

We are providing an additional FAQ to address confusion and questions from members around a variety of topics. To avoid overloading everyone with information but at the same time give complete information, we've divided answers in this FAQ into the "tl;dr" answer plus additional clarifying information in blue.

The LWEA office will be on abbreviated hours during Spring Break. Please see question #9 for who to contact, but please anticipate that there will be a delayed response during Spring Break. We will resume normal operations on April 13, following the Spring Break.

1. I'm confused about PD requirements. I thought we had to complete 4 hours each week?

The 4 hours/week of PD is no longer a requirement. We negotiated new PD requirements in our last LOU.

- In our March 20th LOU, we agreed that staff would complete 4 hours each week of PD. Then OSPI revised their guidance about teaching and learning during the closure. In response, LWEA-LWSD returned to the bargaining table to negotiate new working conditions.
- In our March 27th LOU, the new PD requirement (section 1, letter l) was revised. Instead of 4 hours each week, staff are only required to complete the **Remote Teaching Series**, a 2.5 hour, self-paced course. LWSD indicated this course is designed to explore issues, concerns, and best practices for remote teaching.
- The district will continue to offer optional professional learning courses for staff throughout the closure.

2. I got an email on March 31, 2020 from Stephen Bryant titled "Remote Learning Tasks for March 20, 2020 – April 3, 2020 – Action Required." Is that *in addition* to the Remote Teaching Series?

No, the email you received from Stephen Bryant on March 31 contains the details for the **Remote Teaching Series**. To clarify:

- Only the **Remote Teaching Series** is required. The tasks outlined in the 3/31 email are the tasks you need to complete for the **Remote Teaching Series**. (1. review and discuss remote teaching and learning guiding documents; 2. explore Hanover Research's Toolkit; 3. review LWSD tools to support online learning; etc)
- Stephen Bryant sent an FAQ/Update email on 4/1 clarifying the training further.
- The **Remote Teaching Series** tasks should be completed by April 17, 2020.
- This PD is a self-paced. It is not a requirement that staff complete the **Remote Teaching Series** with PCC/teaching team members. We know that many staff members have personal obligations that may significantly impact their ability to complete the training with their PCC teams. We wrote our LOU to allow for maximum flexibility in the working conditions of our staff (and the learning conditions of our students).

3. So I have to provide enrichment materials during the week of April 13 and prepare for our transition to remote learning?

Yes. The week of April 13 is a week of transition.

- On Monday, April 13, staff will post/share the last set of enrichment materials to families/students for the week. Previously we had agreed that these materials would be posted by Wednesday of each week; now you will need to post the last materials on Monday, April 13 instead of April 15.
- From April 14-17, staff will need to focus on making the transition to remote learning. You should plan with your team and prepare for posting remote learning materials on April 20.
- The district is organizing work groups that will explore issues around defining critical content, remote assessment practices, and grading/credit. These groups are working over spring break to prepare guidance that will be shared after spring break.
- A limited number of teachers are piloting the remote teaching model during the week of April 13.

4. Can I video conference with students?

With the exception of special education services staff, not yet. Our new agreement (in I.H.) we provide a pathway to *eventually* be able to video conference. Here is the key phrase from the LOU: **with guidance from the district using approved platforms.**

- Our shared interest with the district is always student and staff safety. Currently we have no guidance from the district on appropriate protocols or an approved platform.
- The district is working to find a platform that all students can access/use. We cannot use Zoom because students' laptops would all have to be manually reimaged. The district also wants to provide guidance on video conferencing, so that staff are not liable and all stakeholders (staff, students, parents) aren't put in compromising positions. (However, if you are on a phone call via Skype for Business with parents and the parent puts you on speaker phone, it's okay because the parent is present and you are using a district platform to make the call.)
- Once the district provides a safe platform that can be equitably accessed and offers protocols for using video conferencing, we should be able to move forward with video conferencing with students.

5. Am I required to provide "live" instruction to my classes?

No, teachers are not required to provide "live" instruction on April 20.

- The district has attempted to create an instructional model that allows for maximum flexibility for staff and students/families. Therefore, we are not implementing a firm schedule of required class meeting times.
- Teachers should **NOT** require students to "attend" or report to a live video instructional session.

