



ETA Update

March 21, 2020

4:00 PM

ETA/U-46 Update

As I am sure you have already heard, the Governor has closed all schools until April 8. We do hope all of you are heeding the Governor's 'stay-at-home' order and practicing appropriate social distancing. I am receiving updates and things seem to change daily. As you are looking for updates I recommend you visit the [U-46 Covid-19 Response website](#), the [ETA Covid-19 Resource website](#), and the [IEA Covid-19 website](#).

Spring Break

During "Spring Break", participation in any activity is voluntary: transfer reassignment, appraisal, Distance Learning preparation, and any other work related matter. If you choose to participate in any activity, *it is your choice*. It is not wrong for an administrator to extend an "invite." Administrators may see this as an opportunity for you to prepare. If you are able to participate, I encourage you to do so in order to be a step ahead for the Distance Learning work ahead.

Distance Learning

There are a number of questions surrounding Distance Learning. First, Distance Learning is not the same as E-Learning. E-Learning is based on a plan submitted by districts at the beginning of the school year to ISBE to continue instruction and not have days lost due to events such as snow days.

What our district will be doing for the foreseeable future is Distance Learning. There are a number of directives and guidelines that come from ISBE related to Distance Learning. The U-46 Distance Learning Plans concur with the guidelines set forth by ISBE and were approved by the Kane County Regional Office of Education on March 19th, 2020. It is imperative that as documents related to Distance Learning are sent out by the school district, you read and follow the instructions.

Concerns have been expressed about all learning being formative and that a student's grade can only be enhanced during Distance Learning. We have to remember that Distance Learning cannot replace what we do in our classrooms every single day. We need to, as educators, rethink the goals of Distance Learning as it pertains to our students, and not just think about summative assessments and final grades.

The goals of Distance Learning will be:

- Encourage student engagement

- Provide students an opportunity to learn
- Continue to move the curriculum forward
- Attempt to meet the needs of our students

The district will be sending specific instructions for elementary teachers and specific instructions for secondary teachers. Remember that the goals are all the same.

Transfer Reassignment

The Transfer Reassignment timeline is still in place. Make sure to apply on Applitrack and contact the building administrator if interested in a position. As in years past, the process allows for interviews to take place remotely. For schools that do team interviews, begin appropriate planning to maintain that practice. Be prepared for the interviews, just as you would be for a face-to-face meeting.

The Transfer Reassignment timeline can be found [here](#).

Transcripts

Human Resources continues to finish the transcript review process with a limited number of personnel available. We know that some of you are finding potential discrepancies in your review and we encourage you to email [Human Resources](#) with questions. Those of you who have yet to be contacted will be receiving a communication from HR about your status and next steps involved in your transcript review. ETA is confident, when the transcript review process is completed, all members' records will be accurate and complete.

We continue to engage in discussions around the following topics;

- Appendix F/Coaching
- Contractual Committee Work
- FMLA/Leave of Absence
- IEP/504/Special Education
- Professional Credits
- Professional Learning Communities (PLC)
- Student Learning Objectives (SLO)
- Summatives/Evaluations
- Teacher Mentor Program

Stay Well,
Barbara Bettis
ETA President
