

Dear Parents and Guardians,

I hope this message finds you well. As we continue to navigate the challenges presented by unpredictable weather conditions, I wanted to share an important update regarding our approach to snow days within the South Williamsport Area School District.

In light of the ongoing developments in educational technology and our commitment to ensuring continuity in learning experiences for our students, the South Williamsport Area School District will be implementing a new protocol for managing inclement weather closures for the remainder of the 2023-2024 school year. Effective immediately, we will be pivoting to a model of flexible remote learning days for snow days. Please note, the district is aware that we have two additional snow make-up days built into our current calendar, however, those two days are going to be needed to support our teachers, maintenance, and custodial staff to transition classrooms for our Central Elementary building project.

Our primary goal is to minimize disruptions to the academic calendar while prioritizing the safety and well-being of our students and staff. To this end, please note that we will make up our first two snow days this year. The make-up dates for those days are Monday, February 19th and Friday, May 24th. We will not be using the snow make-days identified on the calendar as April 1st and April 2nd. These two snow days are being preserved for the classroom move identified above.

Under this new approach, when inclement weather necessitates the closure of school buildings, instruction will transition to a remote format for students in grades 5-12. Teachers will provide students with assignments and learning activities through our established digital platforms, ensuring that the continuity of learning is maintained even when traditional in-person classes are not feasible. For students in grades K-4, our teachers will provide packets of academic tasks that is a review of previously learned content.

We understand that this adjustment may raise questions or concerns, particularly regarding access to technology and internet connectivity. Rest assured that we are committed to supporting all students in accessing remote learning resources. Families who require assistance or accommodations are encouraged to reach out to their child's school or district administrator for support.

Additionally, we recognize the importance of maintaining clear communication channels during these transitions. As such, we will continue to provide timely updates and guidance via our district website, text and email notifications, and other communication channels to keep parents informed of any changes or developments related to weather-related closures and remote learning protocols.

We appreciate your understanding and flexibility as we implement these changes to better serve the needs of our students and adapt to the evolving educational landscape. Your partnership and support are invaluable as we work together to provide a safe, inclusive, and enriching learning environment for all members of our school community.

Thank you for your attention to this important update. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your child's school or district office for assistance.

Sincerely,

Dr. Eric Briggs

Dr. Eric Briggs
Superintendent of Schools
South Williamsport Area School District