



Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan
as described in Public Act 149, Section 98a
Final

August 27, 2020

[September 3, 2020 Clarifications](#)

September 30, 2020 Revisions Based on SB927

On August 20, 2020, Governor Whitmer signed House Bill 5913 into law as Public Act 149. Section 98a states that in order to receive state aid for 2020-2021, districts must provide for instruction under an extended COVID-19 Learning Plan (“Plan”) that has been approved by an intermediate district or authorizing body. The Plan does not replace the District’s/PSA’s COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan, it is an additional plan that includes new assurances and sections on educational goals, instructional delivery, grading, and equitable access. PA 149 does not apply to districts that operate as a cyber school.

District/PSA educational goals written for all students and all subgroups must be established no later than September 15, 2020, and submitted in their Plan to the ISD or Authorizing Body, as applicable, no later than October 1, 2020, for approval. A district that is a public school academy that, by agreement, provides educational services for the residents of a district that is not a public school academy and that does not directly provide public educational services to its residents that intends to provide instruction under an extended COVID-19 learning plan shall submit its extended COVID-19 learning plan described in subsection (1) to the intermediate district in which is it located not later than October 1, 2020 for approval.

The ISD or Authorizing Body will approve Extended COVID-19 Learning Plans no later than October 9, 2020 and transmit the approved plans to the state superintendent of public instruction and the state treasurer. Approved plans must be made accessible through the transparency link located on the district’s website by not later than October 12, 2020.

District/PSA Extended COVID-19 Learning Plans should be submitted to the ISD or Authorizing Body as a PDF file.

East Lansing Public Schools Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Address of School District/PSA: 501 Burcham Dr., East Lansing, MI 48823

District/PSA Code Number: 33010

District/PSA Website Address: www.elps.us

District/PSA Contact and Title: Dori Leyko, Superintendent

District/PSA Contact Email Address: dori.leyko@elps.us

Name of Intermediate School District/PSA: Ingham Intermediate School District

Name of PSA Authorizing Body (if applicable):

Date of Approval by ISD/Authorizing Body:

Assurances

7. The District/PSA will make their ISD/Authorizing Body approved Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan accessible through the transparency reporting link located on the District's/PSA's website no later than October 1, 2020.
2. By not later than January 15, 2021, the district shall create a report that includes information regarding both of the following and shall ensure that the report under this subdivision can be accessed through the transparency reporting link located on the district's website:
 - a. The amount and type of training provided during the current school year as of the date of the report to teachers of the district through professional development that focuses on how to deliver virtual instruction.
 - b. The amount and type of training provided during the current school year as of the date of the report to parents and legal guardians of pupils and to pupils on how to access and use virtual content provided by the district.
3. The District/PSA will create and make available on its transparency reporting link located on the District/PSA's website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the educational goals contained in its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan no later than February 1, 2021, for goals its expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-2021 school year for goals the District/PSA expected would be achieved by the end of the school year.
4. Benchmark Assessments: The District/PSA will
 - a. select a benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments that is/are aligned to state standards.
 - b. administer the approved benchmark assessment, or local benchmark assessment, or any combination thereof, to all pupils in grades K to 8 to measure proficiency in reading and mathematics within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year and again not later than the last day of the 2020-2021 school year.
5. If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the District/PSA will
 - a. provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction, and
 - b. expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil's grade level or courses in the same scope and sequence as the District/PSA had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.
6. The District/PSA, in consultation with a local health department will develop guidelines concerning appropriate methods for delivering pupil instruction for the 2020-2021 school year that is based on local data that are based on key metrics.

