

# Boerne ISD

## *Instructional Continuity Plan (ICP)*

*March 2020*

### **Mission & Guiding Principles**

In the wake of school closures due to COVID-19, Boerne ISD, under the direction from the Texas Education Agency, has developed an Instructional Continuity Plan which addresses the need for students to have access to instructional resources through the duration of district closures.

There are two guiding principles as we work to provide students and families with resources while maintaining social distance. They are as follows:

1. Provide equitable access. (Equity)
2. Provide a variety of quality resources for all ages, grades, and placements. (Quality)

This plan details how we will act on these principles to provide instructional continuity for our current closure and, if necessary, beyond.

### **Logistics & Resource Distribution**

Resource distribution must address both internal (staff) and external (students) stakeholders. Internal resources for staff will be distributed through the Teaching and Learning website and/or T&L Hub Content Google Sites.

External digital resources for students and families will be distributed through the Boerne ISD COVID-19 webpage, which will be accessible through the Boerne ISD district website. Google Classroom and SeeSaw will be utilized for instructional delivery.

Boerne ISD will also make available print resources for students who have limited or no digital access to complete while the district is closed. Print resources will be distributed Thursday, March 19, 2020 from 10 am to 2 pm from Central Office through the Lohmann Street entrance.

**Lessons:** Coordinators have gone above and beyond to provide instructional support during this time. They have been mindful of the number of lessons/activities/readings that will be assigned with consideration of the impact of learning from home will have on our families.

**Assignment Due Dates:** Due dates will be assigned, and teachers will be expected to accept assignments online in Google Classroom or SeeSaw.

**Grading:** More information will be forthcoming should the closure of the school district be extended.

**Learning Management System (LMS):** Teachers will be required to upload the content and resources to Google Classroom or through SeeSaw by 4 PM on Wednesday, March 18.

## **The Role of the Teacher**

Teachers play a key role in not only the continuity of instructional services, but also a sign of normalcy for students during uncertain times. Below we explain the teacher's role in both our current closure and in the event of an extended closure.

### **Closure**

Boerne ISD is currently amid a closure. During this time, the district will be providing print and digital resources for all content areas and grade levels.

The district will provide quality activities and resources during the time of closure. Communications channels currently used by teachers with their classes are: SeeSaw, Google Classroom, and by email. Students are expected to participate in order to continue their learning.

Also, teachers will need to be available during instructional hours via email to ensure parents and students have access to academic support as needed.

### **Extended Closure**

Although we hope to return to normal operations soon, we also know we must prepare for an extended closure if such a situation becomes necessary.

In the event of an extended closure, the role of the teacher will shift from facilitating academic instruction to designing and delivering online instruction. The district is making plans during this closure to support teachers in providing tools for online learning, and a detailed training plan will be provided to staff if an extended closure becomes unavoidable.

Outlines and components of Boerne's closure and possible extended closure continuity plan are provided in the following sections.

# Instructional Continuity Plan

The purpose of the ICP is to provide equitable access to quality resources for the continuity of instruction. During the ICP, Boerne ISD will provide centralized digital resources, organized by content area, for all content areas grades K-12. These resources will be available to the community via the distance learning platforms, Google Classroom and SeeSaw. Information can be found on the district's COVID-19 webpage.

The components of the closure plan are detailed below.

## ***Pre-Kindergarten***

PreK students thrive on curiosity, play and exploration. The Early Childhood department has provided ideas on activities to engage your child in learning that generally utilize common objects in their home environment. Online learning at home include Istation (reading readiness) and Imagine Learning (Math readiness). These online resources are available in English and Spanish.

## ***Kindergarten-12th Grade Core Content***

Students in Kindergarten-12th grade will have access to digital and print resources in the four core content areas (Reading, Math, Science & Social Studies) and also most elective courses. At the elementary level, online resources include, Pearson for English and Spanish language practices, iStation for reading and phonics, Imagine Learning for math, Think Central for science content, and Studies Weekly for Social Studies articles and quizzes.

Students at the secondary level will have digital access to online textbooks, Khan Academy, Texas Instrument (TI) activities and resources created by experienced teachers and district content coordinators.

## ***Special Education***

Both in the best interest of the child and based on [guidance from the Texas Education Agency](#), all Texas public school districts will ensure that students with disabilities have equal access to educational opportunities during an emergency district closure.

