

Remote Learning Days Guidance for Parents/Students

Introduction

On March 27, 2020, the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) announced that schools in Illinois will be transitioning from Act of God Days to Remote Learning Days until schools are able to meet face to face. Galatia School District teachers, staff and administration have been working on a plan to meet the requirements and guidance from the state for these days, as well as meet the needs of our students.

As these are unprecedented times, this closure and how to handle this closure were not preplanned and therefore guidance from ISBE has not been immediate nor consistent. The plan presented here uses guidance from ISBE as of April 3, 2020. Please be patient if we have to make adjustments based on new guidance from ISBE or if we have to make adjustments based on evaluating this plan as we move forward.

Difference in Act of God Days vs. Remote Learning Days

When Illinois schools were initially mandated to close, ISBE and the Governor declared these days as Act of God Days. These days did not need to be made up and schools were required to give “opportunities” for students to continue their learning at home but were not required to collect or evaluate the work. When these days transitioned to Remote Learning Days, the requirements changed. Remote Learning Days will be considered instructional days with instruction at home being a requirement. The work assigned to students is required to be turned in and evaluated by teachers to be considered instructional days. Instructional days (Remote Learning Days) count as attendance days and therefore do not have to be made up.

What type of work will be sent home

ISBE and Galatia School District understand that it is not a realistic expectation to replicate learning at home in the same way learning happens at school. It is the recommendation of ISBE and the district’s intent to provide learning activities that reinforce concepts already taught this school year. This will be done through review activities to help students retain previously taught information and enrichment activities to help students gain a deeper understanding and make connections among previously taught information.

Frequency of work, assigning of work, and turning work in

Work will be provided online (<https://www.galatiak12.org/o/district> under “Educational Resources”) and print versions (as needed) on a bi-weekly basis. Some teachers may provide a daily work guide to help break the work into a manageable daily amount. However, the district understands the variety of home structures and family dynamics and you will have the flexibility to complete the work throughout the week in a way that is manageable for your family.

Work will be made available on Mondays and due two weeks later. The dates are listed below. The suggested method of turning work in, if possible, is electronically by scanning work, taking a picture with your phone, or doing work on Google Docs. Suggested forms of submitting work electronically are: through Google Docs, Google Classroom, or emailing directly to the teacher.

Packet #1	pickup on 4/6/2020	Return no later than 4/20/2020
Packet #2	pickup on 4/20/2020	Return no later than end of April

Packets that are requested to be printed can be picked up at the high school. Please call ahead and let us know that you need a printed packet. If work can't be turned in electronically, packets can be dropped off at the high school. Pick up and drop off of work will be done inside the main doors of the high school from 8:00am-6:00pm.

Contact with teachers

All teachers will attempt to make contact with parents and students. This may be through email, Google Classroom, Remind app, phone call, etc. You are encouraged to contact your child(ren)'s teacher for help with assignments or other questions that arise during this time. Teachers will be checking their email frequently throughout normal school hours to help in any way they can. A link to the staff directory with email addresses can be found at the following link: <https://www.galatiak12.org/o/district/staff>

How this work will be graded

Students completion of work and teachers evaluation of work is a requirement of Remote Learning Days so that they can be counted as instructional days. ISBE and Galatia School District understand that the level of evaluation should be different than during face to face instruction. Assignments will be graded with a “Pass” or “Incomplete”. Evaluated assignments that typically received an A, B, C or D will receive a Pass. Evaluated assignments that typically received an F will receive an Incomplete

and will be returned to the student with feedback so that the student can redo or make corrections. Assignments that are not turned in will be graded with an “Incomplete”

Fourth quarter and second semester grades

All fourth quarter assignments will be graded as Pass/Incomplete and therefore, fourth quarter grades will also be reported as Pass/Incomplete. Each student’s third quarter letter grade and fourth quarter Pass/Incomplete will be averaged together for a second semester grade of Pass/Incomplete.

Important information for high school students

It is incredibly important for high school students to resolve any Incomplete grades before the end of this school year. High School students will be REQUIRED to receive a Pass to gain credit for their courses.

There is no fair way to calculate a Pass into GPA or Class Rank. Therefore GPA and Class Rank will not be affected by grades during fourth quarter or second semester.

Important information for dual credit students

Students enrolled in SIC online courses still need to complete assignments and work by the due dates given by the SIC instructors. Please reach out to your SIC instructor if you have questions.

There is not clear guidance yet on SIC courses taught by high school instructors. As soon as we have that information we will communicate that with the appropriate students.

Important information for credit recovery students

Students enrolled in credit recovery courses still need to complete assignments and work by the due dates given by the online credit recovery instructor. Please reach out to your online instructor or Mr. Vinyard if you have questions.

State testing

The state has waived the requirement for state testing during the 2019-2020 school year. Therefore, students will not be required to take IAR, PSAT, or SAT test this year.

The graduation requirement of passing the constitution test has also been waived this school year.

It is ISBE's intention to make the SAT available in the fall for students in the Class of 2021. We will communicate details on this when we receive the information.

Important end of year events

It is incredibly difficult to determine alternative arrangements for end of year activities at this point. The mandated school closure as of now is through the end of April. If we do indeed get to resume face to face instruction in May, that will greatly affect how those events are held. If the mandated closure is extended into May, events will have to be postponed or canceled.

At this time we are brainstorming ideas of how to accomplish these end of year activities. We plan to hold High School Graduation either on May 16th or a later date if needed. We will hold the Scholarship Banquet in May. If we cannot hold it with student/parent attendance, Mrs. Launius plans to video record it and release it on the website so that students/parents can watch the presentation of the scholarships. Our plan is to either postpone Prom into the summer or allow this year's seniors to attend Prom next school year. At this point, we do not see a way to continue with end of year field trips.

Thoughts from administrators

We understand your concerns and questions during this unusual time. As this learning situation is new to us there will be kinks to work through. Our priority is to make sure students are healthy, fed, and safe. We appreciate your patience as we are all working through this together. Please email Mr. Crank or Mrs. Launius if you have further questions. The high school office is open to phone calls (618-297-4571) through the week from 8:00am-12:00pm.