Note: A determination concerning the method for delivering pupil instruction shall remain at the District/PSA Board's discretion. Key metrics that the District/PSA will consider shall include at least all of the following:

- a. COVID-19 Cases or Positive COVID-19 tests
 - b. Hospitalizations due to COVID-19
 - c. Number of deaths resulting from COVID-19 over a 14-day period
 - d. COVID-19 cases for each day for each 1 million individuals
 - e. The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests over a 4-week period
 - f. Health capacity strength
 - g. Testing, tracing, and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID-19
7. If the District/PSA determines that it is safe to provide in-person instruction to pupils, the District/PSA will prioritize providing in-person instruction to pupils in grades K to 5 who are enrolled in the District/PSA.
8. The District/PSA assures that
- a. instruction will be delivered as described in this plan and re-confirmed by the District/PSA Board,
 - b. the description of instructional delivery in this plan matches the delivery of instruction to be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year,
 - c. the District/PSA will re-confirm how instruction will be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year thirty days after the approval of the plan, and each month thereafter at a meeting of the Board, and
 - d. For each reconfirmation described in this subdivision, the district shall report to the center, in a form and manner prescribed by the center,
 1. the instructional delivery method that was reconfirmed;
 2. how that instruction will be delivered for each grade level offered by the district, including pre-kindergarten, as applicable; and
 3. whether or not, as determined by the department in consultation with the center, the district is offering higher levels of in-person instruction for English language learners, special education students, or other special populations.
 - e. public comment will be solicited from the parents or legal guardians of the pupils enrolled in the District/PSA during a public meeting described in PA-149.
9. The District/PSA will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations.
10. The District/PSA will ensure that two (2), 2-way interactions occur between a pupil enrolled in the District/PSA and the pupil's teacher or at least one (1) of the pupil's teachers, or another district employee who has responsibility for the pupil's learning, grade progression, or academic progress during each week of the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled in the District/PSA. The

District/PSA will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each District/PSA Board meeting where it re-confirms how instruction is being delivered. The District/PSA will make those rates available through the transparency reporting link located on the District/PSA website each month for the 2020-2021 school year.

Clarification of Assurance 10: “Two-way interaction” means a communication that occurs between a pupil and the pupil’s teacher or at least one of the pupil’s teachers or another district employee who has responsibility for the pupil’s learning, grade progression, or academic progress, where one party initiates communication and a response from the other party follows that communication, and this is relevant to course progress or course content for at least one of the courses in which the pupil is enrolled or relevant to the pupil’s overall academic progress or grade progression. Responses, as described in this subdivision, must be communication initiated by the teacher, by another district employee who has responsibility for the pupil’s learning, grade progression, or academic progress, or by the pupil and not some other action taken.

Dori Leyko, Superintendent

District Superintendent or President of the Board of Education/Directors

9/30/20

Date

Learning Plan Narrative

Opening Statement

- Please provide a statement indicating why an Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan is necessary to increase pupil engagement and achievement for the 2020-2021 school year.

The COVID-19 global pandemic is impacting our school community in a number of ways: we are experiencing a traumatic event, many students may have significant gaps in their learning, and equity issues are more pronounced.

The ELPS COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan provides direction, requirements, and recommendations for programming for each phase of the MI Safe Start Plan. The plan prioritizes student and staff wellness and mental health, equity and access, student growth, and relationships and school connectedness, while being fluid enough to adapt to continuing changes in conditions. The additional requirements of the E-COL Plan require the district to identify and commit to the administration of beginning and end-of-year assessment tools and to develop goals for student growth.

ELPS has begun the school year with a fully remote model of instruction as we continue to monitor local health data.

As we return to school in the fall, our first priority will be to ensure the well-being of all members of our school community. Because of the wide range of experiences students had during the remote learning portion of the 19-20 school year, we anticipate that students will come to school in the fall of 2020 with a wider than usual range of competencies. We expect that many students will need opportunities for additional instruction. Teachers will need opportunities to collaborate with each other as they examine student work and determine what comes next in the learning for each student.

ELPS stakeholder groups and committees are in the process of developing our plan for transitioning to in-person instruction as soon as safely possible.

