
Continuous Learning Plans Rule 0520-01-17

The Background:

Pursuant to Public Chapter 652 of 2020, the State Board of Education was authorized to approve emergency rules to address special circumstances created by school closures due to the infectious disease COVID-19.

At the June 22, 2020 State Board meeting, the Board approved the Continuous Learning Plans Emergency Rule 0520-01-17, which established the expectation for local education agencies (LEAs) and public charter schools to develop Continuous Learning Plans (CLPs) for the 2020-21 school year. CLPs address how the LEA or public charter school will continue to provide quality instruction to students in the event of COVID-19 related disruptions to traditional school operations during the 2020-21 school year. LEAs and public charter schools were required to develop and submit a CLP to the Department for approval utilizing a template created by the Department of Education.

This permanent rule establishes a pathway for LEAs and public charter schools to maintain CLPs for the purpose of addressing COVID-19 related disruptions through the 2020-21 school year and the 2021-22 school year, provided that the Governor-declared State of Emergency persists. The rule also refines expectations for CLPs, particularly in the areas of attendance procedures and access to licensed Tennessee educators. LEAs and public charter schools may need to modify and resubmit their existing CLPs to come into compliance with these requirements.

The State Board will hold a rulemaking hearing to seek public input on these rules prior to final reading.

The Recommendation:

The SBE staff recommends acceptance of this item on first reading.