

District Plan for eLearning Days
Riverside School District 96

Purpose:

This document outlines how Riverside School District 96 will implement and support eLearning days when in-person instruction is not possible or appropriate due to severe weather or other circumstances that necessitate the closure of school buildings. This eLearning plan ensures the continuity of learning by providing both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, supported by clear structures for accountability, monitoring, and communication.

Compliance:

Public Act 101-0012, effective July 1, 2019, allows all school districts in Illinois to utilize up to five eLearning days in place of the five emergency days on the ISBE-approved school calendar.

Communication:

District 96 will notify students, families, and staff whenever an eLearning day is scheduled or required. Families will receive communication through email and automated phone notifications using the contact information on file in PowerSchool. Staff will receive a notification through a district-wide email. Information about the eLearning day will also be posted on the District 96 website (www.district96.org).

Access to Technology and Wifi:

In accordance with Public Act 101-0012, Riverside School District 96 ensures that all students have access to the devices, internet, and communication tools needed to participate in eLearning. Students in kindergarten through grade two receive an iPad, while students in grades three through eight are issued a Chromebook. Learning materials are provided through Seesaw (K–2) and Schoology (3–8).

For students without reliable internet access, paper copies of materials can be provided. In these cases, teachers will offer flexible deadlines to ensure students are not penalized for connectivity issues related to an eLearning day.

Training:

District 96 provides ongoing professional learning for staff on the use of Seesaw and Schoology, which are integrated into daily instruction throughout the year. Students also receive regular instruction and practice using these platforms as part of their learning experience. To ensure readiness for eLearning days, teachers guide students in how to access eLearning folders and materials within Seesaw (K–2) and Schoology (3–8).

Learning Experience Expectations:

Students must be provided with meaningful, standards-aligned learning experiences during eLearning days. These experiences should connect to students' current units of study and extend classroom learning, rather than serve as stand-alone tasks. Teachers are expected to design activities that allow them to assess whether learning occurred upon completion.

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In compliance with state law, an eLearning day must provide the equivalent of a regular school day: a total of at least five (5) hours of instructional time for students in grades 1–8 and at least two and a half (2.5) hours for students in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten. Teachers' eLearning plans should be designed to mirror the structure of a traditional class period while ensuring instructional continuity.

Student Expectations:

Pre-Kindergarten

- Students will participate in live (synchronous) instruction for Morning Circle and Read Aloud.
- AM Students join at 8:30 AM and PM students at 12:15 PM through Google Classroom or Seesaw.
- Additional interactive lessons and activities will be available for independent (asynchronous) learning.

Kindergarten

- Students will participate in 1 hour and 40 minutes of live instruction beginning at 8:10 AM through Seesaw.
- Independent learning for the remainder of the day may include lesson extensions, Lexia, and iReady My Path activities.
- Students with scheduled special area classes between 8:10 and 9:50 AM will attend those classes live at their regular times.

Grades 1 - 2

- Students will receive 3 hours and 10 minutes of live instruction, beginning at 8:10 AM, through Seesaw, which includes class meetings, mathematics, and ELA.
- Independent learning may include lesson extensions, social studies, science, Lexia, and iReady My Path activities.
- Students with scheduled special area classes between 8:10 and 11:20 AM will attend those classes live at their regular times.

Grades 3 - 5

- Students will receive 3 hours and 10 minutes of live instruction, beginning at 8:10 AM, through Schoology, which includes class meetings, mathematics, and ELA.
- Independent learning may include lesson extensions, social studies, science, Lexia, and iReady My Path activities.
- Fifth-grade students may also have band or orchestra lessons, depending on their normal weekly schedule.

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- Students with scheduled special area classes between 8:10 and 11:20 AM will attend those classes live at their regular times.

Grades 6 - 8

- Students will follow a 4-hour schedule of live instruction beginning at 8:30 AM via Schoology, following their normal class rotation:
 - 25 minutes per class
 - 50 minutes for ELA and mathematics
- Independent learning will continue for the remainder of the day

Teacher Availability for Support

- K-5 Teachers: Available from 12:20 to 2:10 PM via Seesaw messages, Schoology, or email.
- Hauser Jr. High Teachers: Available from 1:30 - 2:30 PM via Schoology or email.
- Students and parents are encouraged to reach out for help as needed.

Additional Student Services

- Students who receive English learner support, reading/math interventions, or individualized education supports will receive direct communication from their teacher with details about service times on eLearning days.

Educator Expectations: (Before an eLearning day)

Before an eLearning day, teachers are responsible for preparing students to access and engage in learning.

This includes:

- **Instructional Access:** Confirm that students know how to retrieve their synchronous instruction link through Seesaw (K-2) or Schoology (3-8)
- **Communication Readiness:** Ensure students know how to message their teacher for support (via Seesaw in K-2 and Schoology in 3-8).
- **Special Area Coordination:** Elementary special area teachers (art, music, PE) will coordinate with classroom teachers to join the appropriate synchronous instruction link for the classes they teach.
- **Login Preparation:** Verify that students know their login information for Seesaw, Schoology, and any supplemental programs.
- **Activity Access:** Demonstrate how students can find and complete their eLearning activities in Seesaw (K-2) or Schoology (3-8).

On an eLearning Day:

On an eLearning day, teachers are responsible for providing live instruction and being available to support students and families:

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- **Synchronous Instruction**

- Early Learners (AM): Instruction begins promptly at 8:30 AM
- Early Learners (PM): Instruction begins promptly at 12:15 PM
- Kindergarten - Grade 5: Instruction begins promptly at 8:10 AM
- Grades 6-8: Instruction begins promptly at 8:30 AM

- **Teacher Availability for Support**

- **Elementary teachers** (K-5): Available from 12:20 - 2:10 PM to respond to questions to via email, Seesaw, or Schoology.
- **Junior high teachers** (6-8): Available from 1:30 - 2:30 PM to respond to questions via email or Schoology.