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**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

Wolfe County Schools

Date

5-14-15

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?

As a district team we have explored expanding the use of online programming i.e. Edmodo, Icurio, etc., to allow for more immediate assessment of student work, connecting with students, and more uniformity of rigor. Additionally, online learning programming provides more immediate opportunities to communicate and inform students, families and community prior to non-traditional instruction beginning.

Wolfe County Schools from the district level to the school level have emphasized a continuing effort to focus on content related and rigorous instruction during non-traditional instructional days. Our goal is to continually strive toward making the instruction, learning, and assessment of student work as closely related to traditional instructional days as possible. Teachers, school level leaders and district administration will be reviewing our non-traditional program to look for areas to create program improvement.

A key element of our overall non-traditional program is COMMUNICATION. Our communication efforts begin very early in the school year for ALL stakeholders and continue throughout the winter months and after. One area we are renewing efforts and focus on is student engagement.

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

District administration, principals, and teachers continue to strive toward improving the connection between regular instruction and non-traditional instruction. Wolfe County Schools has placed a very strong emphasis on ensuring that non-traditional instruction is rigorous and aligned with current classroom content. Emphasizing rigor and connection with classroom instruction, expanded use of technology, focus on student accountability, and continuing efforts to communicate with all stakeholders are methods utilized by our district administrative team down to the staff level to insure non-traditional instruction parallels regular instruction.

Professional development that enhances regular instructional practices will be applied to non-traditional instruction as well to further link regular instruction and non-traditional instruction. Links between professional development related to online/digital learning and non-traditional instruction will receive emphasis by school level and district level leaders.

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.

IEP's will be written with services listed as amount of time for month verses amount of time per week. For Example: Speech 4 X a month of 30 min each session or 150 min per month. This will allow for more time to service kids in case of poor attendance or severe weather. Parents will be given activities that that can be practiced or done in addition to school services to keep consistency or time in the home setting that will address the student's unique needs. Staff will be available for assistance if needed via Phones or internet connections. Some staff may be in school setting anyway weather permitting for direct services if parents can provide transportation. Flexible scheduling and open communication.

- 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.

Wolfe County Schools will be prepared to offer any services necessary to ensure that English learners are provided accommodations to complete non-traditional instruction.

Differentiated instruction will be utilized to accommodate for gifted and talented students. Classroom teachers and school level administrators will target gifted and talented students with more rigorous and challenging assignments, projects, etc. The district Gifted and Talented coordinator will provide information about identified gifted and talented students to school principals and administrators.

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.)

Wolfe County schools utilized individual school Facebook pages, district Facebook page, school One Call system, district and school websites, teacher websites, emails, PTO meetings, Site Based Meetings, School Board meetings, the local newspaper, paper correspondence to families, and Open Houses to connect with our community and families about non-traditional instruction days in the winter during the 2014-15 school year. These methods will be utilized again during the 2015-16 school year. During the actual non-traditional days all district Facebook pages, websites, teacher websites, One Call system, class FB pages, class text groups, direct phone calls to families, email to families are utilized to not only actively engage teacher with student and family but also to highlight the learning that is taking place on the non-traditional days. Communication prior to, during and after the non-traditional days is a key emphasis of our program.

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 Wolfe County
(school district)

Board of Education at a regular meeting of the Board on 5-14-15
(date)

K. Bell 5-14-15
Superintendent Date

Susan Cable 5-14-15
Local Board of Education Chair 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