

<p>Dr. Richard Weigel Superintendent of Schools Dr. Debra Dudek Assistant Superintendent for PK-6 Curriculum. Amanda Alaniz Director of Secondary 6-12 Wendy Kulczyk Director of Finance Linda Williams Director of Title 1</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">PORTAGE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS</p> <p>6240 U.S. Highway 6 Portage, Indiana 46368-5057 Phone (219) 762-6511 FAX (219) 763-8009</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Our mission is educating, empowering, and inspiring excellence.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Board Of School Trustees</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Jessica Bailey Andy Maletta Rhonda A. Nelson Cheryl Oprisko</p>
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Date: November 1, 2016
To: Parents/Guardians:
From: Michael V. DePasquale
Director of Technology Integration
Re: E-learning Days

As Portage Township Schools continues to make technology an active part of teaching and learning in our district, we are beginning our planning for E-Learning Days. E-Learning Days allow for school districts to offer instruction digitally so that schools are able to makeup lost days due to inclement weather. As you know, the possibility of snow days is always real for all of us in NW Indiana.

For the 2016-2017 school year, Portage Township Schools will use inclement weather days (“snow days”) as E-Learning days on the day of the event. What this means for our students, parents, and staff is that if we were to have a “snow day” on a Tuesday, we would have a E-Learning day on that same Tuesday, so there is no loss of learning and as few Make Up days used or added to the end of the year as possible.

On the day of the event (“snow day”) students will be able to login to the district’s website for information on receiving their work and other procedural information.

Teachers will provide information on how to complete the work and will be available for direct communication through email, schoology, webcasts, etc... Therefore, if your student has any questions, there will be someone available to give an answer. A technology help desk will be available also and information will be provided on the district’s website as how to contact support.

Households who may not have direct availability to technology or have more children than digital devices at home should contact their teachers in preparation for the day. We will also have a couple of our labs open on the E-Learning day once the weather makes travel safe enough for adults to get to school. That information will be on our website and Facebook pages.

Students must participate in the E-Learning day on the day of the event and provide evidence of work completed to be considered “in attendance” on that day. Failure to do so would result in an unexcused absence for that day.

If the district does not experience a “snow day,” no E-Learning days will take place this school year.

After each E-Learning day a survey will be posted on the district’s website so that parents can provide feedback in regards to the event. Last year’s survey information was helpful in making future decisions for this year.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support as we continue to embrace technology as a means for moving forward with innovative teaching and learning.

Michael V. DePasquale
Director of Technology Integration