

Continuity of Education in Pennsylvania Schools **March 24, 2020**

With COVID-19-related school closures extending until at least April 6, it is essential that schools revisit their Continuity of Education efforts. This is particularly true for the graduating class of 2020.

Continuity of Education is the overarching term for any educational practices that occur in the event of a prolonged school closure. It is important that students have the opportunity to develop and maintain skills while away from the customary school environment. This can be achieved through Planned Instruction, Enrichment and Review or a combination thereof.

1. Planned Instruction: Planned Instruction is formal teaching and learning similar to that which occurs in a classroom setting. Within this process, teachers use planned courses of instruction of new concepts/skills aligned to grade level standards.

2. Enrichment and Review: Enrichment and Review consists of informal activities that reinforce or extend students' prior learning. New standards and skills are not addressed through Enrichment and Review.

PDE strongly encourages all schools to provide some type of Continuity of Education for all students in the most appropriate and accessible ways possible, while also honoring the Governor's guidance for aggressive social distancing of at least six feet between individuals. Also know that evolving USDE guidance implies that IDEA and other federal protections still apply whether or not schools offer Continuity of Education.

To support you in this work, PDE, in collaboration with Intermediate Units and PaTTAN staff, has developed guidance and resource lists to support schools with providing Continuity of Education.

This support is available to all schools beginning today, Tuesday, March 24, 2020. School leaders can access this support and materials by visiting the [PaTTAN website](#) or by contacting their local Intermediate Unit for direct, district/school-specific guidance and support.

Thank you for your ongoing leadership and commitment to students.