

Island Park UFSD

COVID-19 School Closures and Learning Activities

Parents Frequently Asked Questions

1. In the event of a school closure, will students have an opportunity to use online learning tools from home?

Effective today, the District has acquired the online instruction in i-Ready free of charge for the remainder of this school year. All K – 8 students will receive i-Ready personalized online lessons based on their most recent Diagnostic results, and all teachers will now be able to assign lessons of their choice to their students, including on-grade level instruction. Students can now work on these lessons during stations and small group instruction at school, continue their learning at home in the event of a school closure. In addition, students in Grades K – 5 would be able to play i-Ready learning games, which offer fun, independent practice in challenging mathematical concepts. An informative letter about the program including your child's unique username and password was sent out via backpacks and in the mail on Friday, March 13, 2020.

2. What other the types of learning activities will teachers develop to keep students engaged in learning during an extended school closure?

Teachers will intentionally prepare learning activities that are meaningful and keep students engaged during and extended school closure. Below are some examples of meaningful learning activities that teachers may create for students:

- a) ELA- Read an independent reading book and complete an On-Demand Writing Piece, Response to Literature, Journal Writing, etc.
- b) Math- Complete specific online assignments from, Think Central, Personal Math Trainer, IXL or myHMH.
- c) Science- Assignments from Science Dimensions online resources(LOMS), science reading material with questions (FXH)
- d) SS- Analyze a document(s) and complete short responses or a scaffolded essay- i.e., C3 Inquiry, DBQs
- e) All teachers, especially special subject areas and support specialists, may create flipped classroom activities- posting a short video to the webpage which is viewed by students at home where they can take notes or answer questions, before the direct in-class instruction

3. If there is an extended school closure (longer than 3 days), and work is expected to be shared, what will the District do for students who do not have access to a computing device or internet service at home?

If a student does not have access to a computing device or internet service the teacher(s) will prepare photocopies of assignments for these students to take home in the event of a school closure.

4. In the event of an extended school closure, will students be expected to submit work online?

This is possible, but will be dependent on the grade-level and teacher, most likely in grades 6-8 which currently utilize the Google Platform. Each teacher will set expectations, which will be communicated to parents through each teacher's webpage. Students who return to school with incomplete assignments will not be penalized, and they will have the opportunity to complete assignments once they return to school.

5. How will teachers share information about classwork and assignments?

All teachers will communicate with parents via the teacher's page on the District's website. LOMS teachers (Grades 6-8) can also communicate assignments through Google Classroom, in order to share instructional materials, assignments, and/or submittal directions.

6. If there is an announcement of an extended school closure, when should parents and students expect to receive assignments?

Teachers will communicate their assignments and due dates by 12:00 PM of the first day that school is closed.

7. How will we be updated about school closures and its impact on our schools?

The District will continue to keep you informed via our website, Facebook, email blasts, and Connect Ed messages.