

**Non-Traditional Instruction Program
Application for Returning Districts
2015-2016**

KRS 158.070 Section 9:

Notwithstanding any other statute, each school term shall include no less than the equivalent of the student instructional year in subsection (1)(d) of this section, except that the commissioner of education may grant up to the equivalent of ten (10) student attendance days for school districts that have an alternative instruction plan approved by the commissioner of education for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including virtual learning, on days when the school district is closed for health or safety reasons, on nontraditional days, or on nontraditional time. The district's plan shall demonstrate how teaching and learning in the district will not be negatively impacted. Average daily attendance for purposes of Support Education Excellence in Kentucky program funding during the student attendance days granted shall be calculated in compliance with administrative regulations promulgated by the Kentucky Board of Education.

District

Date

Please complete the following questions as completely as possible. Expand the text boxes as necessary. Definitions can be found at the end of the question section.

1. Based on experiences implementing a Non-Traditional Instruction plan in 2014-2015, What will the district change in order to improve the program for all its stakeholders (students, teachers, administrators, parents, community members, etc.) and grow in rigor and efficacy?

The 2014-15, Non-Traditional Instruction Plan was a success for students and stakeholders of Taylor County Schools. Throughout the implementation process, as well as the utilization of our "Cyber Snow Plan," improvement notes were gathered based on input from staff, students, and parents.

In order to better prepare all stakeholders, the initial cyber snow communication plan will launch in October following fall break. Starting earlier in the school year will allow teachers and administrators sufficient time to create, organize, and implement updated cyber folders and online resources. Last year's rollout in November put many in a rush as they prepared for early snow predictions. Other adjustments to our cyber snow plan include: utilization of uniform district-wide reporting documents, elementary core content and grade level cyber instruction alignment, prioritizing teacher usage of school webpage, as well as distribution of benchmark examples of exemplar level teacher-developed cyber instruction plans.

We feel that the improvement initiatives planned for the 2015-16 school year will increase rigor for our students as well as improve the communication and success for all stakeholders.

2. What method will the district use to ensure the learning on Non-Traditional Instruction? days parallels the learning on regular instruction days?

As mentioned in our original application submission, we will utilize our performance based learning model currently administered throughout the Taylor County School District. Our Performance based model allows students to self pace on a daily basis by taking advantage of our Google classroom platform, Odyssey Ware virtual platform, self pacing maps, and individually designed cyber snow folders. Instructional plans are developed with the notion that learning will be able to occur anywhere, any day, anytime regardless of the weather or emergency situation.

3. a. Please explain how the district will ensure implementation of Individual Education Programs (IEP) for students with disabilities (SWD), including how the students' Admissions and Release Committees (ARC) will be involved in planning for and making decisions related to the participation and needs of SWD on Non-Traditional Instruction days.

All students within our district receiving exceptional educational services will be reviewed through an individual ARC meeting to discuss and plan accordingly in regards to the student's IEP prior to utilizing non-traditional instruction days. All IEPs will reflect the ARC recommendation for modifications applicable to cyber snow days and will be implemented in the individual student's cyber snow plan and instructional folders.

- b. Please explain how the district will ensure the implementation of other student specific plans, such as Program Services Plans (PSP) for students who are English learners, and the Gifted Student Service Plans (GSSP) for students who are gifted and talented.

All students within our district receiving PSP (ESL) and GSSP services will be reviewed through a school level meeting to discuss and plan accordingly in regards to the student's instructional needs prior to utilizing non-traditional instruction days. All student plans will reflect the recommendations for modifications applicable to cyber snow days and will be implemented in the individual student's cyber snow plan and instructional folders.

4. In what ways will the district inform the community about Non-Traditional Instruction days and highlight the instruction and learning occurring on these days? (Facebook, Twitter, district websites, etc.)

The Taylor County School District will utilize the following methods to inform the community about non-traditional instruction days: One Call, Twitter, district Facebook page, district website, radio stations, email, television, and cyber snow folder attachments. The same systems of communication were utilized during the 2014-15 school year and stakeholder feedback was unanimously positive.

Definitions

ARC

An Admissions and Release Committee (ARC) is a group of individuals described in [707 KAR 1:320, Section 3](#), that is responsible for developing, reviewing, or revising an individual education program (IEP) for a child with a disability.

GSSP

A Gifted Student Services Plan is an educational plan that matches a formally identified gifted student's interests needs, and abilities to differentiated service options and serves as the communication vehicle between the parents and school personnel. The determination of appropriateness of level and type of services provided to a student shall be subject to continuous assessment. (Kentucky Department of Education)

IEP

An Individual Education Program (IEP) is a written statement for a child with a disability that is developed, reviewed and revised in accordance with [707 KAR 1:320](#).

Non-Traditional Instruction Plan

A Non-Traditional Instruction Plan is the process the district will use to deliver instruction outside the traditional methods of delivery/mode, time, and setting on school days that have been cancelled due to weather or other reasons. The purpose of the Non-Traditional Instruction Plan is to maintain academic continuity and reduce student learning loss..

PSP

A Program Services Plan is an educational plan for each student identified as having limited English proficiency. The PSP should include the following: the reasons for identification (results of the W-APT screener, and when available, the ACCESS for ELLs® annual language assessment), level of English proficiency, previous academic background and experience, cultural and language history, service delivery model/s for English language instruction, and all appropriate instructional and assessment accommodations and/or modifications. (Kentucky Department of Education)

Stakeholders

Stakeholder typically refers to anyone who is invested in the welfare and success of a school and its students, including administrators, teachers, staff members, students, parents, families, community members, local business leaders, and elected officials. Stakeholders may also be collective entities, such as local businesses, organizations, advocacy groups, committees, media outlets, and cultural institutions, in addition to organizations that represent specific groups. (Great Schools Partnership)

SWD

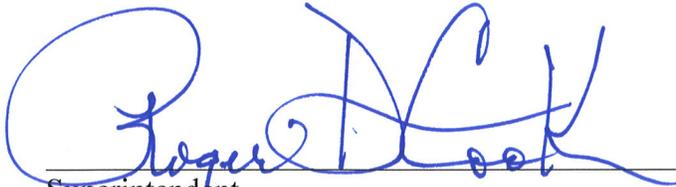
A student with a disability (SWD) is a child evaluated in accordance with [707 KAR 1:300](#), as meeting the criteria listed in the definitions in this section for autism, deaf-blindness, developmental delay, emotional-behavior disability, hearing impairment, mental disability, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairment, other health impairment, specific learning disability, speech or language impairment, traumatic brain injury, or visual impairment which has an adverse effect on the child's educational performance and who, as a result, needs special education and related services.

We certify that this application was reviewed and approved by the

Taylor County
(school district)

Board of Education at a regular meeting of the Board on

5/12/15
(date)


Superintendent

5-13-15
Date


Local Board of Education Chair

5/12/15
Date

Terry Holliday, Commissioner of Education

Date

Application Deadline: May 15, 2015

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

Beth Peterson
KDE - Division of Innovation and Partner Engagement
8th Floor CPT
500 Mero St.
Frankfort, KY 40601