# EPR2

# <span style="color:darkred">ONLINE</span>
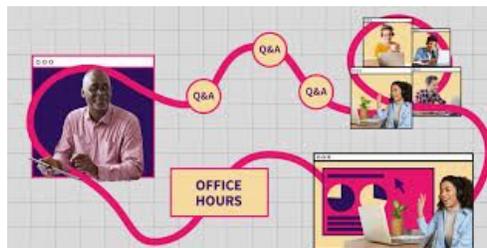
## Program Guide

# 2020-2021

# What is the EPR2 ONLINE?

The EPR2 ONLINE is a virtual learning opportunity for students during the 2020-2021 school year. Students will be assigned to a district teacher and learn from home 5 days a week. Most learning experiences will closely mirror in-person learning and will utilize similar curriculum, pacing, and assessments. Most learning will be asynchronous with office hours for support. Grading practices will also mirror in-person learning and **will not** be "hold harmless" as they were in the spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Learning will be a combination of synchronous and asynchronous learning. Synchronous learning will be a two-way, real-time, live instruction between teachers and students through the computer or other electronic devices. Asynchronous learning is an academic learning experience where students engage in the learning materials on their own time, interacting intermittently with the teacher via the electronic device.



Each week students will receive the learning plan and assignments for the week for their classes. Students and families should expect to learn for an amount of time similar to in-person learning.

| Grade | Minimum amount of dedicated learning time each week | Minimum amount of dedicated learning time each day |
|-------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| K-2 | 12 hours | 2 hours 30 min |
| 3-5 | 16.5 hours | 3 hours 30 min |
| 6-8 | 20 hours | 4 hours |
| 9-12 | 25 hours | 5 hours |

## Course Offerings

Most classes will continue to enroll online students. However, there are some classes that may need to be adapted to fit the online model of learning.  If a course cannot be offered virtually, students will be advised on a different course to take or take a similar course using a third-party vendor (such as Odyssey Ware).

## Expectations for EPR2 ONLINE Students

- Students should dedicate appropriate time to learning, using the time on task recommendations or as guided by the teacher.
- Students will make sure they can access Google Classroom for learning activities. Students will login with their Google credentials.
- Students will login to Lumens to check grades and missing assignments.
- Students should identify a comfortable and quiet space to learn and study.
- Students are encouraged to engage in online learning activities daily.
- Students should be ready to learn each day.
- Students are encouraged to show their face on the screen to engage with the teacher (and possibly) classmates virtually.
- Students are encouraged to  actively participate in class.
- Students will follow the dress code guidelines for their appropriate school building when working with teachers and other students during video conferences.
- Students are expected to complete assignments by the due date..
- Students will participate in a weekly check-in.
- Students should communicate with teachers and utilize office hours to receive support in their learning
- Students may be expected to collaborate with other students through discussion boards, virtual meetings, document creation, etc.

## Expectations for EPR2 ONLINE Families

- Families should work with the school district to ensure that they have the proper technology needed for virtual learning.
- Families should monitor district communications.
- Families will ensure that children can access Google Classroom. Students will log in with their Google credentials.
- Families should maintain communication with teachers, the school counselor, and administrators to partner in the success of the students.
- Families are encouraged to engage children in daily conversation regarding assignments.
- Families are encouraged to monitor time spent engaging in virtual learning.
- Families should support emotional balance of students by providing time for physical activity and play.
- Families are encouraged to create a comfortable and quiet space to learn and study.

## Expectations for EPR2 ONLINE Teachers

- Teachers will use Google Classroom as the learning platform to deliver and collect student work. Other learning platforms may be used in K-2 as well.
- Teachers will post learning schedules and assignments weekly.
- Teachers will provide accommodations/modifications to meet IEPs and 504 Plans for learners.
- Teachers should communicate with parents concerning the progress of students when there is a need.
- Teachers will update gradebooks weekly.
- Teachers should make students and parents aware of times available each day that can be used for support (office hours, plan time, etc.).

