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School has decided to adopt the platform, Google Classroom, as the learning management system (LMS) to provide the planned instruction. Our digital components, including ConnectEd, USATestPrep, and Khan Academy, will be embedded into each grade’s Google Classroom. Students will receive modified assignments and educational interventions in this platform. All students will also have access to Physical Education, Art, Music, and Spanish assignments. The launch date for Google Classroom and “planned instruction” is Monday, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2020.

**Q: What do I do if I do not have access to technology to complete online course work?**

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School is providing laptops to families to assist with accessing the digital components during this pandemic. All laptops provided are property of the Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School and must be surrendered on the conclusion of the CoVID-19 pandemic quarantine.

If you do not have access to WIFI in your house, please reach out to Mrs. Veronica Will. Alternative arrangements can be made to account for these individual families.

**Q: How will I receive the log-in info my child’s Google Classroom?**

All Google Classroom log-in information will be mailed with the 3rd quarter report cards on Friday, April 24<sup>th</sup>. Homeroom teachers are available to provide log-in information via Class Dojo or through direct communication. Parents and students may message the Erie Rise Facebook page for log-in information as well. Parents may also reach out directly to Mrs. Will at 814-873-5158 for the information.

**Q: How does this change affect special education students or students with an IEP?**

The special education team at Erie Rise is working hard to continue to serve the special education students. While traditional methods of delivery have been impaired by the social distancing regulations, special education teachers are available via digital platforms for specially designed instruction. All special education students will receive modified work assigned by their case manager in their Google Classroom. Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School will continue to provide a “good faith effort” in meeting the needs of the special education students enrolled. If the family of a special education student is requesting modified work, or instructional delivery, please contact your special education case manager or Mrs. Will.

**Q: Will my child be marked absent for these days?**

Attendance will not be tracked through traditional means. Student attendance will be determined by the completion of the assigned work in Google Classroom. For families with connectivity issues, attendance will be monitored by completion of provided materials.

**Q: How will this affect 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter grading?**

Much like attendance, 4th quarter grading will be dependent on completion of the Google Classroom assignments or alternative materials. The students will either be given a grade of “Exceeding Expectations,” “Meeting Expectations,” or “Needs Improvement” on their 4<sup>th</sup> quarter report cards. Report cards will also include a CoVID-19 statement saying the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter grades from the 2019-2020 school year were affected by the Co-VID-19 Pandemic. If an assignment is attempted, the teacher will provide feedback to the student. Students will be able to review all graded assignments via the Google Classroom platform.

**Q: How do I stay up-to-date with the latest information?**

To stay up-to-date with all the latest Erie Rise news, please stay connected via the Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School website ([erierise.org](http://erierise.org)), Facebook page, app, robocalls, and any flyers mailed home or handed out on food distribution days. If you are not receiving updated information, please call the front office at 814-520-6468 and leave a detailed message with your most recent contact information.

**Q: What events are cancelled?**

Unfortunately, all events for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year have been cancelled. This includes, but is not limited to, Cotillion, Academic Sports and Awards Banquets, 21st Century Events, all Saturday programming, and all remaining athletic events.

**Q: When will kindergarten registration occur?**

In person Kindergarten registration will occur when deemed socially appropriate by the state government. All incoming Kindergarten students who have existing siblings at Erie Rise will be given priority during the enrollment process. If you know of any community members with students who will be five by September 1st, 2020, please have them contact the front office at 814-520-6468 for more information. Documents required for Kindergarten registration include: birth certificate, parent or legal guardian ID, two forms of residency, a physical from a physician complete with updated shot records, and updated dental records.

**Q: How will meals be distributed at Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School?**

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School will continue meal distribution at the school on Tuesdays and Fridays from 10am-12pm. Limited meal delivery is available from the Booker T. Washington Center. Please contact Mrs. Jeffries-Steele if you would like to see if this option is available for your family.

**Q: Do these instructional days need to be made up?**

No. The 180 instructional day and 900-hour requirements have been waived by the state via Act 13.

**Q: Will students be held back in their grade level or be promoted to the next grade level when school resumes?**

Students, without any previous retention concerns, will not be retained due to the CoVID-19 pandemic closure. Any student who was previously being considered for retention due to academic or attendance concerns prior to the March Parent Teacher Conferences will be contacted regarding developing a plan for their child's academic success.

**Q: How will this affect 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation and Kindergarten Graduation?**

At this time, the state government is limiting the number of people allowed to gather in one area. We want to take the time to be able to celebrate the successes of our students at Erie Rise. That being said, once it is safe to hold both an 8th Grade Graduation and a Kindergarten Graduation, the parents of those students will be notified. We are planning on showcasing our 8th grade students during the months of May and June on our Facebook and social media platforms. More information about that coming soon, so stay tuned!

**Q: Does the CoVID-19 pandemic affect the charter that was granted to Erie Rise from the School District of the City of Erie?**

No. The administration and staff at Erie Rise are still incredibly confident and proud of the services we have provided during this pandemic. We continue to set the standard in our region and RISE above!

Educational Yours,

Mrs. Veronica Will, BM, M.Ed, Principal  
(keep washing your hands!)