

Downers Grove District 58 Emergency e-learning Plan FAQ

Details for District 58 Families

What is the plan for the next three weeks in District 58?

In March 2020, we plan to enact 5 e-learning days: March 17, 18, 19, 24 and 25. The remaining days in those two weeks (March 16, 20, 23, 26 and 27) will be used for teacher preparation and independent student work. March 30-April 3rd will continue to be classified as spring break for District 58.

What is the intention of an e-learning day?

E-learning days are designed as a provision to ensure the continuation of student learning in a scenario when school buildings are inaccessible. An e-learning day could never replicate a school day; assignments and activities are designed to engage students with activities that will allow them to continue to practice learning strategies and explore instructional content.

How will students access assignments?

Teachers will communicate directly with students through one of three channels: Seesaw, Google Classroom and/or E-mail. Teachers will email directly with parents to share which specific communication channels will be utilized. Parents and students should expect to receive direct communication from teachers between 8:00-8:30 am on e-learning days. Additional instructional materials may be sent home or made available for pick-up at school; specific communication about picking up materials will come from your building principal or teacher.

What will students do on e-learning days?

E-learning day activities will include content generally aligned to grade level learning objectives. The activities will be relevant, meaningful and manageable. This could include activities involving technology, and other activities not involving technology. Each day, students may be asked to submit evidence of work completion; this may be a completed assignment, a reflection or a video journal. While our hope is that these could be submitted on the day assigned, the primary importance is teacher-student communication on each e-learning day. Due dates will be flexible relative to the emergency nature of this plan's development.

How will student attendance be verified?

Student attendance will be verified via Google form. This form will be sent to all parents/guardians and students in the same message that announces the e-learning day. We would ask that these forms are filled out by 11:00 am; teachers will provide reminders. Attendance also verifies access to instructional materials.

How much time should students participate?

E-Learning days intend for students to participate in 5 clock hours (2.5 for Kindergarten students with additional activities for OKEEP students, 2 hours for preschool).

As children work at different paces, students may not complete all of the assignments in one day; in this case, they would submit evidence of the work actually completed to their teacher(s). Conversely, students may find themselves moving through all of the assignments quickly; additional resources or independent activities (sustained silent reading, IXL or other math practice, etc.) should be substituted for the remaining hours. We don't encourage working on e-learning materials longer than the hours listed above.

Students without Connectivity

Students who do not have Internet Connectivity will be provided with paper versions of e-learning activities. Schools and teachers will communicate directly with families in this scenario. If your child does not have internet connectivity, please communicate that with your teacher or school. There is also free Internet Connectivity available from Comcast called Internet Essentials. You can learn more by calling 1-855-846-8376 or visiting www.internetessentials.com. In addition, Comcast is making xfinity hotspots free to access. Also, many wireless carriers are increasing data limits.

If students have special needs or modified curriculum, how can e-learning address that? What about children who meet with a Speech & Language Pathologist, Social Worker, etc.?

The specialist or case manager will reach out, individually, to families of students on their caseload to share activities that coincide with related services. This would include students who are supported by interventionists, EL teachers, reading specialists, etc.

What if there is a power or internet outage within the community on a e-learning day?

The district would likely adjust the due date for the student assignments and adjust attendance accordingly. Due dates will be flexible due to the emergency nature of the enactment of this e-learning plan.

If my child has a question about an assignment, what do we do?

On e-learning days, teachers are available for support from 8:30 AM - 2:30 PM. These are the hours during which parents and students can expect a prompt response from teachers, with the understanding that within those hours teachers will take a break for lunch, etc. After 2:30 pm, teachers will respond as they would on a typical workday (which could be that afternoon/evening or could be the next morning.)

Teachers can be reached via e-mail, Seesaw (K-6), and Google Classroom (7-8). Individual teachers will inform you of their preferred method of contact. If parents and students are not able to communicate with teachers via a digital platform, please contact the school office.

What if a student has technical difficulties that prevent them from completing an assignment?

The student and/or their parents should communicate with the teacher to let them know that they are experiencing technical difficulties. The teacher may be able to help the student solve

the issue, and if not they will consider if an alternate arrangement is possible. In addition, students and parents are encouraged to create a help desk request with the Technology Department by visiting help.dg58.org or calling 630-719-2768. Again, due dates will be flexible due to the emergency nature of the enactment of this e-learning plan.

Who do I contact with other questions?

You are welcome to reach out to your child's teacher(s), your building administrator or any of the district administration with questions at any time.