



Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Application

Status: **Approved**

 Barton School District (5401000)

School Year 2021-2022

Applications will be reviewed in the order received. Incomplete applications will be returned to the district.
A notification letter will be sent to the superintendent at the email address listed above upon approval by the Arkansas State Board of Education.
NOTE: The approved application must then be posted on the district website - State Required Information.

District:	
LEA #:	5401000
Superintendent:	David Tollett
Email:	dtollett@bartonsd.org
Phone:	(870) 572-7294 Ext. 4790
Duration Requested (not to exceed five years):	5 Years (School year 2021-2022 to 2026-2027)



AMI (Alternate Method of Instruction)

As per Arkansas Code Annotated Â§ 6-10-127 a district may apply for up to 10 days of AMI for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including [remote] learning, on days when the district is closed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances such as:

- contagious disease outbreak
- inclement weather
- other acts of God
- utility outage

Number of AMI days requested by the district. 10
 (Please note that all AMI days utilized must be noted in eSchool. Sporting events, funerals, other school events, lack of substitutes, or lack of bus drivers do not qualify as exceptional circumstances.)

Provide a description of the AMI assignments and materials used at each school within the district to effectively facilitate teaching and support learning for the benefit of the students. Please include information if the district will utilize technology-based assignments or paper packets. (AMI packets must be available on-line or have been sent home prior to the designation of an AMI day)

Barton School District will utilize both technology based packets and paper packets for AMI days. Assignments will be made available to students online. In the event of major power outages, paper packets will be distributed to students that are affected by the power outage. Multiple hotspots using Cares Act funding are provided by the district throughout the communities within our district to accommodate students that do not have internet access. Our AMI plan will allow teachers to be able to continue the learning in a planned manner that is aligned to standards and student learning goals. Because AMI days interrupt the flow of instruction in the classroom, this plan will allow students to stay on learning path instead of having to make up that time after the pace is over. We can address student deficits without losing time or student focus due to an AMI day. Student Success Plan information will be used to drive this instruction. This plan is beneficial for students, educators, and parents because it will allow learning to increase without disrupting schedules that are set by the district. Assignments and materials that are common to the rigorous classroom work will be used to include but not limited to: Google Classroom, textbooks, worksheets, creative projects, and research papers. Students and parents will be notified of digital AMI work prior to potential reasonings of school closing.



Describe how student attendance will be determined for an approved AMI day. (All attendance should be determined and reported in eSchool within 5 days of the AMI day.) May include a link (URL) to the attendance policy for digital learning students if applicable to all students during AMI days.

Students will be counted present for each AMI day if all completed work is turned in to the teacher for a grade by the end of the 3rd day back from an AMI day. This allows for any teacher to help on assignments that could have been confusing. Attendance sheets from the teacher and office will be used to maintain accurate records. All AMI work will be graded by the teacher and given as a classroom assignment. The district handbook will be used to determine excused or unexcused absences. If the work is not submitted by the end of the 3rd day back with no parent explanation, the grade will be given as a zero, and the student will be counted as absent. The principal will make final decisions on all excused and unexcused absences.

Describe how the district will ensure implementation of Individual Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities on AMI days. Include how the district will involve the special education teacher in the provision of special education services during the AMI day to meet the individual needs of each student.

Barton School District will continue to use tele-services or synchronous video conferencing for OT, PT, and speech. Our AMI plan will allow SPED teachers to be able to continue the learning for our students and maintain instruction in a planned manner that is aligned to standards and student learning goals. Because AMI days interrupt the flow of instruction in the classroom, this plan will allow students to stay on learning paths instead of having to make up that time after the pace is over. We can address student deficits without losing time or student focus due to an AMI day. Each student's IEP and Student Success Plan information will be used to drive this instruction. This plan is beneficial for students, educators, and parents because it will allow learning to increase without disrupting schedules that are set by the district. Assignments and materials that are common to the rigorous classroom work will be used to include but not limited to: Google Classroom, textbooks, worksheets, creative projects, and research papers. All work will be modified according to the student's IEP along with teachers and SPED instructors being available to help the student. All measures of compliance will be met according to the student's IEP needs and work.

Describe how accommodations and related services will be provided.

Accommodations and related services will be provided by regular classroom teachers and SPED teachers by assignments and materials reflecting their IEP and all special services through Google Classroom. Teachers will be able to assist students by phone and online during the AMI day.



Please include the link (URL) to the webpage or social media where information will be posted to announce the date of the AMI day and reason for utilizing the AMI day - (this should match the AMI dates entered into eSchool). (Example: December 1 will be an AMI day due to inclement weather)

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