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Outlining eLearning if Days are Needed

2 messages

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*Engage. Inspire. Empower.*

Deerfield Public Schools District 109

Dr. Scott Schwartz

Assistant Superintendent for Teaching, Learning & Innovation

Good Afternoon, District 109 Families:

We have received some good questions about what eLearning would look like in the event of a school closure. The Teaching and Learning Department and school teams have been preparing for this circumstance and we are pleased to provide the following guidance.

If eLearning days are announced, you and/or your child will receive daily and more specific communication from classroom teachers. To provide a basic preview, here are some details of what an eLearning day will include in District 109:

1. An eLearning day, per Illinois State Board of Education guidelines, is to include 5 hours of instructional time-on-task. This time can include a number of activities such as reading, using online tools, researching, completing practice assignments, watching educational videos, and more. These are the types of tasks teachers will be providing for students. While some assignments may require the use of a device, teachers will also provide balance by including offline learning opportunities.
2. Students (and families) can expect to receive information about assignments from their classroom teachers each eLearning day through email, Seesaw, or Google Classroom. In the elementary schools, this email will come at the start of the school day. In the middle schools, each teacher will be communicating with students at the regularly scheduled class time.
3. Families are welcome to support their child with assigned tasks; however, teachers will be available via email during normal school hours to provide

assistance. Teachers will provide their email and any other contact information when they communicate about the assignments.

4. Students may use any device to participate in the eLearning day(s). The Deerfield 109 Chromebook and iPad are preferred, as this will provide access to the appropriate digital tools. Our teachers are encouraging their students to bring home their devices and charging accessories nightly, if not already doing so.
5. Families who do not have access to wifi should contact their building principal for options, as we are prepared to provide a wifi hotspot for any family that requires one.
6. Students who receive special education services, per an Individualized Education Program (IEP), will receive additional guidance from their case manager. Any learning that is not able to be completed independently will be supported by the classroom teacher, case manager, or related service providers upon the students' return to school.
7. 24/7 tech support will be available via our network providers.

The goal of eLearning is to provide schools with uninterupted opportunities for teaching and learning even when a school closure is necessary. We recognize, however, that an eLearning day would be a **unique and new** experience for everyone. Each of us would continue to partner to make the time as **meaningful and relevant** for students as possible. Together, we would continue to evaluate the process and initiate any needed improvements along the way.

Sincerely,

Scott Schwartz, Ed.D.

Assistant Superintendent for Teaching, Learning, & Innovation
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Check out events, activities and programs offered throughout the community by visiting the [Community Fliers page on the District website](#). It includes valuable information for families from the other public entities that serve our community.

Deerfield Public Schools District 109
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