6. What grading system are we using during remote learning?

The district is organizing work groups of 8-10 teachers that will explore issues around defining critical content, remote assessment practices, and grading/credit. These groups are working over spring break to prepare guidance that will be shared after spring break. Please ask your principal about how to participate.

- Grading questions and concerns differ from elementary, middle, and high school levels.
- The district needs guidance from OSPI and the Washington State Board of Education (SBE) to proceed on decisions about grading and credit/graduation requirements.
- In a video on Friday, OSPI Superintendent Chris Reykdahl will answer questions from students/parents about learning and education while schools are closed. Many of the submitted questions relate to grading, earning credit, and graduation requirements. The video will likely be shared on the OSPI website: <https://www.k12.wa.us/>

7. What is being done to address the work expectations for specialists?

We have worked with the district to establish teams of specialists to meet with district leadership starting after spring break.

- These groups will use guidance from OSPI and the LWEA/LWSD March 27 LOU to clarify the work expectations and job responsibilities of specialists during the closure.

8. Are evaluations continuing?

Evaluations are currently paused.

- We have not negotiated new language on evaluations. We are working with the district and hope to come to agreement in late April.

9. I have a question but I'm not sure who to ask?

Building reps are your first source of information. Also, check out our website (<https://www.lakewashingtonea.org>). Have you signed up for our text line or encouraged your colleagues to sign up? We have over half our membership currently signed up! Text 41-411 to LWEAINFO to receive messages.

- Not sure who your building reps are? Email Terri (TNeely@washingtonea.org)
- If you are a building rep and are not sure how to answer a question, or want to privately ask a question try one of these people:
 - For questions from **Elementary staff**: LWEA Uniserv Director Katie Bishop (KBishop@washingtonea.org)
 - For questions from **Secondary staff**: LWEA VP Katie Badger (Katie.Badger@washingtonea.org)
 - For questions from **Elementary & Secondary: Librarian/Counseling Specialists, Itinerant Music/PE Teachers, ESAs, ELL/SN Teachers, and SpEd Teachers**: LWEA President Howard Mawhinney (HMawhinney@washingtonea.org)
 - For questions regarding the **Professional Fund, Leaves, and SEBB**: Terri Neely (TNeely@washingtonea.org)
 - For questions regarding **LWEA membership and enrollment**: Lama Chikh (LChikh@washingtonea.org)

10. In our last LOU we outlined a timeline for transitioning our work going forward. That timeline is still in place.

March 30-April 3

- ❖ Staff should continue to provide enrichment activities to families. During this time staff should be available as outlined in the LOU, section 1,b. Staff may choose to begin working on the Remote Teaching Series this week, as time allows.

April 6- 10

- ❖ Spring break. No work expected. Staff are not expected to complete any work, including the Remote Teaching Series, during spring break. Definitely take this time to rest!

April 13

- ❖ Last day of enrichment material to families/students; communicate the transition to remote learning that will occur on Monday, April 20. Per our LOU, we will be transitioning to our new work expectations. The week of April 13 is a week of transition. On Monday, April 13, staff will post/share the last set of optional, non-graded enrichment materials to families/students. Previously we had agreed that these materials would be posted by Wednesday of each week. Some schools/staff will need to plan for a Monday, April 13 delivery of materials instead of a Wednesday, April 15 delivery so that everyone has the rest of the week to prepare for our transition to remote learning.

April 14-17

- ❖ Staff are not expected to develop or share enrichment materials. The last day to provide families/students with enrichment materials is Monday, April 13.
- ❖ Staff are expected to engage in PD, planning, and collaboration in preparation for moving to remote/distance learning. Per our LOU, section 1,b,ii, from April 14-17 staff should prepare for the transition to remote learning. Staff should complete the Remote Teaching Series by April 17. *Pilot teachers will begin delivering remote learning starting this week.*

April 20 through when schools reopen.

- ❖ Staff are moving (at an abbreviated pace) through their curriculum, connecting with students, assessing work, and offering feedback. Our remote learning model will begin on Monday, April 20, as outlined in our LOU, section 1: a, d, e, f, g, h, l, j, and k.

Remember to “paws” during spring break and take it easy!!

