

REMOTE LEARNING AT RTHS

Due to Covid19, failures across the nation have risen, RTHS is no exception. This will increase the need for Eagle Academy (credit recovery) for at a minimum of the next 3 years. Looking proactively at next year, we are concerned that some parents will still be leery of sending their students back to school due to lingering virus concerns. Additionally, we anticipate that some parents will request remote learning because their students have excelled in this structure.

Remote Learning 2020-2021 Data:

Currently the Eagle Academy staff is managing the remote learning program in collaboration with RTHS staff and solely managed the remote learners 1st semester. The following is a brief summary of the number of students who have been primarily in our care:

	Total Students	Courses Attempted	Courses Passed	% Passed
First Quarter	231	924	680	73.59%
2nd Quarter	206	789	617	78.2%
3rd Quarter	177	682	498	73.02%
4th Quarter	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD

First and second quarter, students were enrolled in APEX for the majority of their classes. We also had students that received paper/pencil packet courses or independent study courses. Second quarter, we diversified the offerings and asked some teachers to take some remote learners into their classes. These classes were primarily ESL services such as ESL Resource and ESL 1 and 2, Keyboarding 1 and 2, some Modified Special Education Classes and Special Education Resource. The sheer number of remote learners made managing the students on an individual basis onerous. As a result we asked RTHS staff to take many remote learners in their google classrooms. That reduced the number of students by approximately 30 kids. The remaining students are scheduled into a mixture of google classroom classes and APEX classes. Most remote learners have adjusted well to this change but some are struggling. We have moved those students back into as many APEX classes as we can. Those decisions are made in conjunction with the counselors, Eagle Academy staff and the parents and students. Fourth quarter looks very similar to the third quarter but our total number of students in APEX has been reduced to approximately 50 students.

Simultaneously Eagle Academy maintained a full-time caseload of students, although reduced, due to the number of remote learners we were managing. So far, we have been able to offer credit recovery to any senior who applied and showed interest. Those numbers are as follows:

	Full Time Eagle Academy Students
First Quarter	14 students, 7/14 graduated
2nd Quarter	11 students, 6/11 graduated
3rd Quarter	11 students, 7/11 graduated
4th Quarter	13 students,

Proposal for Remote Learners for the 2021-2022 School Year:

Eagle Academy can accommodate remote learners and maintain our current program. We think that we can continue our current in-person program, re-start our after school program and reasonably manage 30-40 fully remote learners. The RTHS Remote Learning Program is designed to accommodate students who are at an increased risk of severe illness, who have special health care needs, or who live with people at increased risk. This program could also be available on a limited basis, to students and families who felt remote learning was a better option than in-person instruction if space allows. We could potentially allow remote learning for students with severe anxiety, as an alternative to expulsion, or students who require homebound services amongst other reasons.

Framework:

Remote learning would run in quarters, which is consistent with the current Eagle Academy academic calendar. An application process will be developed for potential remote learners. An application already exists for full time students and after school students. A draft application is attached.

Schedule:

Running the remote learning program will require small changes to the schedule. Currently our Eagle Academy hours are:

- 9:00-2:00 for all full-time students
- 9:00-12:00 for full-time students in the work program
- The after school program runs from 3:15-4:00.

We would like to propose the following changes:

- 8:30-12:00 all full-time students
 - This would allow us to run at a minimum 6 teacher taught classes a quarter plus lab time for each student for individual study courses and online APEX classes.
- Remote learning 12:30-2:15
 - The Eagle Academy staff will utilize the same strategies they have implemented this year as remote learning coordinators. (Weekly communication with parents, sometimes daily communication with students, utilization of google voice, and detailed record keeping of all correspondence) The goal would be to get all remote learners to the building or on google meets on a regular basis.
- 2:30-3:30 After School Eagle Academy at RTHS

Staffing:

In order to operate the remote program efficiently we anticipate needing another full time staff member who is teacher certified. Samantha Kelly will have her teachers certificate in May. Ms Kelly already knows the program well and would be an asset as a teacher to the program. Ms Moberg is the lead teacher but also a social worker. Social work needs have increased over the years and that will continue due to Covid. Both academic and social emotional counseling will increase and need to be addressed.

