

Emergency Remote Instruction Plan



Background

Beginning in the 2020-2021 school year, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) authorized a “snow day pilot” program that allowed schools to deliver instruction remotely on days in which it would otherwise have closed due to an emergency. Following permanent adoption of remote instruction days by the Board of Regents in January of 2023, all schools are required by NYSED to have in place plans that cover the provision of remote instruction in the event of emergency school closings. In accordance with state regulations, the plan will be reviewed and updated annually.

Procedure

This plan is in place in the event that the school needs to close after utilizing all of its inclement closing days.

In the event of inclement weather conditions that would make travel excessively dangerous for our students and staff, or other emergencies that would otherwise cause the school to close, the program will remain in session and provide remote instruction to students. The decision to move to remote instruction will be made by the Executive Director, or designee, and communicated via school messenger and school website. Parents are required to provide updated contact information on a yearly basis and should contact the school immediately if contact information changes.

Academic Instruction

On remote learning days, academic instruction (synchronous and asynchronous) will be provided via Google Classroom, Zoom, Google Meet or Microsoft Teams, and/or work packets provided by the classroom teacher. The aforementioned can be accessed on any computer, tablet, or smart phone device. For students that do not have access to technology or internet service, both schools (Kingston and Ellenville locations) have several Chromebooks designated for remote learning. When the Chromebooks are distributed to those families in need, the parent would sign a consent form and they can use the device during remote learning times.

Google Classroom usernames and passwords are provided by the classroom and access to the classroom is established at the beginning of each extended and regular school year program. There, parents and students will find assignments, some posted for the entire class (such as videos, songs, games, activities, etc.), and some more specifically assigned to individual students based on their IEP goals. For assistance utilizing google classroom please scroll further down this page.

Group Zoom sessions will be scheduled each day by all teachers with links and log in information sent out by the classroom teacher. As with activities that take place during a typical school day, the length of video sessions will be consistent with the needs and abilities of each classroom. For the provision of synchronous academic instruction to occur:

1. You would need to be available during the time agreed upon to participate if/when necessary.

2. You understand that you may be asked to provide hands-on support to facilitate the provision of program and services.
3. Possess the necessary technology or device for Zoom, Google Meet or Microsoft Teams.

For those students who do not have good access to technology in their homes, or will not attend to the computer, teachers will provide work packets to complete, based on their Individualized Education Plan goals. Access to the classroom teacher or Family Service Coordinator will be available via email to assist with any questions and provide directions.

Related Services

Zoom sessions will be set up between students and their therapists. The provision of related services on any given day will be based upon the student's school therapy schedule. For example, if a student was scheduled for speech therapy on Friday, and we are going remote Friday, the speech therapist would reach out to the parent to confirm the scheduled time for a live zoom session. For the provision of mandated related services to occur:

1. You would need to be available during the time agreed upon to participate if/when necessary.
2. You understand that you may be asked to provide hands-on support to facilitate the provision of the related service session.
3. Possess the necessary technology or device for Zoom, Google meets/Microsoft teams, whichever forum mutually agreed upon between you and the therapist.

Attendance will be taken during remote sessions. Failure to participate or submit completed packets will be considered an absence.