The full ELPS COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan can be found at this link: <https://elps.us/downloads/news/elps.preparedness.and.response.plan.final.8.10.20.pdf>

Educational Goals

- **Please outline and describe** the educational goals expected to be achieved for the 2020-2021 school year. The District/PSA must establish all of its goals no later than September 15, 2020. Authorizing bodies expect PSA educational goals will be aligned to the educational goal within your charter contract.
- **Specify** which goals are expected to be achieved by the middle of the school year and which goals are expected to be achieved by the end of the school year.
- **Ensure** that all of the following apply to the educational goals described in this section: (a) The goals include increased pupil achievement or, if growth can be validly and reliably measured using a benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments, growth on a benchmark assessment in the aggregate and for all subgroups of pupils; (b) The District/PSA benchmark assessment(s) are aligned to state standards and will be administered to all pupils K-8 at least once within the first 9 weeks of the 2020-2021 school year and not later than the last day of the 2020-2021 school year to determine whether pupils are making meaningful progress toward mastery of these standards; and (c) the District's/PSA's educational goals are measurable through a benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments.
- To the extent practicable, the District/PSA will administer the same benchmark assessment or benchmark assessments that was administered to pupils in previous years.

Quality Evidence-Based Assessment Practices

ELPS believes that benchmark assessment evidence can be used to monitor and evaluate patterns and trends in school/district academic performance and to identify effective instructional programs. We believe it can provide guidance for standardizing or adjusting curriculum and instruction across grade levels, schools, and districts and within classrooms.

We will not, however, use benchmark assessment data to make high-stakes instructional decisions about individual student learning. Rather, ELPS will continue the use of (and professional learning around the use of) the formative assessment process as a powerful practice embedded in the teaching and learning process to continuously observe where our students are in order to modify instruction.

We believe the use of the formative assessment process, which is supported by an extensive body of research, provides real-time data for both our teachers and students to accelerate their learning and progress and gives us a more complete picture of what our students know and are able to do.

Educational Goals

Screening assessments in reading and mathematics will be administered to all students at least twice during the school year: once in the first nine weeks of the school year, mid-year for some of the assessments, and again prior to the last day of school. Formative assessments will provide information to inform our progress toward our goals over the course of the year. Progress reports will be available on our website in February and June, and individual student progress will be shared with students and families.

Additionally, we will continue to engage stakeholders in the district's balanced assessment system, including publicly sharing aggregate and student subgroup performance reports on multiple assessments.

Goal 1 - All students (K-8) will improve performance in Reading/ELA from Fall to Spring as measured by AIMSweb Plus or through the use of a local assessment.

- All teachers will use the assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of Reading/ELA academic standards.
- Results from Reading/ELA benchmark assessments, local Reading/ELA summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously discussed and analyzed by staff.

Goal 2 - All students (K-8) will improve performance in Mathematics from Fall to Spring as measured by AIMSweb Plus (Kindergarten and grades 6 - 8) and the Math Expressions Benchmark Assessments (grades 1 - 5).

- All teachers will use the formative assessment process to support adjustment to teaching & learning, to support meaningful student progress towards mastery of Math academic standards.
- Results from Math benchmark assessments, local Math summative assessments, and formative assessment will be continuously discussed and analyzed by staff.

Instructional Delivery & Exposure to Core Content

- **Please describe** how and where instruction will be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year. (e.g. instruction may be delivered at school or a different location, in-person, online, digitally, by other remote means, in a synchronous or asynchronous format, or any combination thereof).

Mode of Instruction

To start the school year, all students will begin the year with remote instruction at least through September 30, 2020.

Through a set of surveys, ELPS will gather information from families, staff, and students regarding the transition to in-person instruction. Using this data, local health data, and guidance from the Ingham County Health Department, the district will communicate a recommendation for the mode of instruction for October no later than September 21, 2020. Per requirements for the Board of Education (BOE) to recertify the E-COL Plan and the mode of instruction, this process will occur every 30 days. Stakeholders will also have the opportunity to provide input through public comment at BOE meetings, which are held twice a month.

