Emergency Day (weather related) Advanced Notice

It's that time of year for severe weather to prompt district officials to consider options for closing schools (emergency day, delayed start, early dismissal, bus snow routes, e-Learning day). Multiple factors are considered when determining the closing status for schools. Because e-learning requires more preparation than other closing status, we are sending this proactive message to announce that our district may use e-learning days in lieu of emergency days. Because emergency day use must be "made up" at the end of a school year, using e-learning days instead of emergency days would support continuity of learning and avoid the extension of the school calendar past our last student attendance day of May 22. Such use of e-learning days works best when there is advanced notice so that students, educators and parents can prepare for the day. As such, here is how it works in our district.

- Educators will remind students to prepare for an anticipated e-learning day by ensuring that their technology is fully charged and that any materials needed for e-learning are taken home with them.

- Parents are reminded to secure childcare, if needed, and have a childcare communication plan ready in the event of an e-learning day announcement. School meals are not provided on e-learning days.

- An e-learning day would be announced through the usual ways (electronic media platforms, news media, etc.) prior to 8 o'clock on the evening before the e-learning day.

- Teachers will add instructional materials and resources to Empower by 9:00am on the e-learning day. These may include independent activities, pre-recorded video lessons, online resources and related learning activities. "Live" video instruction is not expected in the case of a weather-related e-learning day.

- Student attendance will be based on evidence of student participation, engagement, and task completion.

- Teachers will email families/students with information about how to best communicate during the day if they need support.

- Students will have the equivalent of two school days (including the e-learning day) to complete the e-learning day activities and assignments. This additional time allows students the opportunity to ask questions or resolve any issues with technology or internet access (mobile hot spots are no longer provided by the district). Students should submit assignments on Empower when possible.