



River Trails
SCHOOL DISTRICT 26

Board of Education Meeting

eLearning Board of Education Hearing
May 5, 2026

Historical Context

- In 2015, the Illinois State Board of Education authorized an eLearning *pilot* to note the merits of using eLearning during emergency days [105 ILCS 5/10-20.56].
- With information gained from the pilot, combined with length of school day guidelines, **ISBE granted all districts the ability to utilize eLearning days in place of emergency school closing days** [Public Act 101-0012].
- In May of 2020, an amendment to Senate Bill 1569 [Public Act 101-0643] updated School Code sections regarding eLearning days [105 ILCS 5/10-10.05, 105 ILCS 5/10-20.56, and 105 ILCS 5/10-30].



Renewal Process

The district's e-learning program must be verified by the regional office of education or intermediate service center (North Cook ROE) for the school district prior implementation. Before adoption, the school board must hold a public hearing for renewal of e-learning program.

- eLearning plans must be renewed every 3 years.

Timeline:

- April 24, 2026: Notice to RTEA
- April 24, 2026: Notice of Public Hearing
- April 24, 2026: Draft Posted on Website
- May 5, 2026: Board Hearing
- May 5, 2026: Potential Approval by BOE
- May 6, 2026: Submission to ROE



Plan Components

Rationale & Structure

Communication

Teaching & Learning

Access & Connectivity

Student Attendance

IEP and ELL Students

Staff & Student Training

Staff Expectations



Rationale & Structure

An eLearning day option provides District 26 with an opportunity to:

Engage students in remote learning activities, both online and non-technology based, that will continue to advance learning during building closures.

- eLearning days will be made up on the day of the identified emergency day and will consist of at least five clock hours of student engagement.
- During eLearning days, instruction shall be conducted remotely and count as an official student attendance day.



Communication

The eLearning plan remains posted on the RTSD26 website for students, staff, and families. The general expectations and responsibilities of the eLearning plan are updated annually and communicated to teachers, staff, students, and families at least thirty days before utilizing an eLearning day (target date October 1).

- Plans will remain updated on district website.
- Student/Parent notification of an eLearning day as soon as possible.



Teaching & Learning

Student learning activities will be tied to the existing curriculum of RTSD26 schools and aligned to the Illinois Learning Standards.

- Learning activities will be varied, balanced, and designed to meet instructional time requirement.
- Learning activities will be developmentally appropriate and vary in approach, using whole or small groups and individual instruction when appropriate.
- Learning activities will be differentiated to meet the unique needs of students.



Student & Staff Access & Connectivity

Students in K-8 will have a device (Chromebook) to use at home. eLearning activities will be accessible through the district provided learning management systems.

- Hotspot technology is available to anyone lacking connectivity.



Student Attendance

Student attendance will be recorded and monitored using the PowerSchool Student Information System.

- Monitoring will address the extent to which student participation is within the students' control as to the time, pace, and means of learning
- Attendance will be based on student participation, work completion, and effort.
- Students will be provided with additional time to complete work if needed.
- Parents always have the option to report their student absent for the day.



IEP and ELL Accommodations & Support

Students will be afforded all appropriate accommodations and modifications outlined in their IEP, 504, and/or support plan(s).

- Teachers will be available during regular work hours to provide additional assistance to students.
- Related services will be replicated through remote learning, or plans will be developed so parents can implement related services at home under the guidance of the service provider.
- eLearning plans are discussed during IEP/504 annual meetings.



Staff & Student Training

Staff will receive professional development time on one Thursday morning in October to review the eLearning plan in its entirety.

- Staff will consult with their grade level teammates, special area support staff, special education providers, and teaching assistants to create systems of instruction on potential eLearning days with administrator support.
- Teachers will provide learning opportunities for students prior to November 1st in preparation for an anticipated eLearning Day.



eLearning Website



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FAMILIES

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E-Learning Plan for Each Grade Level

According to Section 10-20.56 of the School Code [105 ILCS 5/10-20.56], school districts may, by adopted resolution, utilize "e-learning days" in lieu of emergency days. The number of e-learning days may not exceed the number of emergency days in the approved school calendar. The district's e-learning program must be verified by the regional office of education or intermediate service center for the school district prior implementation. Before adoption, the school board must hold a public hearing for initial proposal or renewal of e-learning program.

