

Troy Area School District

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2023

Important Dates

- Sept 20 - Act 80 day PM/Early Dismissal
- Sept 27 - Picture Day at WRC
- Sept 29 - Homecoming
- Oct 3 - School Board Work Session
- Oct 6-7 Centennial Celebration
- Oct 9 - Act 80 Day No School
- Oct 9 - Parent Teacher Conference
- Oct 13 - Croman Cruisers
- Oct 24 - School Board Regular Session
- Oct 25 - End of 1st Marking Period
- Oct 27 - Old Shoe Game
- Nov 14 - School Board Work Session
- Nov 15 - End of 1st Trimester
- Nov 21 - School Board Regular Session
- Nov 22 - Early Dismissal
- Nov 23-27 Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 28 - Act 80 No School
- Dec 5 - Board Reorganizational Meeting
- Dec 21 - Early Dismissal
- Dec 22-1 Winter Break

Message from the Superintendent

Welcome to the 2023–2024 school year! We are excited to begin another year and continue working together to achieve our goals. Let's make this year even better than the last!

In the spirit of transparency and offering more communication, it is my effort to provide the community with regular and consistent communication. Our goal is to provide you with three newsletters throughout the year with updates and information.

Dr. Janilyn Elias
Superintendent

5 Ways to stay connected:

1. [District Website](#)
2. [District App](#)
3. [PowerSchool Parent Portal](#)
4. [District Facebook Page](#)
5. [Class Dojo](#)



Important Updates

NTTC STUDENTS

As we start the 2023-2024 school year the high school has examined transportation for students attending the Northern Tier Career Center. After much discussion and planning the following rules apply to students attending NTCC. Any questions please reach out to the HS administration.

- If a student attending NTCC rides the bus to school (TASD) that student is also required to ride the transfer bus to NTCC.
- If a student attending NTCC drives to school (TASD), purchased a parking pass and plans to have the car parked on the TASD lot, that student is required to ride the transfer bus to NTCC.
- If a student attending NTCC has no intention of driving to school and does not purchase a parking pass and plans to take online classes, that student should not be coming to TASD other than dropping off a sibling. If a student in this category is found picking up students that are required to ride the bus, that student may no longer be allowed to attend NTCC.

TROY ACADEMY

Troy Academy is an asynchronous virtual academy program open to all students (K-12) in the Troy Area School District. Students utilize learning management systems to receive instruction for their classes with full time independent learning. A teacher for each grade/subject is assigned to the student from the learning management system. The Troy Academy Program allows students to learn in a more flexible learning environment. Students have the ability to develop their "own" virtual schedule that fits the student and their family. Lesson activities can be complete on a 24/7 basis, seven days a week.

ENROLLMENT PROCESS~CURRENT STUDENT~IN-PERSON TO ONLINE

- Step 1**
 - Student/Family want to move from in person to online
 - Student/Family inform guidance/administration
- Step 2**
 - Guidance informs principal and online coordinator OR
 - If administration was contacted, administration informs guidance and online coordinator
 - If student is special education the Director of Student Services is also contacted
- Step 3**
 - Guidance schedules a meeting with student, family, guidance, administration (principal and student services, if necessary) and online coordinator. This meeting must occur prior to moving a student from in-person to online
 - Troy Academy Enrollment form must be completed by parent/guardian prior to meeting
- Step 4**
 - Student and family are informed the student must remain in-person until final decision is made
- Step 5**
 - Online Coordinator will get classes from guidance to schedule the courses in the online platform
 - If decision is to go online guidance will inform Child Accounting/Registrar
- Step 6**
 - If the student is not completing courses and/or grades are low the district will schedule a meeting with student/family to discuss arrangements to come back to in-person
- Step 7**
 - Students will be admitted at anytime. Students will be released back to in-person based on end of marking period, semester and/or administration decision.

Attendance

Regular and consistent attendance is important. If children don't show up for school regularly, they miss out on fundamental reading and math skills and the chance to build a habit of good attendance that will carry them into college and careers. We want to work with you to assist with any attendance concerns.

