Mt. Pulaski CUSD23 e-Learning Plan

Purpose

The Illinois State Board of Education through Regional of Education #17, afforded school districts the opportunity to implement an e-Learning Plan. An e-Learning plan allows school districts to have the option to conduct classes remotely on days of inclement weather. This plan would allow students to be instructed when weather does not allow for safe travel to school. It also limits the need of emergency days to be added the end of the year which can drag a school year into summer break.

Process

Mt. Pulaski CUSD23 had temporary permission during the pandemic, through a limited application process, to perform remote instruction (e-Learning) with students. This fall, district administration completed the full application process which included the creation of a plan, a public hearing and submission of an application packet to the Regional Office of Education. The Board approved the MPCUSD23 e-Learning Plan 7-0 at the November 16, 2020 meeting. The application packet was then submitted to the ROE #17 and approved.

Structure

MPCUSD23 is a "One to One" school district which means all students have access to a technology device (iPad). This provides the ability for all students to digitally connect with the teachers for instruction given they have internet access in their homes. The students who have limited or no access to the internet will be provided devices that will allow them to connect. It is the goal of our schools to have 100% of staff and students obtain internet access from their homes.

Google Forms was selected as the platform students and teachers will use to access assignments and communicate through. In the event that internet access is not available, the instructors will provide alternative but equal opportunities for affected students. All instructional staff will work together to ensure students have equal access and opportunity and individual education plans will be modified to fit the needs of individual students.

Communication with parents and students will take place through text messaging, email and phone communications. Training for students and staff has been conducted throughout the school year as we have engaged in the process of hybrid learning programs requiring both in person and remote instruction.

Implementation

The e-Learning Plan will be implemented when the district Superintendent deems that travel to school or circumstances at school are too treacherous for in person instruction to take place. Families will ideally be given overnight notice that the e-Learning Plan will be conducted, but notice will be provided to later than 6:00 am the day of the event. During e-Learning (remote instruction) days, students will be instructed to gather assignments from either Google Classroom or See Saw and complete tasks presented by their instructors. Junior high and high school students will be required to adhere to the district 1:30 pm dismissal schedule and attend each period of their schedule.

Conclusion

Much time, thought and effort was placed into the development of the e-Learning Plan with months of actual trial and error. It is the district's hope that this plan will allow uninterrupted instruction and a more reliable district calendar for families. Specific questions regarding the Mt. Pulaski CUSD 23 e-Learning Plan should be directed to the district office:

(217)792-7221 or flamkey@mtpulaski.k12.il.us