



La Porte Community School Corporation

eLearning Days

Frequently Asked Questions

Revised 1/25/2021

Starting with the 2020-2021 School year, LaPorte Community School Corporation will be using inclement weather eLearning days along with scheduled Professional Development eLearning days. To keep things as simple as possible, these days will follow the same format in regards to assignment release times, turn in times and teacher office hours. Please note the changes to the due date and times for assignments compared to the previous year's eLearning plan. All assignments on Inclement weather days and eLearning days will be pre-recorded or pre-created lessons and will not require students to be live in contrast to Remote Learning days that may require lessons in real time with the instructor.

On Inclement weather days, students in both Distance Learning Academy and In-Person learning will follow the same Inclement weather format. Students in HomeSchool Academy will follow their normal schedule.

If there is inclement weather on a scheduled Remote learning day due to COVID-19 spread levels, the day will follow the normal Remote Learning schedule.

General Information

- Student assignments will be released to students by 9 A.M. on the school day.
- ALL teachers, K-12, have the same office hours to create consistency across the district and ease for parents and students unless specifically posted changes due to professional development in the buildings. eLearning day office hours are as follows:

10:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.

Note: Teachers are required to communicate during eLearning office hours.

- As a general guideline, elementary students will have **approximately 2-3 hours total** of assignments including specials and support classes. Secondary students will have **approximately 3-4 hours total** of assignments including specials and support classes.

What do I do if I have a question on an assignment?


- K-4 students may submit questions through Google Classroom, school email or any other format that is established by the classroom teacher
- 5-12 Students may submit questions through Canvas
- Additional resources are available on the eLearning website, including FAQ
- Parents may email elearning@lpcsc.k12.in.us with questions in relation to technical issues. Questions in relation to assignments and curriculum must be sent to the classroom teacher. Any issues with connectivity in the home must be relayed to your home internet provider.

- Remember to make sure to plug in your chromebook at the end of the day so that your device is ready for the next school day

After-school activities may continue as scheduled unless otherwise cancelled or postponed.

- **WIFI:** Children and families who may not have connectivity at their homes may try to find open WiFi hotspots like local libraries and other locations around town. Students who do not have High Speed Internet at home may also check out a Verizon MIFI hotspot from their building. For questions related to MIFI hotspot availability, please contact your building secretary. MIFI's are first come, first serve and are subject to cellular signal at the residence. Students may not work on eLearning assignments during the normal school days following an eLearning day as this is seen as "double dipping" by the Indiana Department of Education.
- **DEVICES:**
 - PC - Windows 7 and Higher. We recommend always using the latest version of the Chrome browser
 - MAC - OS X Yosemite 10.10 or later with Chrome browser
 - Chromebook
 - Android Tablet - running Android 4.4 KitKat OS or higher. Must support latest version of Chrome. To access all information easily, we recommend downloading Google Drive, Google Sheets, Google Docs, Google Slides, the Puffin web browser (for iReady) and the Google Classroom app. If you need assistance adding your child's Google account to the android device, follow this link:
<https://support.google.com/android/answer/7664951?hl=en>
 - iPad - iPad Air and higher. Must support the latest version of Chrome. To access all information easily, we recommend downloading the Google Drive, Google Sheets, Google Docs, Google Slides and Google Classroom apps.

Logging In

- **SCHOOL ISSUED CHROMEBOOK:** Students are issued a username and password upon entering the school corporation. The typical username and password scheme is the student's first name, middle initial and last name. Example: johnsmith and the password is their student ID number. If the student does not know their password and parents have access to Skyward family access, this can be found in the student's profile under "other ID."
- **HOME DEVICE:** All students have access on any device by going to Google.com and clicking the sign in button in the upper-right corner. When signing in, students will need to use their full Google username which is username@lpcsc.k12.in.us and their student ID number as the password. **Do not hit sync when prompted while using a home computer.** Remember to sign out of the browser when completed by clicking the button in the upper right corner and select sign out.
- **GRADES K-4:** If a student is on a school owned Chromebook, they should launch Chrome. In the upper right corner they will find the Google apps launcher icon . When this icon is

clicked, Google Classroom can be chosen.

