

Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day Frequently Asked Questions for Elementary Parents

1. What is a Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day is a “snow” day during which students will work at home on remote instruction and/or assignments provided by their teachers.

2. Why are we implementing these days?

Remote School Days will allow our academic schedule to continue uninterrupted, which is vital to both short-term and long-term learning and success. These days will also enable us to take advantage of our investment in technology and help students develop skills in independence and time management. We believe that learning can take place anytime and anywhere.

3. Will every snow day be a Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

No. There will be some traditional snow days. A Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day will not be scheduled when a large-scale power outage may occur.

4. How will I know if it is a Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day or just a No School Day?

The decision will be made by the district if an inclement weather day is a No School Day or an Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day. Parents will be notified through the district’s emergency notification system.

5. How will my child receive instruction or lessons?

K-5: Instruction and lessons for reading, math, and specials will be provided through a take-home packet called a “Blizzard Bag”. A folder containing the Blizzard Bag lessons will be sent home in advance of a Blizzard Bag day. The lessons will only be used when a Blizzard Bag day has been decided by the district. Teachers will be available via e-mail from 9:00am-3:00pm to answer any questions.

6. Do students with special needs also need to be provided with and complete Remote School Day work?

Yes. Most students in this situation will have accommodations in place to allow them to access the regular Remote School Day with support. For students with really severe disabilities, teachers will communicate ahead of time with parents about expectations.

7. Will my child be working on the assignments for the exact number of hours he/she is typically in school?

No. The Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day instruction and assignments are expected to be completed in approximately four hours. Children may take breaks or do other activities during the completion of these assignments.

8. Is completion of the assignments required?

Yes, the hard-copy assignments are required to be completed. If your child is struggling with the assignment, your child's teacher will be available remotely from 9am-3pm for questions and assistance. If your child does not do the assigned work, your child will be marked as "absent" on the Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day. If your child does not finish the assignment, he or she may speak to the teacher on return to school.

9. What is my responsibility on a Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

Younger students may need you to help get them started and read the comments from the teacher. Assignments in the Blizzard Bag have been carefully selected by teachers so that they can be completed independently by students, often following routines of assignments that students complete independently in school. Parents can help by ensuring that remote assignments have been completed and are returned the next school day with your child.

10. What if my child has Art, P.E., or Music on the Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag Day?

Students will only complete one special per day. Art, PE, and Music lessons will be part of the Blizzard Bag.

11. What if a student attends Daycare on the Remote School Day?

Students may be able to do their work ahead of time, or they can take their "Blizzard Bag" to daycare and do their work there that day. We plan to talk to the larger daycare centers about our plan. Parents can communicate with smaller or private providers about their expectations.

12. What about meals for students on Free and Reduced Lunch?

We will be offering the option of a bag breakfast and lunch that could be picked up the day before a Remote Learning Day. It would be available to anyone who would like one.

Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher if you have any questions about Remote Learning/Blizzard Bag days.