



To: Families of Southern Lehigh School District Students

From: Shane Cross, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, K-12

Date: October 15, 2021

Subject: Use of Flexible Instructional Days (FID) and the FID Materials Packet

The Southern Lehigh School District has received approval from the PA Department of Education to utilize five (5) Flexible Instructional Days (FID) as an alternate approach to delivering instruction if circumstances arise that prevent in-person instruction. This may include inclement weather or other emergencies.

If inclement weather requires the District to close, the first four (4) days of closure will not be instructional days for students. Those days are built into the District Calendar so that students will still complete the State required 180 days. Should additional days of school closure be necessary, the District will begin to utilize the five (5) available Flexible Instructional Days. All subsequent school closures beyond nine (9) days will be added to the end of the school year.

As would normally be done, the District will announce school closures using Blackboard Connect and the District website. Should a Flexible Instructional Day be used, a District announcement will also be made using Blackboard Connect and the District website.

During a Flexible Instructional Day, it is expected that all students follow their normal daily schedule, accessing virtual learning through their teachers' Learning Management System course(s) (Seesaw, Google Classroom, and/or Canvas). Video conferencing links (Google Meet and/or Zoom), along with assignments will be posted on the Learning Management System. As per State requirements, students must participate in live instruction and complete assignments to be marked present.

If there are extenuating circumstances during a Flexible Instructional Day that prevent your child from accessing digital learning from home, they should complete a physical FID Materials Packet instead. Circumstances could be power outages or no internet connectivity for example. Your child's teacher(s) will be distributing and explaining the FID Materials Packets to your child within the next few weeks. Your child should keep those packets at home in a safe location, should they be needed. As required by the State, if your child must complete a FID Materials Packet during a Flexible Instructional Day, the packet must be turned in to their teacher(s) during the next in-person school day for your child to be marked present.

If you have additional questions specific to Flexible Instructional Days, please visit the District website, www.slsd.org, and navigate to "Teaching & Learning" > "Flexible Instructional Days Program." Additionally, you could reach out to me directly, crosss@slsd.org, as well as your child's teacher or your child's principal.