



Ouachita River School District

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Ouachita River Community,

The purpose of this letter is to share with you that the Ouachita River School District has been approved to use 5 AMI days for school closings due to weather. AMI stands for Alternative Methods of Instruction. In the past, when ORSD missed school for inclement weather, the students had to make that day up on the end of the calendar. Now, a packet of work will be sent home with your child, the students complete the work, turn it back in, and the day will not have to be made up on the end of the calendar. ORSD feels this is a better way to make up missed school time instead of coming back at the end of the year.

In short, a packet of homework will be sent home with your child on Friday the 9th of November. In the event of a school closing, the school district will alert you that school is closed and the students will need to complete AMI Day #1. ORSD will put the closing on the radio, Channel 4 & 7, Facebook, and the ORSD website. If we miss more than one day the students will begin completing AMI Day #2 and so on.

It is very critical that your child completes and turns the packets back into the school. A 5 day grace period of turning in the work will be used for each day missed. If students turn in the packets they receive credit for the work, and the day will not count as an absence. If your child does not turn in the work, it will go down as an unexcused absence and the grade will be a zero for that day.

At the High School Campuses, Google Classroom and technology will be used where ever possible instead of a packet. Grades Pre-K through 8 will most likely have a packet of work labeled with each day's assignments. Our intention is not to bombard the students with work while they are out. Your communication with us is vital as we assess the effectiveness of this method of instruction.

In conclusion, ORSD exists to provide a safe caring environment where everyone learns and grows in order to be prepared for life. ORSD hopes this method of instruction will be a better use of our student's learning time than just adding the days to the end of the school year calendar where student absenteeism is at the highest. If we can be of any assistance or answer any questions please do not hesitate to give us a call.

Sincerely,

Jerrall A. Strasner
Superintendent