

**“Non-Traditional Instruction”
Application per KRS 158.070**

District

Date

DEFINITIONS:

Blended Learning

A formal education program in which a student learns at least in part through online delivery of content and instruction with some element of student control over time, place, path or pace. While still attending a “brick-and-mortar” school structure, face-to-face classroom methods are combined with computer-mediated activities.

Innovation

A new or creative alternative approach to existing instructional and administrative practices intended to improve student learning and student performance of all students.

Learning Management System

A learning management system (LMS) is a software application or Web-based technology used to plan, implement, and assess a specific learning process.

Student Attendance Day

Means any day that students are scheduled to be at school to receive instruction, and encompasses the designated start and dismissal time.

NOTE: Expand the text boxes as necessary.

1. Please describe your overall approach to combating lost instruction on adverse weather or other emergency days? How have you involved all stakeholders in planning for this approach?

In order to achieve the mission of “Every Child College and Career Ready”, Lawrence County Schools seeks to implement a personalized learning environment, which will enable students to interact with teachers; engage in the curriculum; and participate in teacher-designed instructional activities regardless of weather conditions. To accomplish this goal, Lawrence County Schools will implement a district-wide approach to non-traditional instruction utilizing a blend of technology resources, which will enable our

instruction to seamlessly continue whether students are in school buildings or at home due to school closings. It is important for this approach to not be considered as a separate event but an embedded and natural occurrence, which enhances instruction. An essential part of this program will include interaction between faculty and students, including feedback and support for student growth.

The Lawrence County Board of Education appointed a committee of stakeholders including County Judge Executive, Board Members, State and County Department of Transportation personnel, community members, Parents, Chief Academic Officer (Curriculum), Director of Pupil Personnel, Chief Information Officer (Technology), and Transportation Manager for Lawrence County Schools to combat lost instruction due to inclement weather and other emergency days. The committee developed a plan to utilize a nontraditional approach to instruction to address these instructional concerns.

2. What evidence of capacity and previous experiences with non-traditional environments does the district have?

Previous experience with non-traditional environments includes instructional opportunities in certain settings. Alternative education currently utilizes APEX, a non-traditional environment, and results show success. Intervention is another area, which has utilizes this type of instructional approach. Home/Hospital instruction also utilizes APEX to deliver personalized instruction for students. Individualized credit recovery provides access to web-based learning activities, which are selected from curriculum implemented by highly qualified personnel.

3. What learning management system will the district use to manage the non-traditional program? What features does this system possess that can track student participation and measures of learning? Include in your description how the district is following the new Digital Guidelines from KDE. What other digital platforms, applications or tools will the district use to ensure learning is taking place on non-traditional student attendance days?

The district will utilize Edmodo for its learning management system to manage the non-traditional instructional program. Edmodo allows the highly qualified teacher to interact with students in a discussion board type of setting for the assigned classes to see what students are participating and how much. It will also allow for highly qualified teachers to give assignments to the students, the student will complete the assignment and then upload that assignment back to Edmodo for the teacher to grade. Using this learning management system highly qualified teachers will be able to interact in a question & answer type setting, chat features, etc. Infinite Campus will continue to be the student information system where students grades and progress

can be tracked and accessed by students and parents using the Infinite Campus Portal. As stated previously, CIITS will be an integral part of the non-traditional instructional program. Students will obtain access to course syllabi, curriculum maps, and participate in formative quizzes and common assessments via CIITS regularly. CIITS will provide an item analysis from this data which will guide the instructor on how to revise instruction based on the data. Lawrence County's non-traditional instruction will follow all digital learning guidance including content alignment with both state and national standards. The assessment system of delivery is aligned utilizing formative assessments throughout the instruction via both Edmodo quiz banks and CIITS formative assessments and common assessments. In addition, instruction will be delivered via highly qualified teachers. The Professional Growth Effectiveness system is embedded into this model including specifically Domains 1, 2, and 3. Planning and preparation for this type of delivery. Procedures for communication, delivery of instruction, assignments and feedback must be incorporated to focus upon Domain 2 regarding classroom management and procedures. Instruction is centered upon national and state standards, with learning targets identified and communicated. In addition, assessment success criteria will be an important part of this nontraditional process.