To ensure continuity of services for students with disabilities, the district will provide additional enrichment activities and resources on its COVID-19 website. Special Education personnel will be available via email during scheduled work hours to help support students and parents in this process. Special Education personnel will ensure all

students are provided the necessary support to be successful during the district closure. ARD committee meetings will continue to occur via conference call or virtual meetings.

### **Dyslexia Services**

To ensure continuity of services for students receiving Dyslexia Services, the district will provide additional enrichment activities and resources on its COVID-19 website. Dyslexia Teachers will ensure all students are provided the necessary support through the COVID-19 website during the district closure.

The following interventions are available for students:

Lexia for Elementary students.

Language Live for Secondary students.

Dyslexia Specialist will be reaching out to their families via email regarding these intervention and online resources.

### **Homebound Services**

To ensure the continuity of services for students receiving Homebound Services, the district will provide online resources or printed packets. Homebound teachers will coordinate directly with teacher of record and with families regarding services. Homebound teachers will be required to electronically submit all ADA documentation to campus registrars in the same timely manner, prior to the district closure.

### **Gifted and Talented (G/T)**

Students in grades K-5 identified as gifted and talented are currently engaged in challenge lab classrooms. To ensure these students continue to enhance their research and performance project skills, specialists have designed activities: one for [1st-2nd graders](#) and one for [3rd – 5th graders](#). These activities invite students to select topics of interest, conduct independent research, select a method of presentation, and present their findings to an available audience. Parents are invited to email a video of student presentations to [cynthia.bills@boernisd.net](mailto:cynthia.bills@boernisd.net). With parent permission, we will have a daily showcase of student work on our website.

These activities will be posted on the BISD Advanced Academics page and Challenge Lab students will receive it through the Challenge Lab google classrooms.

### **Grades 6-8 Independent Study Mentorship:**

Students are currently working on an Independent Study project. Teachers will be in contact with students through google classroom to check progress and give checkpoint times for progress.

### ***Advanced Placement (AP) Students***

Students taking AP courses will receive instruction through their current instructors via Google Classroom. They may also use their personal College Board account to access practice questions and released exam questions. These resources can be accessed through the [College Board website](#).

### ***Northwest Vista College (NVC) Dual Credit***

Northwest Vista College has extended Spring Break through March 23rd, at which time classes will resume in an online format. NVC is asking all students to check their e-mail accounts frequently for updated information on how coursework will be delivered and assigned for the remainder of the semester. BISD Dual Credit instructors will be in contact with students through goggle classroom to help students navigate the transition.

Students are also encouraged to log into their account for individualized updates/instructions from their instructor(s).

### ***Career and Technical Education (CTE)***

Career and Technical Education courses will have online coursework available by Thursday, March 19, 2020. Teachers are communicating with students using their Google classrooms.

Boerne ISD Career and Technical Education Practicum courses, unpaid and paid placements, are suspended until further notice is given. Due to safety reasons, we will not allow student placements at industry work sites. Teachers will work with community partners to incorporate enrichment for these classes online.

## **Extended Closure Instructional Continuity Plan**

The purpose of an extended closure ICP is to begin to shift instruction from providing general instructional activities and resources to a more specific and direct form of instruction. During an extended closure event, Boerne ISD will continue to assist teachers to design and deliver online instruction, as well as prepare to provide print materials for students who are without reliable internet access.

Details of an extended closure plan are in development should such a situation arise; a brief outline of the plan is provided below (all details are subject to change).

## **Teacher Training**

Virtual teacher training will focus on professional learning in designing and delivering online instruction. Online instruction is fundamentally different than face-to-face instruction, so any teacher training must focus not only on the technological aspects of teaching online, but also a paradigm shift in student workload, monitoring and feedback, and student supports.

The district will continue online delivery of instruction through Google Classroom and/or SeeSaw.

Additional tools that would be considered for online training are Zoom (video conferencing), Flipgrid (online video reflection and feedback), and GSuite for Education (Google Docs, Slides, Sheets, etc.). Teachers would not be limited to these resources, but they would form the foundation of our shift to an online environment.

## **Conclusion / Next Steps**

Clearly, this is a time of great uncertainty and ever-changing conditions. BISD will stay true to its belief in providing a high quality and equitable instructional plan for all students. We believe that we can successfully support teachers, students and families in the continuation of learning at a distance over the coming days and weeks.