Kindergarten

- Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Teachers will share a Google Meet link with parents in the morning via email and Seesaw.
- Students will log into Google Meet for a morning meeting at 9:00 a.m.
- Teachers will be available via email to answer questions from **9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** and **12:30 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.**

1st through 5th Grade

- Hours: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Teachers will post Google Meet links on Seesaw or Schoology in the morning.
- In the morning, students will log into Google Meet for live "specials" and classroom instruction.
- In the afternoon, students will log into Google Meet for live classroom instruction, but "specials" will be asynchronous. Asynchronous means students will complete assignments on their own rather than being signed into Google Meet with the full class.
- Classroom teachers will be available via email to answer questions from **9:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m.**

TIME	GRADE 1	GRADE 2	GRADE 3	GRADE 4	GRADE 5
9:00-9:30	LRC	ART	MUSIC	P.E.	P.E.
9:30-9:45	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
9:45-10:15	P.E.	LRC	ART	MUSIC	MUSIC
10:15-11:30	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH
11:30-12:30	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
12:30-1:45	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH	ELA/MATH
1:45-2:15	ASYNCHRONOUS MUSIC	ASYNCHRONOUS P.E.	ASYNCHRONOUS LRC	ASYNCHRONOUS ART	ASYNCHRONOUS ART
2:15-2:30	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK	BREAK
2:30-3:00	ASYNCHRONOUS ART	ASYNCHRONOUS MUSIC	ASYNCHRONOUS P.E.	ASYNCHRONOUS LRC	ASYNCHRONOUS LRC



RTSD26

Rationale for Continuation

Perceived Educational Effectiveness

- Majority of students reported learning about the same amount as a typical school day.
- Majority of staff reported high overall effectiveness for student learning

Staff Confidence and Flexibility

- High confidence in plan
- Flexible options for staff

Overwhelming Student Preference

- Strong support of eLearning as a learning model
- High independence ratings from middle school students

Success in Primary Grades

- Highest parent ranking of effectiveness

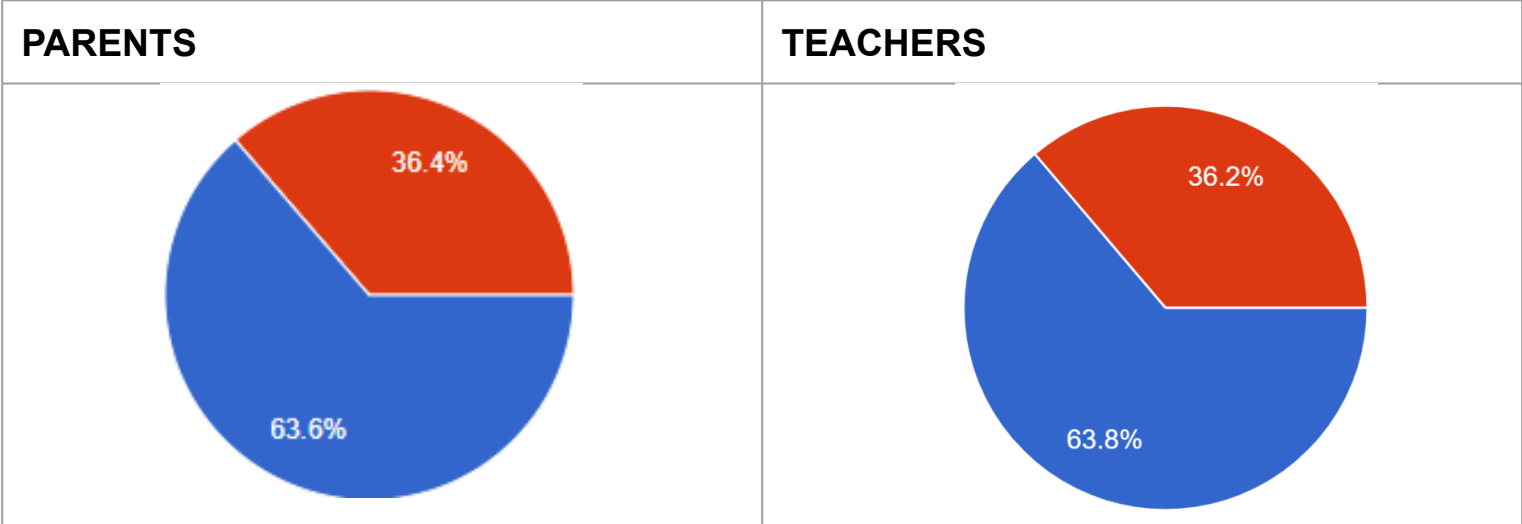
Low Tech Issues reported.

*1,023 student, staff and parent surveys received



Rationale for Continuation

64% of PARENTS AND STAFF prefer maintaining and eLearning plan in River Trails School District 26.



Recommended Procedural Changes

Based on survey results:

PreK & Kindergarten	Elementary 1-5	Middle School
Maintain current practices	Simplify schedule <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Move all synchronous work to AM Eliminate <i>live</i> specials <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Pair specials teachers w/core teachers to support instruction● Asynchronous specials' activities	Maintain current practices



Questions?