Cost to the district:

There will be some cost associated with this program. We will need increased licensing for APEX. This could be covered by CARES money for 2021-2022 at a minimum. This is approximately a \$10,000 increase from the usual contract for Eagle Academy (\$5000). Samantha Kelly is currently employed as a teacher's aide and the independent study coordinator, for which she receives a stipend. As a full time-teacher, her salary and benefits will increase to that of a 1st year teacher. Additionally, each teacher at Eagle will need an overload for their work in remote learning. That will also be paid for by ESSER II or III money. I would like to add in a stipend for Ms. Moberg as well for doing the counseling portion of remote learning.

Course of Study:

The following is an inventory of what we could reasonably offer based on our current online and google classroom course catalog:

Potential Course of Study Available Currently in APEX:

- English
 - Regular 1-4 S1/S2
 - Creative Writing
- Math:
 - Alg. 1 S1/S2
 - Int. Alg S1/S2
 - Business Math S1/S2
 - Geometry S1/S2
- History Requirements:
 - American Gov.
 - US Hstory 1
 - US History 2 S1/S2
- Science Requirements:
 - Biology S1/S2
 - Chemistry S1/S2
 - Physics S1/S2
 - General Science S1/S2
- Health
- Intro to Business
- Electives:

- Accounting S1/S2
- College and Career S1/S
- Spanish 1-3 S1/S2
- French 1 S1/S2
- Psychology
- Sociology
- World History
- Additional electives are available on APEX but would have to be developed by the staff.

Eagle Academy offerings that could be utilized via google classroom:

- Keyboarding 1
- Keyboarding 2
- Independent PE
- Work Program
- Careers
- Social Issues--death penalty
- Social Issues--immigration
- Social Issues--gun control
- Speech
- Geography
- Geography-Asia
- Modern Lit.
- US History--focus on the constitution
- US History--1920's-WW2

Principles we would like to continue based on the success we have seen this year, and components of the program that went well:

- Shared spreadsheet with the counseling center and student coordinators
- Student coordinators--this would be the Eagle Staff if the numbers stay within 30-40 students.
- Monitoring progress daily/weekly
- Communication with students and parents
- Building relationships during a challenging time/circumstances
- Early graduates--this process would need to be adjusted. Requirements for early graduation were loosened this year due to pandemic circumstances
- Management of the overall program by Mindy and Megan
- Quarterly updates to the board of ed about student success/challenges

Things to change moving forward:

- Include an application process
- Reduction of the total number of students once we are no longer required to offer remote learning to any student as part of the mitigation measures
- Incorporate more writing/literature into course offerings
- Incorporate the teacher role more for remote learners

- Team assessment of student progress at the end of every quarter to make sure that remote learning is working well (admin, counselors, Eagle staff, parent and student)
- Develop a procedure for removing students from remote learning if it's not successful for them

Components that would need to be developed:

- FCS/Fine Arts/Tech/Ag/Business courses/PE:
 - 1 year long course or 2 semester courses offerings, initially for each instructional area. This would ideally be a course that is designed specifically for remote learning only and that no student has taken before. These would be in addition to the electives Eagle Academy already offers. Could be proctored by one of the above teachers or an EA staff member.
 - Pat Button will be teaching a section of remote PE for all remote learners
- Planning time with each team to go over standards and APEX offerings to make sure they align during the summer
- Students who receive special education services will be scheduled on an individual basis based on IEP goals and services. Potentially, we could look at scheduling a section of remote resource for a special education teacher to help manage minutes/goals etc...

Potential Issues:

- In the event the number of requests exceeds Eagle Academy's capabilities, Mr. Wilson and Mrs. Anderson would need to alter the master schedule to allow teachers to have remote sections when necessary or implement synchronous learning with RTHS courses. Eagle Academy would be able to handle all credit recovery sections via APEX or EA google classrooms.

