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E-Learning Plan | 2026-2029
Schiller Park School District 81

Public Act 101-0012 of the 101st Illinois General Assembly permits local school districts to establish an e-Learning Plan to sustain learning in an e-environment. After effective implementation of this e-Learning Plan in 2020 for use during the COVID-19 pandemic, Schiller Park School District 81 will continue to utilize this e-Learning Plan to allow e-learning on emergency days. Since students in SD81 are proficient in digital learning experiences in the classroom, teachers and staff have the ability to deliver educational experiences beyond the walls of the classroom, simultaneously complying with the statutory requirements.

Due to the state legislation and our current technology infrastructure, SD81 can meet the statutory stipulations to use e-learning days in a manner that permits students to use digital tools to access learning opportunities from e-locations.

Required Elements:

The regional office of education or intermediate service center for the school district must timely verify that a proposal for an e-Learning program has met the requirements specified in this Section and that the proposal contains provisions designed to reasonably and practicably accomplish the following:

(1) to ensure and verify at least 5 clock hours of instruction or school work, as required under Section 10-19.05, for each student participating in an e-Learning day;

(2) to ensure access from home or other appropriate remote facilities for all students participating, including computers, the Internet, and other forms of electronic communication that must be utilized in the proposed program;

(2.5) to ensure that non-electronic materials are made available to students participating in the program who do not have access to the required technology or to participating teachers or students who are prevented from accessing the required technology;

(3) to ensure appropriate learning opportunities for students with special needs;

(4) to monitor and verify each student's electronic participation;

(5) to address the extent to which student participation is within the student's control as to the time, pace, and means of learning;

(6) to provide effective notice to students and their parents or guardians of the use of particular days for e-Learning;

(7) to provide staff and students with adequate training for e-Learning days' participation;

(8) to ensure an opportunity for any collective bargaining negotiations with representatives of the school district's employees that would be legally required, including all classifications of school district employees who are represented by collective bargaining agreements and who would be affected in the event of an e-Learning day;

(9) to review and revise the program as implemented to address difficulties confronted;

Introduction:

Public Act 101-0012 of the 101st Illinois General Assembly permits local school districts to establish an e-Learning plan to address student learning in a remote environment. Due to the recent state legislation and our current technology infrastructure, SD81 can meet the statutory stipulations to use e-Learning days in a manner that allows our students to access learning opportunities from remote locations through the district's 1:1 iPad initiative and other technology resources.

e-Learning Days will provide meaningful learning opportunities during **emergency** school closing days. If an Emergency e-Learning Day is necessary, it is considered a regular school attendance day and does not need to be made up at the end of the school year. The Emergency e-Learning Day will sustain academic progress for students regardless of emergency school closures that can occur during the course of any given school year. While in-person instruction is **always** the preferred method of instruction, we must prepare should we need to use e-Learning days.

Communication:

The e-Learning plan general expectations and responsibilities will be communicated to teachers, staff, students, and families. Students and parents/guardians will be notified through typical SD81 communication channels (Parent Square Phone/Email, Alert, Instagram, SD81 Website, Facebook etc.) of the District's intent to use an e-Learning day in place of an emergency school closing.

The following general guidelines will be communicated prior to announcing an e-Learning Day:

- Teachers will provide a Zoom link in the school's academic platform (Google Classroom, Showbie, Seesaw etc.) to access their classes accordingly.
- **Students will follow the same schedule as a regular school day including special classes/exploratory classes**.
- Attendance will be taken with teachers - marking students present in Powerschool.
- Principals and teachers will notify parents that the possibility of an e-Learning day exists and how they can locate important information on these days (Showbie/Google Classroom).
- All teachers and staff should follow their regular schedule during e-Learning days. During the day, a class may follow a usual format as laid out by the teacher. The expectation would be that a teacher checks in with the class at the beginning of a subject area to explain an assignment and ensure students know where to access the activity. (Showbie/Google Classroom). Then, the teacher would continue to remain available and present in a Zoom for the remainder of the class period to answer any questions.
- All support staff and the related personnel should plan on seeing groups per their usual schedule via Zoom. They may teach their lessons in small groups virtually or follow the other teachers' schedules to access students in a private breakout room. When not meeting with specific students, they should have a link open on Zoom for students who may have questions or concerns during the course of the e-Learning day.
- It is the classroom teacher's responsibility to review each student's work that is completed for the e-Learning day and verify the attendance eligibility.
- Data will be collected district-wide on program usage and online activity during the e-Learning days to verify participation and program effectiveness.
- All certified staff members will be responsible for providing e-Learning Plans to their immediate supervisors.

School Day and Student Attendance

The School Day during an e-Learning day will consist of synchronous and asynchronous instruction. Below are the start and end times of each SD81 school, keeping the same daily schedule for instructional time for core subject areas as well as specials, just as they would in person. This would meet the minimum requirement of 5 hours of instruction.

