

Continuity of Education Plan

School District	Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School
Superintendent	Mr. Aubrey Favors, Interim CEO
Address	1006 West 10th Street Erie, PA 16502
Email/Phone	Update (4/20/2020) afavors@erieriseacademy.org 814 812-3026, Interim CEO vwill@erieriseacademy.org , 814 873-5158, Principal
Website	www.erierise.org

Goal of Plan

The goal of our Continuity of Education Plan is to provide continued *learning* and *enrichment* educational materials and services to Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School students through digital and print resources. With an already existing digital and print instructional component, the additional goal of our plan is to strategically coordinate the use of existing and new resources in a learning environment that is not complemented with a traditional classroom teacher.

Update (4/20/2020)

Due to new requirements/suggestions from the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School will be transitioning to a “planned instruction” model using the LMS platform, Google Classroom. Instructors will embed the digital curriculum into the platform, as well as additional resources, for students to complete within a given timeline. The goal of the plan previously mentioned stays the same but is now inclusive of a mandatory online component that will be reviewed and graded by certified instructors. Families without access to WIFI will be provided with the same material for completion in print form. The targeted launch date for the “planned instruction” distance learning model is Monday, May 4th, 2020.

Overview of Plan

An overview of the ERLACS continuity of education plan is inclusive of the COVID-19 emergency challenges associated with creating a remote learning environment for our students under non-traditional learning conditions. Hence, the plan is inclusive of a *realistic* overview to address the following expectations for Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School:

- Teaching & Learning (digital/print)
- Special Education
- Parental Outreach
- Communication Protocols
- Technology Accessible for Students
- Teacher/Student

Because of the unpredictability and increasing effects of the COVID-19 issues at the federal, state and regional levels, Erie Rise Leadership Academy CS's Continuity of Education Plan will require frequent updates that will be required to adapt and adopt to a changing remote learning environment for our students.

Expectations for Teaching and Learning

The expectation for teaching and learning for students at Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School will be to provide enrichment and review materials weekly for students in grades K-8th. Where applicable, Erie Rise Leadership Academy CS students will be expected to use the following digital resources:

- Open Court/McGraw-Hill (Connect Ed)
- Khan Academy LMS
- USA TestPrep LMS

The expectation for teaching and learning for students without the benefit of technology resources will be to take advantage of printed materials that are planned by our teachers and distributed weekly to students/families.

Additionally, printed learning material is posted on the school website for remote access. Although the completion of the aforementioned educational materials is optional, teachers are expected to review completed/returned student work to provide informal constructive feedback.

Update (4/20/2020):

In compliance with the new state suggestions from PDE, requiring all schools to provide planned instruction, Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School has changed its expectations for teaching and learning. The school is now providing planned instruction via Google Classroom for all enrolled K-8 students at the school. ERLACS has also offered its students one laptop per family to assist with technology needs in the home. The above digital resources are still being utilized, though they are now being used in a planned instruction model and embedded within the Google Classroom LMS. Printed copies of the online resources are also available weekly at the school for pick up for those who do not have access to internet. Teachers are planning, grading, and returning all completed assignments weekly. All afore mentioned information is also posted on both the Erie Rise website and Facebook page. The conversion to planned instruction will begin on May 4th, 2020.

Communication Tools and Strategies

Erie Rise Leadership Academy CS will use the following tools to communicate with our students/parents during school closure:

- Class Dojo
- School Website
- Facebook Page
- Email
- Cell Phone Usage
- RoboCall

The table below depicts the strategies Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School will utilize dependent on the communication tool(s) used:

Communication Tool	Communication Strategy
Class Dojo	Teachers will communicate with parents through Class Dojo messenger and keep parents informed about resources and answer any questions.
School Website	Weekly printed learning material will be posted and updated weekly. Any school updates will be posted on the homepage. Parents can contact teachers via email through the website.
School Facebook	Erie Rise updates from the principal are posted daily. Videos are posted of staff members educating students on a variety of activities that they can utilize while e-learning.
Email	All staff emails are available for parent access through the Erie Rise website to ensure parent-teacher communication at any time.
Cell phone	Staff cell phone numbers are available to parents to bridge the gap between parents and teachers during this time of e-learning.

RoboCall	Administration will utilize RoboCall on a weekly basis to keep families up-to-date on the latest information
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Through our methods of communication both digitally and telephonic, we are able to connect with parents and provide both digital and print curriculum online and for pick-up at the school weekly during selected times. Families are able to access the school's website, Facebook page, and the Erie Rise App as well as receive regular RoboCalls from the school administration in reference to "enrichment and review" educational resources.

Access (Devices, Platforms, Handouts)

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School is providing students with “enrichment and review” educational resources both in print and digital format. Contact information of administration and teachers has been provided for any parent or student who may need technical support. For those families who do not have access to technology, print educational materials are available for pick-up at the school at communicated times.

Update (4/20/2020):

To remain in compliance with the PDE planned instruction suggestion, Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School has moved to digital “planned instruction.” The school is providing one laptop per family upon request. The school is also continuing to provide printed materials for students without internet access.

Staff General Expectations

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School teachers are required to submit lesson plans to administration via email on a weekly basis which outline the digital and print enrichment activities for that week; lesson plans are in a coherent uniform format so that parents can follow the instructional plan accordingly. All teachers and staff are expected to attend whole-staff meetings as well as grade-level meetings on a weekly basis with administration via Zoom in order to stay up-to-date on any developments or changes that occur. All teachers are required to keep a record-of-contact with families during the current school closure, which is submitted to administration for review. Staff at the Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School have several different platforms for parent communication including phone, social media, Class Dojo, and various LMS systems. Teachers are expected to be available during regularly-scheduled school hours. Additionally, teachers can volunteer to create video lessons for students and families to view on the school’s Facebook page and YouTube Channel.