A few tips families can do to help with attendance:

- Build regular routines for bedtime and morning.
- Talk about how your child feels about school and share concerns with school administration.
- Seek support from school staff or community groups to help with transportation and health problems or if your child seems anxious about coming to school.
- If your child must stay home due to illness, please reach out to the teacher for support.

School Hours

WR Croman Primary School
7:45-2:58

Troy Intermediate School
7:45-2:58

Troy JrSr High School
7:45-2:58

District Phone Numbers

WR Croman Primary (570)297-3145
Troy Intermediate School (570)297-4565
Troy JrSr High School (570)297-2176
Administration Building (570)297-2750

Nutrition Services

Breakfast and Lunch at NO COST for ALL Students

Thanks to the Community Eligibility Program every student in our district is eligible for FREE breakfast and lunch.

Breakfast is essential to success in the classroom! Make the most of your child's morning with the convenience of our free, nutritious school breakfast program that is available at the start of each day!



Find more information on our [Website](#)

*"Move forward.
Good things are
up ahead."*

Emergency School Closures:

On days when inclement weather prohibits safe transportation, the district may choose to close school, delay the start of, or dismiss the students early in an attempt to provide maximum safety. It is important to listen to the local radio, School Messenger, and television stations for accurate information.

- If school is closed for the day, all school programs are canceled.
- If school is delayed, please note that there is the possibility of a delay turning into a closing; therefore, please continue to listen to radio updates and check for School Messenger calls.
- In the case of a delay, students should not arrive at the school before the scheduled opening.
- If school is dismissed early because the weather conditions are deteriorating rapidly, you will be notified by the local radio, School Messenger phone calls, and television stations for information.



Flexible Instruction Days

Flexible Instruction Days (FIDs) allow us to minimize the impact of emergency closures on student learning and the need for make-up days at the end of the school year. Students can get their schoolwork done AND still get out there and play in the snow!

The district believes that using a Flexible Instructional Day will allow students and teachers to continue the learning process while responding to a weather closure or emergency situation efficiently. Flexible instruction allows students to complete classwork at home should a situation occur which would prevent normal operations in one school or throughout the district. Flexible instructional programs may be online, offline, or a combination of the two. PDE will count this as a full day of school.

Assignments: Teachers will explain to students the assignments and how to access the assignments that will need to be completed during the FID. Learners will be assigned work to be completed either using their school-issued devices and applications OR paper/pencil assignments. Students are expected to complete assignments for all classes that would normally meet on the FID, as this will be a typical school day.

Younger students or students with accommodations may require some support from an adult. Teachers will design learning activities and assignments that are developmentally appropriate and similar in timeframe to daily classwork. Students working independently on an assignment will likely take less time to complete the assignment compared to a large group setting, yet this may vary depending on the individual student and grade level.

If a student cannot access the Internet or paper copies of the learning activities, he/she will have three (3) school days to complete the assignments. Any student who fails to complete their FID assignment within three school days will be marked as absent.

Students with IEPs: FID lessons will be designed for students with IEPs utilizing their program modifications, specially designed instruction, and supplementary aids and services identified in their individualized education plans. Upon return from a FID day, the special education teacher will meet with students to review work submitted, checking for completion, and understanding. If needed, students with IEPs will have up to five (5) school days to complete assignments.

Access: Alternative activities will also be provided in the event that students are not able to access online resources. If a student cannot access the Internet or the paper copies of the learning activities, he/she will have three (3) school days to complete the assignments. Any student who fails to complete their FID assignment within three school days will be marked as absent on the FID.

School Calendar Impact: Flexible instructional days eliminate the need for a make-up day since students are completing classwork at home. Implementing a FID will not require additional make-up days when school is canceled. These make-up days could shorten the spring break or extend the school year. The District can use up to five (5) FIDs per school year. FIDs are considered a school day and count toward the number of instructional days/hours required under Article 15 of the Public School Code and Chapter 11 of the State Board of Education regulations. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal.