## Weekly Check-In and Office Hours

- Core-content area teachers will check-in with students AT LEAST once per week. The number of times students check-in with teachers will change as the semester progresses. This will depend on the difficulty of the content and how much help students might need.
- Weekly check-ins may not always be conducted by the teacher of record. Other certified staff may be used to check-in on students depending on the number of students enrolled and staff available.
- Teachers outside of the core-content areas may meet with students on an as-need basis.
- Check-ins may occur using Google Meets, phone calls, or emails.
- Teachers will work with the parent or guardian to set up weekly check-in times. Check-in times should occur during the school day and should not take longer than 30 minutes.
- Teachers may not necessarily have a set "office hour". However, parents or students can contact the teacher via email for help.
- **Tests and quizzes may be given during check-in times to allow staff to monitor student participation and progress.**

# Virtual Learning: Grades and Assessment

East Prairie R2 aims to closely replicate our usual grading and assessment practices while students are expected to learn from home. We believe that best grading practices apply to both in-person and during virtual learning. Given our focus on the well-being of our students, families, and staff and the numerous challenges associated with learning from home, we have developed the following framework for grading and assessment practices:

- Focus on student wellness and ensure students remain connected to their school community
- Learning virtually involves an emphasis on feedback so students can improve performance on the most essential skills and content.
- Assessment practices designed to ensure that students are learning including a focus on engagement in the virtual environment.

## Priority One: Student Wellness

Our primary focus will be to keep students connected to their community of learners and their teachers, counselors and administrators.  Teachers will:

- Check in often - Use videos, email, virtual meetings or even snail mail to maintain connections.
- Group Students - When possible, teachers will put students into smaller groups where they can connect with each other and collaborate.
- Establish routines - Routines are an important part of social emotional well being and should mirror classroom routines as closely as possible.

## Priority Two:  Learning

Learning virtually will look somewhat different than in-person learning with a  focus on providing students descriptive feedback so they can improve performance on essential competencies.

- The delivery of instruction may be by  videos or in person or  virtual meetings.
- Opportunities for students to demonstrate learning will be provided
- Teachers will provide students with feedback that is timely, descriptive, goal oriented, user friendly and actionable
- Students will have time to process the feedback and again demonstrate what they have learned
- Teachers will focus on essential skills and learning objectives
- Whenever possible students will be provided choices in what and how they are learning or demonstrating their learning.
- Students will be encouraged to set goals and assess their own progress

## Priority Three:  Assessment / Grading - ELEMENTARY

The sudden nature of last year's closure forced us to take a "hold harmless" approach to assessment and grading.  We will utilize best grading practices for the virtual environment.

- Classroom teachers will focus on gathering data or evidence of learning in order to adjust instruction and provide feedback that will help students improve.
- Classroom teachers will focus on the essentials for each content area.
- Practice will not be penalized - Redo's and updating of assessments will be encouraged.
- Evidence of new achievement will replace old evidence.
- Parents and students should be provided weekly feedback on each student's progress.

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## Priority Three:  Assessment / Grading - SECONDARY

The sudden nature of last year's closure forced us to take a "hold harmless" approach to assessment and grading.  We will utilize best grading practices for the virtual environment.

- Classroom teachers will focus on gathering data or evidence of learning in order to adjust instruction and provide feedback that will help students improve.
- Classroom teachers will focus on the essentials for each course.
- Practice will be of low or no value for grading purposes but will be reported in an engagement score.
- Redo's and updating of certain assessments will be encouraged.  Teachers  will communicate which assignments are eligible for redo's and revisions.
- Parents and students will be provided weekly feedback on each student's level of engagement.

## Dual Credit  Courses

**How will grading be handled for students enrolled in dual credit courses?**
- Students enrolled in dual credit courses will be expected to complete the learning objectives for the course as described in the course syllabus.

