

Blooming Prairie Schools e-Learning Day

In the event of a school closure due to inclement weather, learning expectations for all students continue through “e-Learning” activities, which will serve as student contact days.

Blooming Prairie Schools adopted an alternative learning day in the event of a school closure. Beginning the 2019-2020 school year, students will continue their daily academic schedule as usual from outside of the school setting when an e-Learning day is implemented. Families will be notified via JMC School Messenger, the district website, as well as other designated broadcasting entities that the closure of school will be an “e-Learning Day.”

Note: The first two cancelled school days of the academic year will be non-e-Learning days.

Purpose: The rationale for e-Learning Days are to sustain the educational process for the students of Blooming Prairie. This will allow for the district and faculty to maintain curriculum goals and skills. E-Learning can be used up to five times (days) during the year and will be counted as instructional days. These e-Learning Days will either eliminate or decrease the need for make-up days at the end of the school year.

Plan: It will be the teacher’s responsibility to follow the Minnesota Department of Education’s program plan for e-Learning Days and the plan established by the Blooming Prairie Schools.

Minnesota Department of Education (MN statutes, section 120A.414)

The Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) e-Learning Days statute outlines how Minnesota school districts can implement these instructional days. According to the statute:

- Definition: "e-Learning Day" means a school day where a school offers full access to online instruction provided by students' individual teachers due to inclement weather.
- Each student's teacher must be accessible both online and by telephone during normal school hours on an e-learning day to assist students and parents.
- Notify parents and students at least two hours prior to the normal school start time that students need to follow the e-learning day plan for that day.
- Notify parents and students of the e-Learning Day plan at the beginning of the school year.
- Accommodations for students without sufficient access to the Internet, hardware or software in their homes. (School administration, teachers, and other staff continually work with families to ensure equitable access to online learning resources).

Blooming Prairie School Faculty:

In the event of an e-Learning Day, Blooming Prairie School faculty will:

1. Have an e-Learning assignment posted on their website no later than two hours after the normal start time. (10:10)
2. Have a plan to take attendance for each class. Some ways attendance could be verified include:
 - a. Logging in to class page(s) on the school's learning management system (Schoology).
 - b. Email exchange/phone call with teacher.
 - c. Activity in classes (pages accessed, discussion participation, formative assessments completed).
 - e. Work submitted during the e-Learning Day.
(google doc, 365 doc, comment on discussion thread)
- * If a student does not have internet access and is unable to do the assignments the teacher's post on Schoology, a parent will call the high school office and leave a message.
3. Be available for communication online and by telephone between 10:10 am and 3:30 pm. Faculty will have voicemail from school linked to their email. Call the classroom phone using the appropriate extension. Staff member's class phone numbers can be found on the school website.
4. Allow students up to two days to make-up work administered on an e-Learning Day. This is possible only if the student was absent (see below) or if the student communicated ahead of time with technology issues.

Attendance: Attendance will be monitored. After students log into the classes, their attendance will be verified. If a student fails to communicate with any teachers on an e-Learning Day, he/she will be considered absent. A note and/or phone call will be required from the parents. The teachers will inform the absent student of the assignments for the day and give them appropriate time to complete the assignments. The teacher will have adjusted/accurate attendance entered into JMC by noon on the following school day.

Devices: Blooming Prairie High School is a 1:1 technology school. Each student has been issued either a laptop or iPad for educational use. If for some reason the student does not have a school issued device, it is their responsibility to contact the teachers to come up with an alternative for receiving the assignments.

Internet Access: We understand not all households have internet access. If this is the case, students will have reasonable time to turn in their assignments. Once they walk into our building, they will have access to the internet, therefore, the ability to complete their assignments.

Examples of High-Quality e-Learning

1. Relate to current class material, relevant.
2. Task should be meaningful and important to students.
3. Use digital tools.
4. Provide opportunities for peer interaction.