Update (4/20/2020):

All staff expectations remain the same as mentioned above. However, with moving to a “planned instruction” model, teachers are now required to post and grade all assignments on Google Classroom. Teachers are also expected to give feedback on any and all printed materials returned to the school. Student grades will be given as follows, “Exceeding Expectations,” “Meeting Expectations,” and “Needs Improvement.” No retention decisions will be made regarding any of the work collected during an abridged 4th quarter.

Student Expectations

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School expects all students to participate in the enrichment and review activities previously mentioned above. Teachers are expected to provide feedback to students and their families on the enrichment activities that are completed, however, there is no formal grading system in place. Families are encouraged to contact administration or classroom teachers via the aforementioned communication methods for questions and/or assistance.

Update (4/20/2020):

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School expects all students to participate in the planned instruction previously mentioned above. Teachers are expected to provide feedback to students and their families on the completed activities. The grade scale for the assignments will be either "Exceeding Expectations," "Meeting Expectations," or "Needs Improvement." No retention decisions will be made regarding any of the work collected during an abridged 4th quarter. Families are encouraged to contact administration or classroom teachers via the aforementioned communication methods for questions and/or assistance.

Attendance / Accountability

Upon review of the student and family demographics, as well as the accessibility to internet access, Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School teachers and administrators are encouraging students and families to continue learning during this time, however, the school is not requiring attendance during the current school closure, nor does the school have any formal grading system in place due to the fact that this material is only provided for enrichment and review. The usage of digital components is monitored daily, and the amount of print material distributed is also noted. Families will be contacted and informed of the various enrichment and review opportunities through the aforementioned communication processes.

Update (04/20/2020):

Beginning May 4th, 2020, students will be required to complete weekly assignments via Google Classroom, or by returning completed printed materials. Attempt of one of these components will mean they "attended" the virtual classroom.

Good Faith Efforts for Access and Equity for All Students

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School has a variety of full-time support staff that will be continuously available during the school closure. In addition to enrichment materials provided by General Education teachers, Special Education teachers, Title 1 teachers, and ESL teachers are also providing additional resources for students at varying achievement levels. These teachers are also available via the aforementioned communication methods. Both the digital and print material has the ability to be differentiated to individual students' skill levels.

Update (4/20/2020):

All the above points are still valid. The only adjustment, at this time, is that the teacher will be providing grades and planned instruction. Special Education, Title 1, and ESL students will be provided with tailored assessments and lessons through the platform Google Classroom.

Special Education Supports

The Erie Rise Special Education Department will continue to work with families and students through methods not limited to the following: Phone conferences, email communication, online sources such as Class Dojo, Zoom, and other methods that Rise families can access. The department will service students to the best of their ability. Initial communication has been made/attempted with all students that receive services. Special education teachers will be responsible to uphold their obligation in following student IEPs, providing accommodations, and ensuring FAPE to our special education population while also providing accommodations per student 504 plans to the greatest extent possible and to the best of their ability. Additionally, as reflected in each student's current Notice of Recommended Education Placement (NOREP), their special education services will be provided to the greatest extent possible, but due to these circumstances, adjustments may need to be made in order to help students succeed during this time. Further, Rise understands that the services that can be provided under the present circumstances may not meet all legal requirements. When Erie Rise's operations return to normal, Rise will reach out to each parent in regards to their student's education.

Update (4/20/2020)

The Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School Special Education Department will continue to provide a "good faith effort" to meet the individual needs of the special education students. During the "planned instruction" distance learning model, the special education team will modify all assignments and tasks to meet the individualized goals for each special education student. All special education students will be issued a new NOREP to account for the change in instructional placement during the COVID-19 pandemic. Upon return to traditional instructional delivery, the IEP team will convene to address any concerns on the services for specific students and address any needs that arise.

ESL Supports

The Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School ESL Department will continue to work with students and their families through various communication methods and by providing students with enrichment resources. Official school communication documents will be available in the following languages based on student population needs: Spanish, Arabic, Swahili, and Somalian.

Update (4/20/2020)

ESL students will be provided with additional support in the "planned instruction" model by having tailored assessments posted on Google Classroom by a certified ESL instructor.

Gifted Education
Erie Rise currently has no qualified students receiving gifted services. If a new referral is made for a gifted student during the closure period, the evaluation will take place when face-to-face instruction resumes.

Building/Grade Level Contacts

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School is a one-school school district; therefore, the CEO and the principal are the points of contact for all school and district communications.

Mr. Aubrey Favors, Interim CEO: 814-812-3026

Mrs. Veronica Will, Principal: 814-873-5158

Teachers are available at the classroom level to assist with class/student-specific needs.

Individual teacher contact information has been provided to Erie Rise families. Additionally, families can access the school's website to email any teacher at www.erierise.org.

Resource Links

Erie Rise Leadership Academy Charter School has provided families with a comprehensive list of digital enrichment resources that can be utilized at home. The list can be found at the following link: <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bO-bcVMBUb2bE0cqtZ3ok6xjufGpovqC6S3yTxTF0KE/edit?usp=sharing>

Communications with families are posted on the school's website at: www.erierise.org, the school's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/erie.rise.7>, and the school's app which families can download from the App Store or the Google Playstore.

Teachers are also communicating with families at the grade/classroom level to provide support as necessary.

Update (4/20/2020)

Individual grade level Google Classroom requirements are available upon request. All Google Classroom materials are reviewed by administration prior to student usage.