



CICERO SCHOOL DISTRICT 99

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August 8, 2022

Dear Cicero District 99 Family and Community Members:

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) established Public ACT 101-0012 in July 2019, which allows school districts to utilize an eLearning Day rather than an Emergency Day. This allows Cicero District 99 students to attend school remotely, in lieu of using an emergency day in the event of a school closure due to extreme weather conditions (snow, cold, etc) or other emergencies (power outage, etc.). The use of an eLearning Day eliminates the need to make up the day at the end of the school year.

The eLearning Plan requires approval by the Board of Education and verification by the Regional Office of Education and the plan shall be in effect for a 3-year term. The eLearning Proposal will be presented to the Board of Education on Wednesday, August 17th at 6:30 in conjunction with a public hearing. The purpose of the public hearing is to seek input from school personnel, parents and other community members concerning the allowance for eLearning Days in lieu of emergency days. Information regarding the Board meeting and public hearing can be found on the Board of Education page on the district website.

Sincerely,

Dr. Aldo Calderin, Ed.D.
Superintendent

Cicero School District 99

e-Learning Plan

2022-2023



Cicero School District 99 is seeking approval to utilize E-Learning Days in place of potential emergency school days for the 2023, 2024, and 2025 school years. This plan represents the protocol for implementation for a successful e-Learning Day.

School Day during eLearning Day

Teachers and students will follow their regularly scheduled school day. Each teacher in the district has access to online platforms that provide a mode of communication between students and teachers. On the eLearning Day, the students will be instructed to attend class via Google Meets. They will complete the learning activities as assigned by each one of their teachers, i.e., regular classroom teachers, specials teachers, ESL teachers and special education teachers, within the available learning management platforms (Google Classroom or Schoology). The eLearning Day will include at least three hours of synchronous instruction and no less than five hours of instruction and schoolwork.

Attendance

Teachers will require students to log into the Google Meet, submit completed work and/or complete online programs that validate the time spent interacting with the program to earn credit for attendance.

Like any other assignment, eLearning Day assignments are required to be submitted to the teacher. To cover technical difficulties or other difficulties beyond a student's control, additional time will be provided to students to complete the assignments within three days upon their return to school. Completed assignments will earn credit for attendance.

Computer and Online Access

District 99 is a 1:1 Chromebook district. All students K-8 have a Google Chromebook. All students that have expressed a need for internet access have been provided a hotspot for use outside of school. The hotspot ensures all students in District 99 have access to the internet.

With a very secure authenticated filtering system that covers device usage in and out of school, our students were and are technologically ready to participate in learning activities virtually.

Cicero School District 99

e-Learning Plan

2022-2023



Appropriate learning opportunities for students with special needs

The Special Education Staff will utilize the following supportive systems: As a result of each student having an individual device, Special Education students are familiar with and utilize apps that improve accessibility to curriculum and instruction. Special Education students who attend general education classes utilize the procedures in place for general education students.

Students requiring specific accommodations or modifications can access the appropriate Program Supervisor, Resource Teacher, General Education Teacher, or Co-Teacher through the platform determined by the staff member providing support. The Special Education students are required to complete the same attendance procedures as the general education students.

Besides completion of their core academic coursework, they are also required to complete learning activities for any special services they would have received on the day we were conducting an eLearning Day. For example, if a child regularly receives speech services on a Friday, then during an eLearning Day on Friday, he/she would be contacted by his/her SLP and required to virtually participate in speech activities.

The students may complete online assignments created by the classroom teacher in conjunction with the Special Education case manager or through the Special Education teacher directly, based on the needs of the child and IEP goals for each student. For structured learning classes, AIP, and Instructional classrooms, the students will be provided with both online access to activities and a take home bag of books and activities at the child's instructional level so that he/she could continue to work on IEP goals during the eLearning Day, whenever possible. Since all the eLearning Day activities are extensions of the academic activities students would complete during a traditional school day, special education students continue to progress towards skills as if school was in session.

Direct access to the school nurse for questions or concerns for students may be directed to the nurse's district email.

Appropriate learning opportunities for Multilingual Learners

Students requiring specific needs based on their native language will access the appropriate programming during eLearning Days. Students will follow their regularly scheduled school day which includes access to their teachers who provided services.

Cicero School District 99

e-Learning Plan

2022-2023



Attendance Verification

As previously stated, students are required to attend class via Google Meets, to submit coursework electronically through a predetermined platform chosen by the teacher, or to complete work via online platforms. Students will follow their regularly scheduled school day. For ELearning Day assignments, students will have up to three days to submit assignments for which they are unable to submit electronically. Completed assignments will earn credit for attendance.

eLearning Day Notification

If we call an e-learning day, the announcement will come by 8:00 p.m. the night before via our automated calling system, Facebook, and through email to parents. We will also post a notice on the homepage of our website at www.cicd99.edu.

If the district needs to cancel school for any reason after 8:00 p.m. of the prior night, or if the emergency does not allow sufficient time to inform students to bring their Chromebooks home, we can still use a traditional emergency day and add the day at the end of the year as necessary.

eLearning Day Training

Teachers will receive communication regarding logistics and expectations of Google Classroom usage on eLearning Days. Prior to January, Building Meeting time will be utilized to share logistics and ensure staff is familiar with all resources and protocol.

Collective Bargaining Representatives

The Human Resources Department and the Assistant Superintendent for Educational Services will meet with the Union prior to implementation to review expectations.

Review and Revision

Data will be reviewed for Google classroom home access in addition to mobile hotspot accessibility for students without home internet. We will audit the type of learning activities assigned and their link to the previous days' learning activities, the amount of assistance parents or guardians are expected to provide to their children, and the ability of our youngest students to access Google Classroom and complete assignments.