



Dallas County R-1 School District

1323 South Ash, Buffalo, MO 65622

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Dr. Tim Ryan, Superintendent
Mrs. Debby Dryer, Assistant Superintendent
Dr. Teresa Mabary, Assistant Superintendent

October 26, 2020

Today, your child brought home a learning packet that was labeled “AMI” packets. This letter is to help clarify how these packets are to be used and when they should be completed.

Dallas County R-1 School District has been granted approval to offer “Alternative Methods of Instruction” or AMI days during the 2020-2021 school year. This plan will allow the opportunity for all Dallas County R-1 students to be engaged in meaningful learning on inclement weather days when conditions prevent district schools from being in session.

AMI packets are approved for use during school closures related to inclement weather NOT COVID related closures. AMI simply allows for the continuation of learning when students miss days of regular instruction due to district closures due to inclement weather. Students will have the opportunity for skill reinforcement, remediation and enrichment through electronic or conventional paper lessons. The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has granted the Dallas County R-1 School District six (6) days this school year on which students will be expected to continue learning off-site (home, etc.). Some benefits of an AMI day include: assisting in eliminating gaps in learning by providing learning activities and reducing the need for days to be added at the end of the school calendar.

IMPORTANT POINTS TO REMEMBER FOR AMI DAYS AT Dallas County R-1:

- Students will NOT attend school on an AMI day; parents will be informed of AMI days through district phone, email and text messages. All students will have instructional activities to be completed at home on AMI days either online or paper packets (this choice was made by parents during registration).
- AMI days count as instructional days and do not have to be made up at the end of the school year if students and staff complete assigned work.
- Students who do not complete and submit AMI assignments, within three days of returning to school, will be marked absent for the related AMI day.
- The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has allowed six (6) AMI days for the 20-21 school year.
- As we implement this new method, we anticipate that we will learn lessons along the way and make necessary adjustments to improve our AMI plan to best meet the needs of our students. If you have further questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to phone or email your child’s school.

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- DCTC students will work with their director and teachers to determine the best AMI path.
- Online resources will be provided by teachers through CANVAS learning management system or other approved online web resources. Teachers will communicate these online options via email or through CANVAS communication. We understand not all students have the ability to work online from home, therefore paper packets have been sent to parents requesting non-online AMI.
- Instructions and information will be provided by your child's teachers, and students are expected to complete and submit learning activities within three (3) days of returning to school. If you have questions about learning activities, please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher through email, or by calling your child's classroom teacher's telephone extension (voicemail messages will be sent to teachers via email) as teachers will be monitoring their emails during regular school hours.
- Additional information regarding AMI can be found on our district website: www.bisonpride.org under "Quick Links- Alternative Methods of Instruction" tab.

Again, please do not have students complete AMI packets or learning activities until the district communicates we are participating in an AMI day (typically due to inclement weather). Please do not hesitate to contact your child's teacher or the office in the building where your child attends if you have questions about AMI packets or AMI days.