



Good afternoon TASD Parents! This is the last comprehensive communication I will be sending you in regard to our school protocols as we wrap up the 2019-20 school year.

We continue to make the best possible decisions in regard to our educational practices based on information we are receiving from the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, the Wisconsin Health Department, and our local Monroe County Health Department. Despite action by the Wisconsin Supreme Court which overturned the Safer-at-Home Order, our schools are closed and all our facilities will continue to be off limits to the general public through this school year (which according to the Department of Public Instruction is June 30, 2020). The District administrative team, along with our school nurse and directors of district services (i.e. transportation, facilities/maintenance, food service) meet regularly to discuss and review current practices and possible changes as we look to the future. This information is based on where we are today- May 20, 2020.

### **Last Day of Instruction for Students (Friday, May 22)**

The Board of Education did approve Friday, May 22 as the final day of instruction for students for the 2019-2020 school year.

Although instruction is ending on Friday, May, 22, our teachers will still be working. Tuesday, May 26 through Wednesday, June 3 teachers will be accessible to help any students who need additional assistance in completing any of their assignments. They will also be working on reviewing student assignments, completing the final assessments of students using the modified grading systems approved by the Board (reference Modified Grading for 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter in the May 8, 2020 parent letter), and engaging in meetings focused on curriculum development.

### **Scholastic Reading Books Mailed to Homes of 4K- 2<sup>nd</sup> Graders:**

The District purchased a Scholastic Grab and Go Pack of three books for each 4K- 2<sup>nd</sup> grade student. Please contact your child's building principal as soon as possible if you do not receive the books by the end of this week.

**Technology Drop Off Days (Tuesday and Wednesday, May 26 and 27):**

We will be collecting student iPads and Chromebooks on the following days at each school: Tuesday, May 26 and Wednesday, May 27 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We will also collect any library books, school work, or other materials you wish to return to your child's school.



## COVID-19 Chromebook Return Procedures

For Parents/Student

### WHAT NEEDS TO BE TURNED IN?

Please return the following four items that were issued to your child in their technology package:

1. **Chromebook**
2. **Case** - Empty all personal items such as writing utensils, mouse, and dongle.
3. **Charger** - The charger has 2 parts. Ensure both parts are present.
4. **Strap**



\*\*\*If damage is found on any item turned in, you will be contacted by the building principal during the summer.



## COVID-19 iPad Return Procedures

For Parents/Student

### WHAT NEEDS TO BE TURNED IN?

Please return the following items that were issued to your child in their technology package:

1. **iPad**
2. **Case** - iPad should currently be in a case. Make sure all parts are included (if it has a removable keyboard).
3. **Charger** - The charger has 2 parts. Ensure both parts are present.



\*\*\*If damage is found on any item turned in, you will be contacted by the building principal during the summer.

In addition, if your child has left any clothes, medication, or other personal items at school, we will have these ready to give to you. Please feel free to call your child's principal if you have questions or concerns regarding this. We realize that we may need to set up individualized drop off times later in the week if your child is finishing up work or you can't make it to school on the designated technology drop-off days.

### **Virtual Graduation Ceremony:**

A virtual graduation program will air on the District's YouTube channel on May 23 beginning at 10:00 a.m. I was able to view a short preview of the program and it is really quite incredible. A link will be available on the District webpage and Facebook page which will allow access to this ceremony. I strongly encourage everyone to watch the program and cheer on our seniors from the comfort of your home. A special thanks to the following THS staff members who made this production possible: Robert Joyce, Brian Kibby, Karrie Kaat, Heather Young, Charlie O'Brien and Member of the Class of 2020, Max Cavaness.

### **Traditional Graduation Ceremony:**

While a traditional graduation ceremony is still on the calendar for Saturday, July 18, I believe our Board of Education will make a final determination on holding the event on this date at their June 15 regular Board meeting. I shared the following information in my last communication on May 8, 2020 and there have been no modifications to this recommendation at this time.

*At this time, the Department of Health Services recommends that schools cancel or postpone all in-person ceremonies for spring and summer graduations. Public gatherings such as traditional graduation ceremonies are not advised until the state has met benchmarks articulated in the state's [\*\*Badger Bounce Back plan\*\*](#) and the state determines that it is safe to do so.*

*Currently, DHS recommends that individuals avoid all public and private gatherings of any number of people that are not part of a single household or living unit. This applies to events like traditional graduations. The state will re-evaluate this recommendation on in-person public events once the state has seen a sustained downward trajectory in COVID-19. This is a rapidly changing and evolving situation, but it is unlikely that any large gatherings would be recommended throughout the summer.*

### **11<sup>th</sup> Annual Athletic Awards Ceremony:**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Athletic Awards Ceremony scheduled for Monday, June 1 at 7:00 p.m. will be held virtually this year. The program is currently being developed by our new Activities Director, Mr. Brad Plueger, and will air at the time the actual ceremony was scheduled to occur. A link will be made available on the District webpage and Facebook page for you to view the ceremony.