School Schedules for FID Days

WR Croman Flexible Instructional Day Schedule

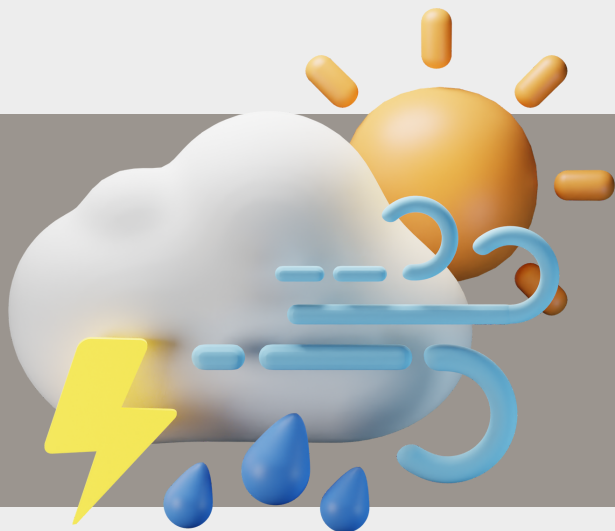
Activity	Time
Teacher Planning and/or Meetings	7:45-8:30
Office Hours	8:30-11:45
Lunch	11:45-12:15
Asynchronous Learning for Students Teacher Planning and/or Meetings	12:15-3:30

Troy Area Intermediate School Flexible Instructional Day Schedule

Activity	Time
Teacher Planning and/or Meetings	7:45-8:30
Core 1	8:30-9:00
Core 2	9:05-9:35
Core 3	9:40-10:10
Office Hours	10:15-12:15
Lunch	12:15-12:45
Asynchronous Learning for Students Teacher Planning and/or Meetings	12:45-3:30

Troy Area Jr/Sr High School Flexible Instructional Day Schedule

Activity	Time
Teacher Planning and/or Meetings	7:45-8:30
Period 1	8:30-8:50
Period 2	8:55-9:15
Period 3	9:20-9:40
Period 4	9:45-10:05
Period 5	10:10-10:30
Period 6	10:35-10:55
Period 7	11:00-11:20
Period 8	11:25-11:45
Lunch	11:45-12:15
Office Hours	12:15-1:15
Asynchronous Learning for Students Teacher Planning and/or Meetings	1:15-3:30



Flexible Instructional Days FAQ's

What if a student is on a pre-arranged absence?

The student would be expected to make up the learning activities and assignments within three days of returning to school just as if it were any other absence from school.

How is a student expected to complete the activities if they go to a child/daycare when school is canceled?

If the student cannot access the internet or take a paper-copy of the learning activities and assignments to the daycare to complete that day, the student will have three days to complete the activities for course credit. However, students will be marked absent if they were unable to participate on the actual day of the FID and do not complete work within three (3) days.

How much time is my student expected to take to complete the assignments?

Teachers have designed learning activities and assignments that are equivalent to time spent on a similar activity on a regularly scheduled class period. Students working independently on an assignment will likely take less time to complete the assignment compared to a large group setting. Teachers will make every effort to assign an approximate time to each activity or assignment.

Will there still be make-up dates built into the district calendar?

Yes, make-up dates will continue to be built into the district calendar. A FID is an option that may be used in place of one or more canceled school days or make-up days but may not be used for all canceled school days in any given school year. The district will communicate upon closing if this will be a Flexible Instructional Day or a snow day to make-up at a later date.

What if a student does not have access to their district device or internet on a FID?

If a household does not have Internet access, please contact the student's building principal. Parents and/or students should make teachers aware of a need for a hard copy of the assignment and/or store materials on their device for offline use. Any student can choose to do a hard copy assignment, even if internet access is not an issue.

Will elementary students have assignments and activities for their special classes such as music?

Students will be expected to complete lessons for classes that are typically scheduled for that day to include specials in physical education, health, art, music and library.

If the District has a FID day, will there still be after school activities and sports?

No. If the district has closed and put a FID in place, all activities will be canceled.

