**AUDUBON CENTER OF THE NORTH WOODS - CHARTER SCHOOL DIVISION**

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The authorizing mission of ACNW is to ensure quality academic and environmental literacy outcomes for Minnesota students through effective charter school authorizing.



**Distance Learning Plan Template for**

**Extended Distance Learning Period 5/5/20-6/30/20**

Governor Walz Executive Order 20-41 requires that existing distance learning plans ***must be revised*** to include additional engagement efforts including, but not be limited to, addressing communication pathways with student families, community input on student and family needs, and other outreach opportunities. This, in addition to core instruction, supports for all student groups, nutrition, school-age care, technology needs and effectively delivering educational models to students in a distance setting. **A school must revise their plan, including additional elements, and post the plan on its website by May 5, 2020**.

Minnesota defines distance learning as, “Students engaging in distance learning have access to appropriate educational materials and receive daily interaction with their licensed teacher(s).” It is important to note that distance learning does not always mean e-learning or online learning. It is critical to provide this learning in a format that can be equitably accessed by all students. School closures put burdens on children and families and disproportionately impact communities of color, as well as Indigenous, immigrant, low-income families and communities, and students with disabilities and their families. The policies and solutions we design are rarely created with the families most impacted by inequities in mind (let alone in equal partnership). As Dr. Rosemarie Allen says, “There are no hard-to-reach families, there are only hard-to-reach services.”… or hard-to-reach schools, and hard-to reach instruction. How will the school ensure that every child receives the equitable distance education opportunities that it is required to deliver to them?

Schools should thoughtfully reflect on the equitability of their distance learning plan, and work to ensure that its implementation does not disproportionately impact portions of their students and families. With that lens, schools should complete this document to address the additional information required. Schools should also attach a revision of their original distance learning template if they have material changes in its content based on reflection and revision. If there are no changes in the original distance learning plan, only this amendment must be completed and added to the school’s website by May 5, 2020.

**COMMUNICATION PATHWAYS WITH FAMILIES:**

Describe how the school is communicating information and expectations to students and families. Address how this is accessible to all families in the school and does not amplify inequities.

* Answer here:

Describe how families are to communicate concerns or questions to the school. Address how this pathway is accessible to all families in the school and does not amplify inequities.

* Answer here:

What platforms (technology systems) are families expected to maneuver in communicating with the school.

* Answer here:

Describe how the school will reach out and overcome barriers that may exist in communication.

* Answer here:

**COMMUNITY INPUT ON STUDENT AND FAMILY NEEDS:**

How has the school sought out information from the communities they serve to design a distance learning plan that works for those communities?

* Answer here:

Describe how the school has reached out to determine what specific students’ need?

* Answer here:

Describe how the school has reached out to determine what specific families’ need?

* Answer here:

**OTHER OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:**

Describe what additional outreach opportunities the school has pursued and/or participating in to provide for the needs of your students. Identify any partner organizations the school is working with.

* Answer here:

**EXPANDING ACCESS TO, AND SUPPORT WITH, TECHNOLOGY:**

Describe how the school identified the technology and or access needs of the students/families.

* Answer here:

Describe how the school worked to bridge the gaps identified to ensure equitable distance learning.

* Answer here:

**PARTNERING TO SUPPORT STUDENT SAFETY AND WELLNESS:**

Describe how the school is working to identify student safety and wellness concerns.

* Answer here:

Describe the procedures the school has put in place to be proactive in supporting student safety and wellness.

* Answer here: