



Bellwood-Antis School District

The BASD creates a learner-centered environment and engages students in meaningful interdisciplinary experiences that cultivate the development of future-ready citizens.

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Website
www.blwd.k12.pa.us

December 12, 2019

Dear Parents and Guardians,

PLEASE NOTE IMPORTANT POTENTIAL CHANGES TO SCHEDULES FOR ALL K-12 STUDENTS IN THE EVENT THAT WE MUST CLOSE SCHOOL DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER.

IN THE EVENT OF A SCHOOL CLOSING THE DISTRICT MAY USE A FLEXIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL DAY (CYBER SNOW DAY). PLEASE SEE THE DETAILED INFORMATION BELOW.

The district is piloting a new program, Flexible Instruction Days (FIDs). We will use no more than three (3) FIDs this school year. We will evaluate the program throughout the school year and make appropriate changes. The state Department of Education has approved Bellwood-Antis School District's request to provide FIDs to our students. This means that on days when situations like winter weather or a building emergency require us to close our schools, we can provide instruction to our students at home rather than in the classroom (think "Cyber Snow Day.") The state will count this as a full day of school and we will not have to make it up during the school year.

Here's how this will work, should we have to close our facilities in the future due to snow or an emergency.

For Our K-12 Students

- A FID will be announced the day before, no later than noon. ***If the cancellation cannot be called by noon the day before, the district will use a traditional snow day.***
- Students will leave school with an understanding of, and access to work that will need to be completed at home in the event school is closed due to inclement weather.
- Students will be assigned work to be completed either using their school-issued devices and applications OR paper/pencil assignments. When appropriate, students should submit assignments virtually.
- Attendance will be taken via the submission of assignments. If your child is sick on the day of a FID, parents/gaurdians are to write an excuse as you would any other day.
- If a student is absent the day before a FID, the work may be completed at school when the student returns.



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- If students cannot complete the FID assignments due to lack of internet access or other factors (ie loss of power), then sufficient time will be provided for the work to be completed and submitted.
- Flexible Instructional Day (FID) lessons will be designed for students with special needs utilizing their program modifications, specially designed instruction and supplementary aids and services identified in their individualized education plans. Any related services (PT, OT, Speech, etc) scheduled during the FID will be rescheduled according to the frequency requirements of the students' individualized education plan or in make-up sessions during the remainder of the school year as a compensatory service.
 - Implications for FIDs will be discussed at the students' annual IEP meeting where the team will consider if particular needs require additional supports due of nature of a FID and will include those additional supports in the IEP specially designed instruction (SDI) section. An IEP team who determines that a student cannot receive FAPE during an FID through additional support and specially designed instruction (SDI) will be provided compensatory education during the summer.

Access to Teachers During the Day

- Your child's teacher(s) will be available for assistance, via email or other virtual means, from 9AM-Noon and 1-3PM during the FID.

Submitting Assignments

- Where applicable, students should submit assignments virtually. Submitting assignments the following day is acceptable as well, either electronically or via submission or paper/pencil work.

We believe that using a FID will enable us to continue the learning of our students while they are at home.

If we need to close our facilities due to inclement weather in the future, we will continue to notify you via phone, email, website and social media as is our practice. These communications will detail that we are using a "FID" and the day will not need to be made up during the school year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal or me.

Sincerely,

Thomas McInroy, Ed.D.
Superintendent