TROY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION



My Question or Concern is related to	First Contact	Second Contact	Third Contact	Fourth Contact
Transportation or Busing	Director of Transportation Bonnie Bixby bbixby@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750		
School and/or Classroom	Classroom Teacher WRC - (570)297-3145 TIS - (570)297-4565 JrSr HS -(570)297-2176	WRC Principal: Brian Wilcox bwilcox@troyareasd.org (570)297-3145 TIS Principal: Jeremy Kulago jkulago@troyareasd.org (570)297-4565 Jr/Sr HS Principal: Steve Brion sbrion@troyareasd.org (570)297-2176 Jr/Sr HS Assistant Principal: Brad Feldmeier bfeldmeier@troyareasd.org (570)297-2176	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	
Student Services Special Education	Classroom Teacher WRC - (570)297-3145 TIS - (570)297-4565 JrSr HS -(570)297-2176	Director of Student Services Steve Boyce sboyce@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	
Health	Health Office WRC - (570)297-3145 TIS - (570)297-4565 JrSr HS - (570)297-2176	WRC Principal: Brian Wilcox bwilcox@troyareasd.org (570)297-3145 TIS Principal: Jeremy Kulago jkulago@troyareasd.org (570)297-4565 Jr/Sr HS Principal: Steve Brion sbrion@troyareasd.org (570)297-2176 Jr/Sr HS Assistant Principal: Brad Feldmeier bfeldmeier@troyareasd.org (570)297-2176	Director of Student Services Steve Boyce sboyce@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750

TROY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT CHAIN OF COMMUNICATION



My Question or Concern is related to	First Contact	Second Contact	Third Contact	Fourth Contact
Attendance	Guidance Office WRC - (570)297-3145 TIS - (570)297-4565 Jr/Sr HS - (570)297-2176	Child Accounting/PIMS Coordinator Tanya Mattocks tmattocks@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	WRC Principal: Brian Wilcox bwilcox@troyareasd.org (570)297-3145 TIS Principal: Jeremy Kulago jkulago@troyareasd.org (570)297-4565 Jr/Sr HS Principal: Steve Brion sbrion@troyareasd.org (570)297-2176 Jr/Sr HS Assistant Principal: Brad Feldmeier bfeldmeier@troyareasd.org (570)297-2176	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750
Athletics	Coach	Athletic Director Brad Feldmeier bfeldmeier@troyareasd.org (570)297-2176	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	
Food Service	Food Services Assistant Kaylene Ridenour kridenour@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Director of Food Service Bonnie Bixby bbixby@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	
Technology	Technology Technician Brian Vicente bvicente@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Technology Network Administrator Ryan Griffin rgriffin@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Director of Technology Nick Andre nandre@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750	Superintendent Dr Janilyn Elias jelias@troyareasd.org (570)297-2750

WELCOME ABOARD!

New Administrative Staff Members:



Mr. Jeremy Kulago
Intermediate School Principal



Officer Ralph Dooley
Director of School Safety and
Security

"We each have a different role, but we all have the same job... to help the team win"

Mike Robbins

Professional Staff Members:

Marissa Bulkley - 6th Grade Teacher
Charles LaBarre - Secondary Math Teacher
Greg Perry - Secondary Science Teacher
Elle Farrell - 5th Grade Teacher
Wendy Wyatt - 4th Grade Teacher
Christine Eick - Secondary Science Teacher
Cynthia Mitstifer - 2nd Grade Teacher
Christina Sheeley - Troy Online Academy Coordinator
Michelle Wheeler - Special Education Teacher
Megan Everts - Kindergarten Teacher
Alyssa Ammerman - Speech/Language Therapist

Support Staff Members:

Janine Bielawski - Casual Cafeteria
Oliva Leonard - Casual Cafeteria
Grace Chamberlain - Custodian
Ashley Labs - Paraprofessional
Erica Wright - Paraprofessional
Gregory Vogel - Paraprofessional
Rebecca Morgan - Paraprofessional
Robin Thomas - Paraprofessional
Tanya Route - Paraprofessional
Billie Jo Hunter - Paraprofessional
Brian Vicente - Technology Technician
Kaylene Ridenour - Food Services Assistant