Once a decision is made to transition to in-person instruction, students will be phased in, likely beginning with a hybrid model schedule but depending on the number of students returning for in-person instruction. The transition from online learning to in-person learning will occur over a 2 - 3-week period. Students in the Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP), Young Fives, Kindergarten and First Grade will return first, followed by students in grades 2 - 5. At the middle school, students in Grade 6 will return, followed by students in Grades 7 & 8. Due to the multi-grade classes at the high school, students in grades 9 - 12 will return together, likely in a hybrid schedule. Remote learning will continue to be offered to students at least through Phase 5 of the MI Safe Start Plan.

Note: Before and/or during this phase-in period, special education students in district categorical programs may be offered in-person instruction in very small groups scheduled by the teacher and families. In addition, English Learners and other students with IEPs may be offered face-to-face support.

Updated 9/27/20

On August 10, 2020, the ELPS Board of Education approved the recommendation to start the 2020-21 school year remotely through September 30, 2020, with a reevaluation

and recommendation for instructional delivery beyond that date to be communicated to the Board and stakeholders the week of September 21, 2020.

Since then, legislation was passed to require each district to develop an Extended Continuity of Learning Plan by October 1, 2020, and for the Board of Education to recertify the mode of instructional delivery every 30 days after October 1. ELPS is monitoring health data for the county and East Lansing Community daily. We are also in communication with MSU and the Ingham County Health Department on a regular basis and are utilizing tools developed by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Service (MDHHS) and the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to guide decisions regarding the increasing intensity of in-person instruction.

Based on the following data, ELPS will continue with remote learning through October 30, 2020. The district will survey our stakeholders again in mid-October to inform future programming decisions. The district is also working with teachers and families on plans to begin providing some in-person instruction in very small groups for some students with disabilities and other special populations, as local health conditions permit.

Current local, county, and state data is as follows (as of 9/21/20):

- COVID-19 cases in Ingham County:
 - 3172 confirmed cases
 - 45 reported deaths
- COVID-19 cases per million in Ingham County (as of 9/15/20):
 - 294 cases per million per day (7-day rolling average)
 - “very high” risk level (criteria for “very high” is 70 cases per million per day)
- COVID-19 positivity rate in Ingham County (as of 9/15/20):
 - 5.6% (7-day rolling average)
 - “medium” risk level
- COVID-19 cases in Zip Code 48823:
 - 1261 – 1270 confirmed cases
- New COVID-19 positive cases and positivity rate at MSU:

	<u>New Cases</u>	<u>Positivity Rate</u>
Week of 9/14	209	13.38%
Week of 9/7	160	16.53%
Week of 8/31	126	12.56%
Week of 8/24	4	1.3%
Week of 8/17	5	2.13%
Week of 8/10	12	4.2%
Week of 8/3	8	11.76%

- New cases in K-12 school and universities this past week: 548 cases

Here are links to sites that provide local and state COVID-19 health data:

- MI Safe Start Map: <https://www.mistartmap.info/> (Click on our region – then click on Ingham County for county-specific data)
- Ingham County Health Department reporting: <https://ichd.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/d9fd5db6d01348fdb1b9f8d1516bb825>
- MSU reporting: <https://msu.edu/together-we-will/testing-reporting/>
- School Related Outbreak Reporting - updated every Monday https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98163_98173_102480---,00.html

- **Please describe** how instruction for core academic areas will expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil's grade level or course in the same scope and sequence as the District/PSA had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.

Curriculum and Instruction: Academic Standards

East Lansing Public Schools board-approved standards-aligned curriculum will be taught by ELPS teachers during remote and in-person instruction. Live and on-demand learning and best practices will be integrated to promote student engagement and differentiation. As teachers navigate the wider than usual range of competencies expected this fall, they will use pre-assessments to plan for differentiation of content, use results from pre-assessments to inform instruction and prioritize K-12 instructional standards for the 2020-2021 School Year. Teachers will utilize ELPS Scope and Sequence documents to guide content coverage.