### **Virtual Career Day:**

Our elementary counselors (Lisa Kirschbaum, Danah Tornga, Cheryl Schick, Katy Gerke, and Jessica Baumann) have prepared a virtual career day for students to enjoy. You can access short videos (3-5 minutes) of a variety of individual discussing what their jobs entail. Do you wonder what a job as a security guard at Legoland in California is like? How about a comedian who writes and performs? Check it out at:

<https://www.tomah.education/counseling-elementary/2020-virtual-career-day>

## Grab and Go Lunches:

Our Grab and Go lunches on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays will continue. There may be adjustments made to this schedule during the summer, but as long as federal funding continues to be provided, the Tomah Area School District will supply lunches over the summer. All children 18 years of age or younger will be able to pick up TWO Grab and Go lunches on Monday (covers Monday and Tuesday) and TWO Grab and Go lunches on Wednesday (covers Wednesday and Thursday) and then ONE Grab and Go lunch on Friday.

Tomah High School is also the site of a **daily** hot lunch meal for any child 18 years of age or younger. This service began on May 20. This site is a call-in-order only, curbside pickup. Call the Food Service Office in the morning between 6:30-9:30 a.m. at 608-374-7363. Provide your name and the number of meals you will need for your child/ren. Pickup time for the meal will be between 12:00-1:00 p.m., by Food Service Door F at the high school.

Please note there will be no meals provided on Monday, May 25 due to Memorial Day. However, two lunches and breakfasts will be provided on Friday, May 22.

### Drop-Off Sites for Grab and Go Lunches (Monday, Wednesday, & Friday)

DROP-OFF SITE	TIMES
Camp Douglas Elementary School Bus Lane	10:30am - 11:00am
Oakdale Elementary School Bus Lane	11:30am - 12:00pm
Miller Elementary School Front Door	12:30pm - 1:00pm
Wyeville Elementary School Parking Lot	10:30am - 11:00am
Lemonweir Elementary School Bus Lane	11:30am - 12:00pm
City Pool Parking Lot (by Dairy Queen)	12:30pm - 1:00pm
Warrens Elementary School Parking Lot	10:30am - 11:00am
LaGrange Elementary School Bus Lane	11:30am - 12:00pm
Soccer Field Parking Lot (former Steinhoff land)	12:30pm - 1:00pm
Oakwood Estates (Sime Avenue by Toro)	1:15pm-1:45pm

## Summer School

We have begun planning for Summer School activities. We are looking at two ten-day sessions which would run Monday-Friday, July 20-21 and August 3- 14. We anticipate running enrichment classes virtually (using technology) and holding Summer Success Math and Reading classes for students who need additional learning assistance to compensate for difficulties experienced due to not having the needed educational support for learning at home during the school closure. The Summer Success Math and Reading classes would be smaller groups with face-to-face instruction in a school building. We are looking at holding these elementary Summer Success classes at each of the outlying schools and at one in-town school, rather than busing all the students into Tomah Middle School. More information on Summer School opportunities will be forthcoming in the next few weeks from administrators in charge of summer school: Mr. Jeff Adams, THS; Mr. Mike Chapes, TMS, and Ms. Jolynn Schmdit, Elementary.

## Survey on At Home/Online Learning

We have 45 families respond to the survey provided by the Wisconsin-Minnesota Comprehensive Center for Region 10 which has worked with Socially Responsible Evaluation in Education at UW-Milwaukee and the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction to offer districts a series of measurement tools they may use to monitor the effectiveness of their remote learning system. Here again is the link to the family survey: [https://milwaukee.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_3CVJIM4Qp249uD3](https://milwaukee.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_3CVJIM4Qp249uD3) We will receive weekly updates on this survey so you are encouraged to complete it if you have not done so.

In addition, the Tomah Area School District has created a survey to obtain your perceptions on what went well for you as a parent and for your child during this period of at home/online learning. It is possible that in the future- whether it is for snow days or for another serious health crisis- our schools may again be forced to conduct instruction in this manner. Looking for ways to improve this process is very important to us. Please take just a few minutes to complete this survey as well: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/P3B3S3B>

Thank you!

## Lemonweir 45-15 Calendar

We are planning on maintaining our 45-15 calendar and starting school at Lemonweir Elementary School on Wednesday, July 15. Mrs. Pope will be in regular communication with parents on what school will look like. There are many questions which we still need to obtain answers to. but we are confident that whether we continue with at home learning or face-to-face instruction at school or a combination of both, we will continue with our 45-15 calendar ensuring that student safety and academic success is prioritized.

## Start of School in the Fall

We are planning on Tuesday, September 1 being the first day of the 2020-21 school year. Again, while we do not have all the answers to questions about what the start of the school year in the fall will look like, we are beginning to develop plans that focus on ensuring student safety and academic success.

## Questions?

Again, thank you so much for your attention to this information and thank you for all the help you have provided to the school district and your child as we have dealt with the COVID-19 pandemic and at-home/online learning. Please submit any questions or concerns related to any information in this document using the Ask a Question feature on our webpage under the Coronavirus Update Center.

### Concerns or Questions?

Tomah Area School District is committed to the well being and safety of our students, staff, parents, and members of the surrounding Tomah community. Please use the link below to submit a question, concern, or comment regarding any health or safety issues.

[Ask a Question](#)

*Cindy D. Zahrte*

Cindy Zahrte, District Administrator



SCHOOL'S  
OUT FOR  
Summer  
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