

Clairton City School District

GINNY L. HUNT, Ed.D.
Superintendent

LAWRENCE J. NICOLETTE, CPA
Business Administrator



Administrative Offices
502 Mitchell Avenue
Clairton, PA 15025
(412) 233-7090 ext. 2200
Fax: (412) 233-4755

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April 14, 2020

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Governor Wolf announced that all Pennsylvania schools will remain closed for the remainder of the year. This decision **will not impact** our plan of continuing to provide your children with their education in the current online format. We recognize that every family is dealing with different stressors and challenges during this time, and we are taking that into account as we move forward with our plans. Please know that we will continue to do everything possible to support our students and families.

Clairton City School District will be able to implement GIEPs by continuing to provide gifted students with acceleration and enrichment activities, either through the child's regular education teacher or through a gifted teacher. This can be accomplished through accelerated classes that a student is already enrolled in, virtual differentiated instruction, and/or additional assignments or projects in the area of the student's giftedness. Gifted teachers will be utilized in similar ways as our traditional program providing reasonable and ensuring appropriate supports are in place to demonstrate a good faith effort in supporting acceleration and enrichment activities either through the child's regular education teacher or through a gifted teacher. This will be accomplished through accelerated classes that a student is already enrolled in, virtual differentiated instruction, and/or additional assignments or projects in the area of the student's giftedness. Students are provided with virtual activities such as virtual field trips, where they can study a museum or location from afar. They are then able to enter an online class discussion to share their findings with their peers. Students also have the opportunity to develop their own independent learning project at home such as learning a new instrument, language, research project. They will share their progress via online video submissions, pictures, presentations, etc. Students have the opportunity to extend their learning on a topic within their classroom and accelerate their learning independently past their peers. This may include additional or more in depth research, writing, presentations, extensions, etc.

Our Gifted teachers have office hours from 10 am to 2 pm Monday - Friday and will be communicating with students and families a minimum of two times a week by phone, email, or Google Hangouts. We are posting assignments in Google Classroom for the students and working on projects, based on their strengths, with them as well. Students will participate in virtual field trips as well. The teachers will contact the families at least twice a week by phone, email and/or Google Hangouts.

Any families with questions or concerns can contact the Gifted teachers Grades K-5 Kacey Faust- faustk@ccsdbears.org, Grades 6-12 Andrea Morobitto- morobittoa@ccsdbears.org, or Supervisor of Special Education Sara Hoffman- hoffmans@ccsdbears.org.

Stay positive and stay healthy,

Sara J. Hoffman
Supervisor of Special Education
hoffmans@ccsdbears.org
(412) 233-9200 Ext: 1162