If a home device is being used, enter the student's username once clicking on the Google Classroom icon (username@lpcsc.k12.in.us) and password (student ID #)

- **GRADES 5-12:** Grades 5-12 log into Canvas LMS by going to <https://lpcsc.instructure.com> and logging in with their normal computer username (example johnsmith) and password.

Attendance and Grading

Assignments and coursework will be consistent with the continuation of the normal school week curriculum.

- IEP accommodations will be followed on eLearning days.
- Attendance will be determined based on assignment completion.
- Assignments must be submitted no later than 8 a.m. the day following the eLearning day. Students who have difficulties with their assignment or issues that prevent the student from completing their work must communicate with their teacher so that an adequate modified due date can be given to the student by the teacher at their discretion.
- If your student does not participate in the eLearning day (turn in work), they will be marked with an "unexcused absence" unless a valid excuse is given to the school for the missed eLearning day.

Possible Internet Connection Options

School Verizon MIFI Hotspots

For the 2020-2021 School year, made available by the Cares Act funding related to the awarding of the GEERS Grant from the Indiana Department of Education and a generous donation from the LaPorte County United Way Foundation, Verizon MIFI hotspots are available to students and staff that do not have High Speed Internet at their residence.

These hotspots are first come, first serve and should be used for student or staff educational use only. Student hotspots are programmed to automatically allow student Chromebooks to associate to the hotspot. Student Chromebooks are filtered offsite through our Securly Web Filter by using a Chrome Extension that cannot be removed.

Parents must come to the school building and sign an agreement before use of the hotspot. At any time the school may ask for the device to be returned based on lack of usage or misuse. If a student withdraws from the school corporation, parents are responsible for returning the hotspot and all accessories to their school building. Devices must be returned before the end of the school year. If devices are not returned or are accidentally/maliciously damaged, a fee may be assessed up to full cost of the device and/or accessory.

Comcast Internet Essentials

In response to the Coronavirus and school closures across the US, Comcast has modified their

Internet Essentials plan to offer assistance to low income families who live in Comcast service areas. These changes became effective Monday 3/16/2020.

1. It will now be easier for low-income families who live in a Comcast service area to sign up by offering new customers 60 days of complimentary Internet Essentials service, which is normally available to all qualified low-income households for \$9.95/month.

2. Internet speed will be increased for the Internet Essentials service from 15/2 Mbps to 25/3 Mbps for all new and existing customers, which will be the speed of the service going forward. In this way, Comcast will ensure that Internet Essentials customers will be able to use their Internet service for all their increased needs as a result of this health crisis.

- To receive the increased Internet speeds, existing customers will not need to do anything. The new speeds will be rolled out nationally.
- Comcast will send all new customers a free self-install kit that includes a cable modem with a Wi-Fi router. There will be no term contract or credit check and no shipping fee.
- To sign up, applicants can simply visit www.internetessentials.com. The accessible website also includes the option to video chat with customer service agents in American Sign Language. There are also two dedicated phone numbers 1-855-846-8376 for English and 1-855-765-6995 for Spanish.

Cell Phone Hotspot or Tethering

Families may have connectiviting through their cell phone provider by using their phone as a mobile hotspot. Families will need to check with their cell phone provider to check on data limits as well as availability. Data rates and limits may apply though some have lifted such limits in response to COVID-19.

Apple iPhone instructions - <https://support.apple.com/en-us/HT204023>

Android Phone Instructions - <https://support.google.com/android/answer/9059108?hl=en>

WiFi Availability on an eLearning Day

- LPCSC has placed outdoor wireless access points outside each building so that students with school devices may be able to access wireless in certain parking lots around school buildings. Locations can be found at <https://www.lpcsc.k12.in.us/docs/lpcscoutdoorwireless.pdf>
- LaPorte County Library Availability - <https://laportelibrary.org/about/locations/>