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## **CORONAVIRUS UPDATE**

### **Upper Darby Announces Activation of Emergency School Closing Non-Mandatory Educational Opportunities Plan**

*March 18, 2020*

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

This is Dr. Dan McGarry, Superintendent, calling with another update. Again, I appreciate your patience during these challenging times. We understand the anxiety such uncertainty has put on you and your family and have been working hard to try to get answers. The Board, my administrative team, and I have been communicating with local Superintendents, the Pennsylvania Department of Education, and with local State Representatives in an attempt to get additional clarification to inform our next steps regarding our Emergency School Closing Educational Opportunities Plan.

As I stated before, it is our wish to provide educational opportunities to all students during this unprecedented time. We are blessed to have teachers and instructional staff who are ready to put this plan into action. We have been prepared to do so, but we have had to put our plan on hold while we waited for further direction from the Pennsylvania Department of Education. While we have not been provided any further clarity at this time, we have decided to modify our original Educational Opportunities Plan and move forward with a Non-Mandatory Educational Opportunities Plan. I have provided an updated plan in the email accompanying this communication.

We have developed a K-12 educational opportunities plan that will provide **non-mandatory** educational opportunities to students through our Learning Management System, Schoology. We understand that this is new, and we will reassess our progress using this technology each day. The document accompanying this communication provides our plan for each grade level.

Our teachers will be in communication with your student, providing feedback, assistance, and answering questions you may have. We are also providing a form for you to complete if you are in need of technology. We will be lending each family a chromebook for home use while our schools are closed. More information on how you can borrow a chromebook and on internet access can be found later in this document. At the time of this communication, the District will be providing online **Non-Mandatory Educational Opportunities** through our Learning Management System (LMS), Schoology, beginning on **Friday, March 20, 2020**. These educational opportunities are not intended to replace instruction but to provide access to assignments for students to keep up with work and continue to practice academic skills.




Each family has access to Schoology, a Learning Management System (LMS,) which will allow educational opportunities to be shared with students and their parents. Our LMS will be used to provide our students with guidance, support and educational opportunities. Schoology can be accessed on any mobile device, tablet, or computer.

A link to Schoology can be found on our District website under the *Student* tab or by using the following link: <https://udsd.schoology.com/>.

At the time of this communication, there are still several unanswered questions regarding the mandated 180 day school year and hours of instruction. I am asking that we all work together, remain patient, and find solutions to any obstacles we may encounter during the current mandated school closure. At this time, the work we will be providing is **NOT MANDATORY**. The work we are providing **will not count toward a student's grade**, and we **will reteach, revisit, and review** any material we have provided during the mandated school closure. If the school closure continues beyond the first ten (10) days, we may be asked to revisit our plans. We will certainly provide you with ongoing updates.

Thank you for your patience and have a wonderful evening!

**Attachments:**

-  [Educational\\_Opportunities\\_Plan\\_Update\\_3\\_18\\_20\\_\(1\).pdf](#) (160.4 KB)
-  [UDSD\\_Equipment\\_Agreement\\_with\\_Logo\\_\(03.16.2020\).pdf](#) (113.8 KB)
-  [INTERNET\\_ACCESS\\_RESOURCES\\_&\\_PROVISIONS.pdf](#) (128.2 KB)