

Through Public Act 100-1102, the State of Illinois expanded the ability of schools to maintain student engagement with academic content during inclement weather, or other unusual circumstances that close the school building, through the use of e-learning or distance learning. Grayslake District 127 is excited to plan for the use of e-learning during the 2019-2020 for up to 5 days, which aligns to the number of emergency days on the school calendar. The legislation limits the number of e-learning days to the number of emergency days listed on the calendar. Below is a frequently asked questions document regarding e learning.

E-learning FAQ for Students and Families

1. What is an e-learning day? Increased flexibility from the state currently allows schools to utilize distance learning on days when it is appropriate. These are most commonly used when a school cannot otherwise be in regular session, during a weather emergency or other extenuating circumstances.

2. What is the purpose of e-learning days?

E-learning days allow for learning to continue even when the school cannot be in session as normal.

E-learning days allow for the continuation of instruction and prevents the addition of another school day at the end of the year.

3. When and how will we know if an e-learning day is called?

The district will send out an all call to teachers, students, and families no later than 8:00 P.M. the night before. Teachers will post all assignments in Schoology no later than 8:00 A.M. the next morning. Teachers will be available via email during their regular workday hours for student questions. The teacher will post any other methods (discussion board, Skype, etc.) by which the teacher will be available in their e-learning folder on Schoology. If school is called off and an e-learning day used, you will be notified the night before. If school is called off due to a last minute emergency (i.e. a pipe has broken at 5:00 a.m.), it is unlikely that an e-learning day will be used. Instead, that school day would be made up at the end of the school year using one of the reserved emergency days. In all cases, the communication home will make clear whether an e-learning day is to be used.

4. Will attendance be taken?

Yes, it is required.

Students will be emailed a link to a Google form via their school email they must complete prior to 10:00 a.m. for attendance purposes. Students who do not log in will be counted as absent.

Like any other absence, parents can call to clear up any student marked absent incorrectly or if the student was unable to log in to due to a lack of wireless connectivity.

Students absent on an e-learning day are still responsible for the work assigned on that date as they would be for a regular school day.

5. What will my student work on?

Students will work from home on the assignments teachers have provided to them. Teachers will post any assignments students need online in Schoology. If an e-learning day is planned and not called due to exigent circumstances, teachers may distribute the day's work in advance. If a

widespread power outage prevents the implementation of an announced e-learning day, we may need to make up that school day during one of the planned emergency days at the end of the year.

6. Will teachers be available on e-learning days?

Yes, teachers are expected to be available during their regular workday hours via email and/or other electronic mediums the teacher announces through Schoology. All teachers will take a one-hour lunch on e-learning days- they may not be available during that time. Please allow for a reasonable response rate, as teachers will be communicating with students from all of their classes.

6. What is the due date for work assigned on E-learning days?

Work assigned on e-learning days called due to inclement weather or other emergent circumstances is due the next school day unless teacher directions give a longer due date. Students who do not have access to wireless on the e-learning day will be granted one additional day after returning to school to complete assignments without penalty. Students who were unable to complete assignments because accommodations were not available will also have an additional day once returning to school to complete assignments without penalty. However, every effort will be made to post assignments that allow all students to participate fully.

7. If the District calls an e-learning day, will students still need to make that day up during one of the identified emergency days listed on the school calendar?

If an e-learning day is used, we do NOT need to add on a day at the end of the school year to make up for the day. After all, students will be given assignments to complete at home and have electronic access to teachers during an e-learning day. However, please do not plan vacations during identified emergency days on the school calendar since unanticipated widespread power outages that prevent the implementation of a planned e-learning date may require we make up that school day at the end of the year.

8. What is required of students on e-learning days?

- a. Students must complete the attendance Google form sent to them via their school email that morning. This must be done by 10:00 a.m.
- b. Students are expected to complete any assigned work by the next school day, or by a later due date established by the teacher. Exceptions are described in number six.
- c. Students should email the teacher with any questions or concerns.

9. Can my student participate in e-learning if we do not have wireless access at home?

No student will be academically penalized because of lack of access to a wireless network. Students who were unable to complete work due to lack of wireless will be given an extension on assignments. However, here are a few tips regarding e-learning and wireless access:

- Any work done offline in Google on a student's Chromebook will be saved on the device and uploaded as soon as they connect with the school's wireless network.
- Wireless access may be required to access other resources a teacher assigns, like a video or a website. Below are links to information about low cost internet offered by Comcast and AT&T for qualifying families. Any questions about those programs should be directed to Comcast or AT&T. However, no student will be academically penalized if he or she is unable to complete an assignment or a portion of an assignment due to lack of internet at home. Students will be given an extension of the assignment and/or be given an alternate assignment.
 - [AT&T- 855-220-5211](tel:855-220-5211)
 - [Comcast-855-846-8376](tel:855-846-8376)
- Grayslake, Lake Villa, and Round Lake Area libraries have hot spots available for checkout for between 1-2 weeks at time. Hot spots give you wireless access. Check with your library to see what they have available and to learn the particulars of their hot spot programs.