Teachers and other professional staff will utilize SeeSaw (grades preK – 2) and Google Classroom (grades 3 – 12) to deliver instruction.

- **Please describe** how pupil progress toward mastery of the standards described within this section will be graded or otherwise reported to the pupil and the pupil's parent or legal guardian.

Assessment and Grading

East Lansing Public Schools bases its assessment system on the Michigan Standards. We regularly assess students at the district and classroom level to determine if they are making progress toward meeting those standards. We place a heavy emphasis on formative assessment. This is critical in the instructional process so that students receive timely feedback that helps them know what they need to do to improve. It also gives the teacher important information to know how to adjust the teaching and learning process to meet each student's needs.

We also have a system for delivering summative assessments at the district and classroom levels. These are given at the end of a period of learning as an evaluation of what has been learned and are part of our district grading process. These assessments are based on a coherent set of standards in the subject area that focus on a related group of skills and disciplinary knowledge.

We make available to our parents and legal guardians a web-based system that allows them to see their children's grades at any time. Our teachers keep up-to-date information on student grades in this system. This is in addition to the expectation we have for all teachers that they keep parents and guardians abreast of any concerns regarding a student's grade through emails and phone calls. Finally, we send out to parents report cards at the end of each marking period.

Elementary students will receive standards-based marks ratings on their report cards on a trimester basis. Middle and high school students will receive report cards on a quarterly basis - these students will receive letter grades or Incomplete, with an opportunity to make up work when students return to in-person learning.

Equitable Access

- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, please **describe** how the District/PSA will provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction.

Technology

ELPS ensures all students will be provided equitable access to technology and the internet as described in our Preparedness and Response Plan that was previously submitted to the state. ELPS is providing devices (iPads, laptops and/or Chromebooks) to all students who need them to access the curriculum and instruction and hotspots to families who need high-speed internet access.

- **Please describe** how the District/PSA will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules, and regulations.

Students with Disabilities

Daily student and staff schedules were intentionally developed to provide time for both push-in and pull-out support and services. Time for communication and collaboration between teachers and service providers are also included in the weekly schedule.

Service providers will make initial contact with families to share district plans and processes for supporting students during remote learning. Service providers will ensure that students have all materials and resources to be successful with the online platform.

Service providers, in conjunction with IEP teams, will review students' IEPs, solicit parent input, and assess where students are at on their IEP goals. Teams will then determine to what extent the current services can be delivered during online learning and will generate one of the following: new IEP, an IEP amendment, or a contingency learning plan. These plans will be developed with parent input.

The ELPS Special Education Department continues to gather parent input and feedback in order to inform decisions on how to best support students with IEPs during remote learning.

The district has developed a method to complete evaluation for students suspected of having a disability as well as those requiring re-evaluation. In-person assessments will be completed as needed, with strict safety protocols and PPE utilized.

The district is in the planning process for transitioning students to in-person instruction. Students with disabilities in categorical programs will be offered in-person instruction first.

- **Optional Considerations for District/PSA Extended COVID-19 Learning Plans:**

- 1. In addition to the students with disabilities noted above, please describe how the District/PSA will ensure that the needs of other vulnerable student populations, such as but not limited to, early English Learners and Fledgling/struggling students, are met.

2. Please describe how the District/PSA will ensure that students will, during pandemic learning, have continued access to programs such as, but not limited to, Early Childhood, CTE, Early-Middle College, Dual Enrollment, and Advanced Placement as applicable within the District/PSA.

The ELPS full instructional plan (COVID-19 Preparedness and Response Plan) addresses ways all learners are supported and can be found at:

https://elps.us/downloads/_news_/elps.preparedness.and.response.plan.final.8.10.20.pdf