



Illinois School for the Deaf

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Letter to Families Regarding E-Learning 2022

Dear ISD Families/Guardians and students:

This letter is to inform you that ISD has an e-learning plan. Sometimes the terms remote learning and e-learning are used interchangeably. However, the terms are specified under the school code as having different purposes.

E-learning is a public act that was reinstated in July of 2019. The act allows school to “utilize e-learning days in lieu of emergency days and maintain the flexibility for students to engage in career-connected learning outside of the classroom.” ISD may use up to five e-learning days in one school year. Therefore, e-learning days would be utilized in place of a snow day, emergency such as: water main break, electricity outage, no air-conditioning or heat.

Remote learning is what occurred due to the Executive Order put in place by the Governor when COVID hit back in March of 2020. It is defined by the Illinois State Board of Education as, “remote learning occurs when students and teachers are separated physically.”

An e-learning plan is approved for use instead of or in lieu of emergency days. One positive aspect of COVID-19 is that we now have experience in delivering a model for e-learning.

In your home, the two will look the same, however, their purpose or intention is different. E-learning will likely stay with us far beyond COVID and allow us to deliver education across our state instead of closing due to inclement weather or an emergency.

Your child’s teacher or principal will contact you regarding the schedule when an e-learning day is implemented.

Thank you for your support.

Julee M. Nist, Ed.S.
Superintendent

A residential school for students who are deaf and hard of hearing operated by
the Illinois Department of Human Services, Division of Rehabilitation Services.

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