Kennedy 7:55 am - 2:30 pm
Washington 8:15 am - 3:00 pm
Lincoln 8:40 am - 3:35 pm

Student attendance and participation monitoring will take place through the Power School portal along with utilizing Zoom as well as platforms, such as Google Classroom and Showbie. *E-learning days are counted attendance days and impact our yearly attendance average for ESSA.*

Teachers will account for all assignments in order to provide attendance credit for each student.

The goal of e-learning is to provide a seamless transition from the classroom to the learning-at-home environment. Instruction will be primarily synchronous (or live/direct-instruction) allowing for real-time discussion, guided practice, and immediate feedback. Parts of the day will also include asynchronous (or independent practice), providing students with time for independent application and reflection, just as they would have during a regular school day.

Teaching & Learning/Curriculum

Student learning activities will be based on the current SD81 curriculum which are aligned with the Illinois State Learning Standards. Teachers will collaborate in grade-level teams to develop engaging activities that are based on a student's current instructional program (ex. ELA, Math, Science, Music, PE, etc). Learning activities will be age-appropriate, instructionally balanced, and meet the hourly requirements of the e-Learning plan. (5 hours)

Pre School recommendation, per ISBE, is 20 minutes of e-Learning and hands-on activities to extend learning at home. PreK students will participate in whole group/message time together as a classroom on Zoom, and then receive a matrix from their teacher to complete for the e-Learning day (with options that contain age-appropriate social-emotional, literacy, math, movement, science, and art activities). PreK focuses on high-touch engagement, play-based synchronous moments, and heavy family partnership.

K-5 prioritizes foundational skills with frequent brain breaks and guided synchronous transitions to keep young learners on track.

6-8 focuses on departmentalized transitions, increasing student autonomy, and preparing learners for more complex, independent problem-solving.

Student and Staff Connectivity

Student learning will be implemented utilizing district-approved platforms such as Google Classroom and Showbie on their district-issued iPad. Teachers will be available to interact with their students digitally, utilizing Zoom during their contractual time on e-Learning Days. Additionally, students will also have the opportunity to engage with their peers in the digital classroom.

Teachers and staff who will interact with students on e-Learning days all have district-issued devices to support student learning. If students are having an issue with the internet or are experiencing a power outage during an e-Learning day, they will be able to request flexibility in due dates and/or participation credit.

If the e-Learning day option is exercised, the District will make sure students and parents can access the remote learning activities and expectations by providing the appropriate resources (ex. iPads, Wi-Fi hotspots to families based on an "as-needed" basis, etc.)

Upon request, parents and/or students may request non-electronic materials at the beginning of the school year if they are unable to participate in e-Learning Day. Additionally, students can receive resources from the teachers on the next school day following a school closing. Students have five days from the date of the e-Learning day to turn in any work either electronically or non-electronically.

Student Responsibilities:

- All District 81 students (K-8) will utilize their iPads to participate in the e-Learning activities.
- Students who have access to devices and the internet at home will be able to access their e-Learning activities online.
- Wi-Fi hotspots are available on an "as-needed" basis for families without Internet at home.
- Learning materials in paper format will be made available, upon request.

IEP and EL Students

Students will be afforded all reasonable accommodations and modifications, outlined in their IEP, 504, and/or support plan(s). Teachers, paraprofessionals, and related service staff will be available during the hours of instruction to provide services and additional assistance to students. Classroom teachers, in collaboration with the Special Education team, will address student needs for e-Learning on an individual basis. Any child who has specific learning or accessibility needs will receive the appropriate support or modifications as part of their e-Learning plan. Students who receive related service minutes in their IEP (OT/PT, Speech) may receive hands-on tasks provided by the therapist/clinician Any missed related service minutes due to an e-Learning day will be made up on an individual basis. Individual approaches will be determined based on what is appropriate for each student and family.

Staff Training

The staff has been trained on attendance procedures, role expectations, and digital resources used for e-Learning (Google Classroom, Showbie, Zoom, etc.) The staff will continue to receive training on any new district-issued technology and digital resources and will have the support of IT specialists, building and district administrators, and instructional coaches when e-Learning days are implemented.

District Responsibilities

- If an e-Learning day is implemented, it is the District's responsibility to make sure students and parents can access remote learning through ensuring that students have access to the necessary assistive technology and internet.
- The district will ensure that all staff have the ability to perform their e-Learning duties and make arrangements for staff.
- The district will offer the option to take personal days as applicable for those staff who are unable to participate. Comp time for custodial/maintenance staff will be available for any staff that are able to work on those emergency days.
- Surveys and other data collected from e-Learning days will be reviewed and analyzed to make appropriate adjustments.
- The district will collaborate to recommend any changes on annual basis
- Parents and families will continue to be notified of the availability of Wi-Fi hotspots (around the community) for those in need of Internet access.