



# Brookland Public Schools

*Keith McDaniel, Superintendent*

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Dear Brookland Public Schools Families and Community:

The Arkansas Commissioner of Education has granted Brookland Public Schools approval to implement Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) days during the 2017-18 school year. The approval of our AMI plan provides our district the opportunity to engage all students in relevant learning experiences on days when conditions prevent the schools in our district from being in session due to inclement weather or emergency circumstances.

## **What are Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) days?**

Act 862 of 2017 allows public school district to develop a plan for alternative methods of instruction to be used on days when the superintendent closes school due to exceptional or emergency circumstances. Brookland Public Schools has been granted the equivalent of five (5) student attendance days to be designated as AMI days when the district is closed due to circumstances such as: a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, or other acts of God, or a utility outage. AMI days will allow our students to have meaningful learning opportunities during the regular school calendar rather than interrupting the learning process with unplanned days out of school. By having our students engaged in AMI learning experiences on designated days, the AMI day will be counted as a regular school day as scheduled rather than having to add days to the end of the school year into the summer.

## **How will designated AMI days work?**

On a day that our district is closed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances, the district will communicate that the day will be an AMI day through the School Closing List on KAIT8 News and kait8.com, an automated messaging system call and email, posts on the district and building social media accounts, and notices on the district website. AMI assignments will be provided instructions added to class newsletters, hard-copy packets, or digitally through Google Classroom, teacher webpages, and other online formats depending on the school your child attends. A maximum of three (3) consecutive days for a single circumstance will be classified as AMI days to ensure that students remain engaged should there be an event requiring the school to be closed more than three days. Students will have five (5) school days following an AMI day to complete required work. This due date may be extended during certain unique circumstances. Students will be considered "present" for an AMI when all assigned work is completed. In the coming days, you will receive information from your child's school and teacher with more specific information, including the availability of teachers and technology on AMI days.

Our district is pleased to provide our students with this educational opportunity for learning even on days requiring our physical buildings to be closed. If you have any questions, please contact your child's principal.

Sincerely,

Keith McDaniel, Superintendent