



February 8, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Arkansas Department of Education has approved Cedar Ridge School District's application for five (5) Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Days during the 2017-18 school year. Over the past few weeks, you have heard of other districts utilizing AMI days instead of closing school. We did not use an AMI day on January 16<sup>th</sup> because there are two (2) built-in snow days in our school calendar that will be used first. Our first make-up day is February 19<sup>th</sup> (which is now a regular school day) and our second make-up day is March 16<sup>th</sup> (which is currently not a school day). After those two (2) are used, we will then utilize our five (5) AMI days. In the event that all AMI days are used, additional days will be added onto the end of the school year. As for now we will have school on February 19<sup>th</sup> as a make-up day and will be out on March 16<sup>th</sup> unless we miss again.

AMI days can be used if inclement weather or another type of emergency circumstance occurs, causing school to be canceled, Cedar Ridge students may be given the opportunity to work from home on AMI Day assignments rather than making up a day at the end of the school year. The District will create AMI day assignments for the students. There may be digital and paper components to these assignments. The packets will be labeled with a specific AMI day, so students know which work to complete on which day. All paper components should be completed before school resumes. If students do not have digital access; they will make this work up when they return to school.

**AMI Day Example Scenario:** *If an AMI day is needed due to snow on a Tuesday in February, the District will notify parents that school will not be in session but that an AMI day will be used and that students should complete their assigned work labeled "Day 1." If the snow also prevents students from attending school on Wednesday, the District will notify parents that students should complete the work labeled "Day 2" on Wednesday.*

Student attendance on the AMI Day will be determined by his/her completion of the assigned day's work. In most cases, teachers will be available by email throughout the AMI day to answer student or parent questions.

District administration will ultimately decide if a canceled school day will work as an AMI day. For instance, if a widespread illness is the reason for cancellation, district administration will decide if students would benefit from an AMI day or if a traditional make-up day should be used.

Please contact your child's principal if you have questions about this process. Thank you for your support of the District's commitment to our students.

Sincerely,

Andy Ashley

Superintendent

Cedar Ridge School District