

## PHILIPSBURG-OSCEOLA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



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Dear PO Families,

As we inch closer to winter, I would like to take this opportunity to inform you about flexible instruction days which is a new program we will be instituting.

A **Flexible Instructional Day (FID) Program** is a tool available to public school entities to be used as an alternate approach to delivering instruction if a circumstance arises that prevents instruction in a customary manner. With the passage of **Act 64 of 2019**, section 1506 was added to the Public-School Code. Public school entities now have the opportunity to develop a Flexible Instructional Day program, enabling the public-school entities to meet the 180 instructional day requirement of section 1501. The FID program may be online, offline, or a combination of the two.

**FIDs are intended to support public school entities in cases when circumstances** (*i.e. a disease epidemic, a hazardous weather condition, a law enforcement emergency, the inoperability of school buses or other equipment necessary to the public-school entity's operation, damage to a school building, or a temporary circumstance rendering any portion of a school building unfit or unsafe for use*) **prevent the delivery of instruction in its customary manner or location.** If the public-school entity chooses to implement a FID program, the number of flexible instructional days may not exceed five (5) days per school year.

In the event that it is necessary to use a flexible instruction day, we will make every effort to notify students and families in advance. Our goal is for all students to have the opportunity to access necessary assignments and materials ahead of time. On a flexible instruction day, students will be expected to participate in instructional activities during regular school hours.

- Elementary (kindergarten through Grade 5)- 7:35 am-2:55 pm
- Secondary (Grades 6-12)- 7:20 am-2:40 pm

Responsibilities for students on a flexible instruction day will include the following:

- Students will utilize Google Classrooms as a platform for engaging in instructional activities. Google Classrooms will also be used to communicate with classroom teachers.

- Students will engage in a mix of live instruction and/or pre-recorded lessons that are a continuation/extension of lessons taught in the regular classroom.
- Students will seek out support/feedback from classroom teachers via Google Meets as needed.
- Students will complete assignments and activities provided by classroom teachers. Additionally, students will attend and/or participate in all instructional sessions provided by classroom teachers via Google Classrooms.
- Students will submit all completed assignments via Google Classrooms or by submitting hard copies to the classroom teacher upon returning to school. Any student who does not complete or submit assignments on the flexible instruction day or the day he/she returns to school will be marked absent.
- When possible, students who do not have access to internet will have the opportunity to download instructional materials ahead of time.
- All students will have access to instructional menus created by classroom teachers. Menus will be continually updated to align with content and curriculum being covered in the classroom. Activities on instructional menus will provide learning options for students that do not require internet access and can be completed off line if necessary. Menu assignments will be utilized by students without access to internet and will be submitted to classroom teachers upon the students' return to school. Any student who does not complete or submit assignments on the flexible instruction day or the day he/she returns to school will be marked absent.

Because this program is new to the district, we ask for your patience. Please bear with us as we work through the implementation process. Additional information pertaining to individual family's internet capabilities and attendance procedures will be provided by your child's classroom teacher in the near future.

Sincerely,



Dr. Gregg Paladina

Philipsburg-Osceola Area School District Superintendent

*The Mission of the Philipsburg-Osceola Area School District is to provide opportunities, resources and support for students to become lifelong learners.*