

**SCHOOL CITY OF HOBART**  
**STUDENT ENGAGEMENT AND ATTENDANCE AGREEMENT FOR E-LEARNING**

I hereby acknowledge, affirm and agree to the following:

Due to the COVID-19 concerns and risks posed to the members of the community with vulnerable health conditions, the School City of Hobart shall permit parents/guardians to elect to have their child participate in an alternative to in-person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year. School City of Hobart has elected to offer a full-time E-Learning option for students for the 2020-2021 school year to meet the needs of families that are unable or unwilling to send their children to school for in-person instruction due to COVID-19 related concerns, and for students who are unable to participate in in-person instruction at school.

E-Learning may also be used as a placement option pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, the IDEA and/or pursuant to a statement from the child's physician warranting the need for alternative instruction due to an underlying health condition consistent with federal, state laws and board policy and procedure. Such placement options are also available as temporary alternatives to in-person instruction due to a period of absence related to temporary health concerns and/or requests to quarantine.

School City of Hobart may recommend a full-time E-Learning option for students to ensure continuous learning for individual students when in-person instruction presents a health and/or safety risk.

This learning option is being offered on a temporary basis due to the current public health emergency. The school corporation retains the right to discontinue this program in its sole discretion upon at least one-week notice to participating families. Additionally, this option may not be the right fit for some students and the school corporation retains the right to require a student to return to in-person instruction, as more specifically explained below.

The choice for E-Learning is currently for the first semester of the 2020-2021. Students are subject to return second semester based on updated information received regarding the status of the COVID-19 pandemic. However, a student who is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, who has recently tested positive for COVID-19, or who has recently been exposed to coronavirus may be temporarily prohibited from returning to in-person instruction at school, in consultation with the local health department, the student's health care provider, and/or any Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and/or Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) guidelines.

**Student/Parent Expectations and Responsibilities:**

Student participation in the E-Learning program will require a substantial amount of parent engagement and involvement. The School City of Hobart is committed to providing parents and students with resources to support parent engagement, but it is the parents' responsibility to actively monitor, engage, and encourage their student in the learning process. Parents electing to have their child participate in the E-Learning program will be asked to provide written consent to acknowledge the conditions for participation.

Parents electing to have their child participate in the E-Learning program must provide assurances to the School City of Hobart of reliable access to Internet connectivity and virtual/remote instruction.

**As a condition of participation in the School City of Hobart E-Learning program, parents and student must agree to not record sessions without written permission from the principal of the school.**

**The student must maintain a regular school day schedule and class schedule and must login at the beginning of the school day.**

The student should be provided with a quiet place to complete his/her school work. Parents should check that their children are completing school work every day; students are expected to complete school work every day. Parents should monitor assignments and progress to ensure their student stays on task, and on track.

Opportunities during regular class time should be when students seek additional instructional support including asking questions of their teacher. Technology tools will be used during lessons during this regular schedule to allow students to participate simultaneously.

Student progress will be reported to parents through Skyward and Canvas. Parents are encouraged to contact teachers and administrators as needed with questions, concerns, or to request a conference regarding their student. Parents are expected to meet (virtually or in-person) with teachers as needed throughout the school year, as deemed necessary by the teacher or parent.

Attendance:

**Students must maintain regular attendance, the same as if s/he was attending school in-person.** Attendance for E-Learning is defined as virtual/remote presence during the regular school hours on a day in which E-Learning instruction is being offered, which means logging-in to Canvas or other program(s) as required by the teacher for each class period and completing required assignments on time. **Parents must use Absence Request in Skyward to report absences the same as if the student was attending school in-person.** Absences should be reported in Skyward before the start time of each school day. Attendance will be recorded daily.

A person who knowingly or intentionally deprives a dependent of education commits a violation under Indiana Code § 35-46-1-4, neglect of a dependent, and may be subject to criminal prosecution.

A student will be considered chronically absent if s/he has been absent for ten percent (10%) or more of the school year from any reason. A student will be considered habitually truant if s/he has been absent ten (10) or more days within the school year without being excused or without being absent under a parental request that has been filed with the school. The School City of Hobart will provide child protective services and the Lake County Juvenile Center data on chronically absent students.

In addition to other actions required by law or the school's general attendance policy, a student who does not maintain regular attendance (chronically absent or habitually truant, or as otherwise deemed excessive in the sole discretion of the School City of Hobart) may be withdrawn from the E-Learning program and required to return to in-person instruction at school at the sole discretion of the school corporation. Notice of the school corporation's intent to withdraw a student from the E-Learning program will be provided to parents at least one week in advance. Before withdrawal is finalized, the parents will have an opportunity to demonstrate that failure to participate was due to an event that qualifies as an excused absence under the School's absence policy (Policy 5200) or otherwise provide information supporting the student remaining in the virtual/remote program. A student who is withdrawn from the E-Learning program will not be permitted to return to the E-Learning program during the 2020-2021 school year, except that if the student is experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, has recently tested positive for COVID-19, or has recently been exposed to coronavirus may be temporarily permitted to return to the E-Learning program, in consultation with the local health department, the student's health care provider, and/or any then-existing Centers for Disease Control (CDC) and/or Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) guidelines.

#### Administrative Withdrawal

A student may also be withdrawn from the E-Learning program and required to return to in-person instruction at school if the student fails to make adequate academic progress and/or to ensure sufficient engagement in the E-Learning program as determined by the sole discretion of the school corporation. The School City of Hobart recognizes that the E-Learning format may not be an appropriate learning environment for every student. The school corporation will work with the parents to the extent possible to allow the student to remain in the E-Learning program if that is the parents' desire, but circumstances may arise wherein that is no longer in the best educational interest of the student and a change in placement may become necessary.

#### 504 or Special Education:

Students with a 504 or an IEP are subject to some different and additional procedures in relation to program participation, change in placement and accommodations. All applicable law pertaining to special education students will be followed the same as if the student was attending in-person instruction at school. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Parent will be provided with written notice of a case conference committee (CCC) meeting to be convened for the purpose of changing the educational placement and (when appropriate) conducting a manifestation determination, prior to withdrawing the student from the virtual/remote program for failure to maintain adequate attendance or any other reason. An opportunity for parental participation in the CCC meeting will be provided by scheduling the CCC meeting at a mutually agreed upon date, time, and place and by providing an opportunity for the parent to participate by other means if the parent cannot attend in person. The CCC meeting will be conducted without a parent in attendance if the parent chooses not to participate in person or by other means. The School City of Hobart will keep records of the school's attempts to arrange a mutually agreed upon date, time, and place for the CCC;

- The student’s IEP will be revised to specifically detail the student’s record of nonparticipation as a basis to consider a change of educational placement, the provision of notice, the opportunity to be heard, a summary of the two-prong manifestation determination analysis; a description of the services to be provided if the student is not enrolling elsewhere; and information related to the student enrolling elsewhere, if applicable.

**IN SIGNING THIS AGREEMENT, I ACKNOWLEDGE AND REPRESENT THAT I have read the AGREEMENT, understand it and sign it voluntarily as my own free act and deed; no oral representations, statements, or inducements, apart from the foregoing written Agreement, have been made.**

I, the undersigned parent/legal guardian, certify that I am the parent/legal guardian of the below named student, who is a minor child, and that I am requesting that my minor child be able to participate in E-Learning and that I agree, on my own behalf and on behalf of my minor child, including my and/or the minor child’s representatives, executors, administrators, heirs and assigns, that I am bound, and that my child, is bound by each and every term of this agreement.

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Print Parent/Legal Guardian Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Legal Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name