

South Conway County School District's Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Plan

The South Conway County School District has been approved by the Arkansas Department of Education to implement a plan for an alternate method of instruction (AMI) to be used on days when school is canceled due to emergency or exceptional circumstances, including but not limited to winter weather. Students will be given activities and assignments to complete at home on AMI days rather than making up instructional days in the classroom. The AMI plan will enable learning to continue despite uncontrollable circumstances while keeping the school calendar from extending into June.

Upon the threat of inclement weather a notification will be pushed out reminding parents of our use of AMI days, how to access instruction if the internet is available as well as how to access instruction if a family does not have internet. For each AMI day, the school will notify all students and parents via the school website, the SCCSD application, social media, Class Dojo, Remind, and local radio and television stations.

The South Conway County School District will utilize a variety of alternative methods to provide student instruction on days designated as alternative AMI days, including lessons that are innovative and engaging for students and families. Teachers will ensure assignments are differentiated based on student grade level, instructional needs, and educational plans. Even though the method of delivery may vary, rigor and relevance will NOT. ALL activities will protect the integrity of the Arkansas State Standards and support ongoing instruction in the regular classroom. To ensure equitable access to technology and resources for ALL students, teachers who prepare technology-based lesson plans will also prepare them as text-based.

Kindergarten - 8th grade:

At the discretion of the teacher, lessons that are technology-based in K-8 may be used and will be administered through the teacher's Google Classroom page or any other established mode of communication. In grades K-8, MobyMax (<http://www.mobymax.com/curriculum/overview>) will be utilized as the primary technology tool to address grade level Arkansas State Standards through virtual learning in the core areas of English, mathematics, science, and social studies. Pebble Go (<https://www.pebblego.com>) will be used as an additional virtual learning tool, as appropriate in K-1. If there is foreseeable inclement weather or a foreseeable exceptional emergency circumstance, teachers will also prepare "take home packets" for students without access to internet technology at home. Likewise, teachers of non-core classes in grades K-8 will also prepare lessons that are technology and/or text-based.

Grades 9 - 12:

Units of study will be developed around one or more essential learning standards and will be available via hard copy "take home packet." They may also be posted to Google Classroom, or any other established mode of communication. All core and non-core classes will prepare learning packets for AMI.

Attendance will be determined based upon the amount of work completed by the student on each AMI day. Online assignments given on an AMI day will be submitted electronically prior to returning to school, or text-based paper assignments will be due the next day that school is physically in session. If a student fails to comply with the assignment policy, he/she will be considered absent for the AMI day. Completed AMI work will be checked for completion, feedback given, and attendance verified within five (5) days of the AMI day. If counted absent on the AMI day due to work not being completed, a student can complete the work for grading purposes only following the established make-up work policy in the student handbook.