# Frequently Asked Questions about EPR2 ONLINE

**Do I have to have a computer and internet access to participate?**

Yes.  The district will provide each student (online or in-person) with a Chromebook.
Parents/guardians will make sure to provide a reliable internet connection.  If parents/guardians
need help securing an internet connection, they should contact the building administrator prior
to enrolling.

**Will the teacher be from my home school?**

More than likely, the teacher assigned to your student will be the same as if he or she was
attending in-person.  However, due to the number of students that may sign up for EPR2
ONLINE, other staff may be utilized.

**How is attendance taken?**

Daily attendance will not be taken.  However, weekly progress in assignments and participation
in weekly check-ins will be recorded.  If a student must miss a meeting, the parent or student
should make sure to contact the teacher to let him or her know.  The absence will be
documented for future reference.

**Will my IEP or 504 Plan be followed?**

Students with IEPs and 504 Plans will receive appropriate accommodations/modifications.

**Will I receive Title I services, ELL services, OT/PT, or speech services?**

Yes. Schedules will be created by educators to provide needed services to students that qualify.

**Will I be allowed to participate in clubs and activities and sports after school hours?**

Yes. The guidelines for "all in" students and EPR2 ONLINE students will be the same.

**Will I still be considered part of their school building community?**

As an EPR2 ONLINE student, you will still be affiliated with your school building and will be included in that communication. You will additionally receive communication from the East Prairie R2 administrators and counselors.

**What is hold harmless grading and will it be used for the EPR2 ONLINE?**

When utilizing a hold harmless approach to grading, a student's grade cannot be hurt by work completed or not completed during a specified period of time. During the fourth quarter of the 2019-2020 school year, all students were graded utilizing a hold harmless approach, meaning that any work submitted by students was not counted as a grade. **Grading practices will mirror in-person learning and WILL NOT be "hold harmless" as it was in the spring of 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.**

**How long will I be enrolled in EPR2 ONLINE?**

Students must commit to attend for one full semester.

**Will I be able to switch between attending the in-person and EPR2 ONLINE?**

Families that choose EPR2 ONLINE for the first semester will be locked-in until second semester. At second semester, those students can opt to return to in-person schooling or continue online. Families that choose to return to school as usual for the first semester may possibly opt for online school during the semester on a case by case basis (such as extended illness, etc.).

**Would I still receive meal services on virtual learning days?**

Yes. Meals will be delivered to those families that choose EPR2 ONLINE.

**Can my student complete their EPR2 ONLINE activities after I return from work in the afternoon?**

Yes. Families could opt to complete learning activities in the evenings when parents/guardians return from work. However, given the time required to complete the activities, students and parents may find it difficult to do so in the given time frame. Please refer to the chart above to see how much time will be needed each day.

**Will my student be required to attend meetings during the school day?**

Possibly.  Teachers will, on average, be checking-in with students individually regarding their progress once per week.  Google Meets, phone calls, and/or emails may be used.  This time is allotted for students to receive feedback, get help, ask questions, etc.  This is also the time that students may use to complete grade-sensitive activities such as tests and quizzes.  Teachers will work with parents and students to find a time that best fits their needs.  Parents and students should be aware that these communications will be completed by teachers during the normal school day.

**Will my student receive all the supplies that he or she needs to complete online learning?**

Yes.  Times will be scheduled for parents/students to pick up chromebooks and any other supplies needed.  If any supplies are required during the school year, the building principal and teacher will determine how to safely pick up those supplies.

**Will students be able to work ahead of schedule or have an extended deadline for work?**

Maybe.  EPR2 ONLINE classes will mirror in-person classes as much as possible.  Teachers will be allowed to structure their classes in the way that best suits their needs.  The due dates for assignments will be posted and will be very similar to the in-person class.
(*Note:  This is NOT the case if the student is ill or injured.  Students in those situations will be given extra time as per each building's student handbook.  Please reach out to your respective building for more information.)