4. Please describe in detail the process the district will use on non-traditional student attendance days. Please include how you will account for all students' access to on-line resources and how you will provide equitable instructional materials for those students that do not have access to the internet? Include how community partners will be engaged and any opportunities that will exist at community locations or if the district will open schools to provide access.

Edmodo will allow teachers to prepare and post assignments for each course daily. Students will log onto Edmodo, receive and complete assignments, and then post. Parents or guardians will be required to facilitate this process grades K-3. This process will not only take place during days on which school is not in session, but also during regular instructional days. Grades for assignments will be put into Infinite Campus for individual student tracking. Students grades 3-12 will access Edmodo at their respective teacher sites. Login tracking and completion of assignments will be used for monitoring implementation of the project. In regard to students who do not have access to this on-line resources, centralized local sites throughout the district, will be set up for those students unable to access the resources. Local sites will include all schools and the public library. Hardcopy packets will also be made available to those students with no online access. Community locations will include community centers and other partner locations made available.

5. Please explain the professional learning plan you will be implementing to ensure certified staff have the knowledge and capacity they need to provide quality blended instruction to students. Also describe how you will incorporate CIITS and any additional technology platforms teachers may use.

Professional learning is an integral component of this initiative. Lawrence County Schools has a current structure in place for professional learning, which centers on a team approach to learning. The district resource teachers will be provided training on all on-line resources to be utilized for this instruction by the technology department. The district resource teachers will organize and provide professional learning to school instructional leadership teams which incorporates all professional learning community facilitators, principals, and assistant principals for each respective school. This team will then provide job-embedded professional learning for individual teachers. District resource teachers will also provide on-going support throughout the year for staff and for teams who might need assistance. CIITS will provide access to the curriculum by allowing students to download lessons, and complete district common assessments. Course syllabi and access to standards and learning targets are all available via CIITS. Teachers have already received multiple opportunities of professional learning on utilizing CIITS for instruction and will receive ongoing support from resource teachers and administration throughout this process.

6. Please describe the deployment of certified and classified school staff on non-traditional student attendance days. In what ways will certified and classified school staff complete their contractual obligations on these days (access the learning management system from home, serving as facilitator at school or community access points, serving as a phone facilitator). Please include a visual representation (e.g. chart, spreadsheet)

The district will establish a code system where a code 1 event would be implemented on days of the weather event or emergency when it is determined that it is unsafe for all to travel that day. ON code 1 days, teachers will log in Edmodo to facilitate the lesson (including all programs within the lesson) and monitor student progress. Classified staff will serve as phone facilitators for students and parents requiring extra support. Code 2 will be days following a weather event or emergency when main roads are safe to travel but many secondary roads are not. Teachers and classified school staff who can safely travel to their school site will facilitate the work from there. We will offer internet access and support for those who need to come in

7. Please describe the process the district will use to collect information on participation, what outcomes are expected and how those outcomes will be assessed on non-traditional student attendance days?

Student participation is collected through daily assignments posted to Edmodo and assignments completed using various online resources, which ultimately result in grades on assignments submitted into Infinite Campus. Expected outcomes for this project are essentially the same as the goals set forth by the school, based on state standards. The primary outcome of this project is increased student achievement due to non-interrupted instructional days.

We certify that this application was reviewed and approved by the _____
Board of Education at a regular meeting of the Board on _____

Date


Superintendent

8/15/14
Date

Local Board of Education Chair Date

Terry Holliday, Commissioner of Education Date

Please download this application and return completed form, including required signatures (scan completed document as a PDF file) to david.cook@education.ky.gov or mail it to:

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