



Dear District 95 Families,

I hope this message finds each of you settling in to a new week of eLearning. As promised, I am reaching out to provide more specific details about certain aspects of our eLearning plan that will be important for this week and beyond, as well as providing you with our comprehensive document should you have questions or need further guidance on a particular aspect of eLearning.

We have been hard at work enhancing our eLearning plan after having an opportunity to reflect on all aspects that led to a successful implementation with students and families, as well as those elements we could improve upon. This document includes greater clarity related to expectations for students, staff, and parents, in order to continue providing meaningful learning experiences for extended periods of school closures. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has required that all school districts develop a remote learning plan for implementation at the conclusion of the assigned Act of God days (ending on March 30). Remote learning is an overarching umbrella that describes a continuation of all educational services during an extended school closure. eLearning is one of the strategies that can be used by a district to fulfill educational services during a time of remote learning. Our eLearning plan fulfills this requirement and is approved by the Regional Office of Education, meaning that these days – along with the Act of God days declared by the Governor - do **not** need to be made up at the conclusion of the school year.

WHAT'S NEW THIS WEEK?

New this week, teachers will be practicing using Zoom (and/or Canvas Conference for grades 6-12) for virtual interaction between students and staff. By the week of April 6th, all teachers will be using these tools to enhance lessons using one of three different schedules provided for both teachers and students reflecting times established between 9am and 3pm that provide for a flexible, yet structured learning environment. Schedules still remain important for staff as they begin to embark on virtual learning/teaching opportunities for students. To ensure teachers are not scheduling virtual meetings on top of each other, we have formalized a schedule that will support educators in providing an optimal learning environment for students. Please expect greater communication regarding schedules from your child's individual teacher(s) but expect that staff may begin practicing and scheduling either Zoom or Canvas Conference meetings to better prepare students for virtual opportunities next week.

Two other significant developments in our plan will begin tomorrow, March 31st, attendance and grading. Here is what you need to know about these developments, broken down by levels.

ATTENDANCE

GRADES PRE-K-5

How does my child get marked as "present" in class?

Beginning **Tuesday, March 31**, and for the duration of e-Learning days, parents must complete a brief attendance form for each of their children in Grades Pre-K – 5. To complete this required

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daily attendance form submission process, click on the attendance link for your school found on the [e-Learning webpage](#). Parents may complete the attendance form(s) at their convenience anytime between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

What should I do if my child is sick or unable to participate in eLearning on a particular day?

Instead of filling out the attendance form, call the school's attendance line as you normally would if your child would not be in school. The phone numbers for the schools are on the [eLearning webpage](#).

GRADES 6-12

How does my child get marked as "present" in class?

Your student needs to log in to EACH Canvas course AT ANY TIME DURING THE DAY UNTIL 10p.m. to be marked present.

What should I do if my child is sick or unable to participate in eLearning on a particular day?

Call the school's attendance line as you normally would if your child would not be in school. The phone numbers for the schools are on the [eLearning webpage](#).

GRADING

During eLearning days, District 95 will continue to use a traditional grading structure for students in grades 4-12 with a goal of supporting students to find success. **Teachers will be discussing grading practices with your students to share that District 95 has defined expectations related to supportive grading practices that have been adjusted to reflect our current situation as well as flexibility for our learners as they adjust to a new educational structure.** A few of those practices that are noteworthy include:

- For a student to maintain their current grade, they must engage and complete all learning assignments/assessments required by the teacher. Letter grades will continue to be based on the quality of work and demonstration of knowledge and skill acquisition at or above defined expectations. Students whose summative grade drops less than their current letter grade, will be directed to review, refine, and resubmit the summative learning assignment/assessment for the opportunity to maintain their previous grade.
- Students can improve grades as they demonstrate proficiency/mastery/attainment of prior and future skills and work.
- Grades 4-12 students will not earn an "F" during eLearning. Rather, students who earn a summative score of 59% and below, will receive a grade of *Incomplete (I)* with the expectation of completing the learning requirements by the end of the first semester upon returning to in-person learning experiences, with the exception of a high school senior. High school seniors must work to improve an *Incomplete* to a grade of A, B, C, or D at least 5 days prior to graduation
- Students struggling to maintain and/or improve summative grades may receive additional supports from other administrators and educators within the school (high school deans, principals, assistant principals, instructional coaches, reading specialists, resource teachers, etc.).

- Students in grades 4-5 will only receive traditional grades in English Language Arts/Reading (ELA) and Mathematics. All other subject areas will indicate whether or not students developed the expected essential understandings.

Grading Scale for Grades 4-12		<i>*All students earning a 59% and below will receive a grade of Incomplete and be required to demonstrate mastery of all expected priority skills before the end of the next school semester.</i>
A	90-100%	
B	80-89%	
C	70-79%	
D	60-69%	
I	59% and Below*	

Students in grades K-3 will continue to receive feedback related to specific content area priority skills. Report cards will be amended to reflect the standards and skills being taught. Also, I am providing a link to our comprehensive [eLearning Expectations document](#), though please keep in mind that we may make minor modifications over time as we begin to “live” the plan. This is a fairly lengthy document, and it is not necessary for you to read the entire plan, as I will continue to communicate with you about individual aspects of the plan as they become relevant. If you do access the plan, note that the table of contents has links which will take you to the section you wish to see.

Finally, [please click this link to see my Podcast](#), which is a first in a series of talks related to our new eLearning expectations.

Please continue to reach out to us if you need any assistance at all. Remember that you are not alone in this; we are partners in providing continuous learning for our students. Keep up the great work at home, by every account you and your students are doing a wonderful job!

Thank you and please take care.

Sincerely,

Dr. Kelley Gallt

Superintendent