

# School Board Meeting



November 24, 2020

## Reminder From Previous Presentations:

This is and will continue to be an everchanging process.

We must continue to keep the safety and well-being of our students and staff at the forefront of our decision-making.

All will be well.



# District Focus

Our Vision, Mission and Goals provide the guidance for all decisions we make as an administrative team.

The first two goals frame the primary underpinnings of our scaffolded re-opening plan:

- **To ensure responsible and data-informed use of resources**
- **To provide a positive, safe, and healthy learning environment**

## BOYERTOWN AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT



*Safety and Well-Being*

*Acceptance and Respect*

*Communication and Collaboration*

*Learning and Growth*

**Our Vision:** To cultivate an exceptional, innovative learning community that enables all students to succeed in a changing world.

**Our Mission:** For all students to be future ready by meeting or exceeding established goals, the Boyertown Area School District will implement coordinated, articulated curricula and provide personalized, planned instruction aligned with Pennsylvania academic standards.

**Our Goals:**

- To ensure responsible and data-informed use of resources.
- To provide a positive, safe, and healthy learning environment.
- To offer research-based, personalized, and growth-oriented learning opportunities for all members of the BASD learning community.
- To foster open communication, active involvement, and purposeful collaboration among all members of the BASD learning community.

ONE BOYERTOWN

# Flexible Instructional Day

The Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) approved the use of Flexible Instruction Days (FID) as an alternate form of instruction in place of a day otherwise cancelled due to inclement weather or a building emergency situation.

The District believes that using a Flexible Instructional Day will allow students and teachers to continue the learning process while responding to a weather closure or emergency situation in an efficient manner. Flexible instruction allows students to complete classwork at home should a situation occur which would prevent normal operations in one school or throughout the district. Flexible instructional programs may be online, offline or a combination of the two. PDE will count this as a full day of school. The District has been approved to use up to a maximum of five (5) FID for this school year.

# Notification

All decisions related to weather closures and/or the use of FID will be communicated to you via the notification system for school closures and schedule changes. These communications will detail that we are using an "FID" and the day will not need to be made up during or at the end of the school year.

# Assignments

Prior to an FID, teachers will provide an explanation to students regarding the assignments and how to access the assignments that will need to be completed during the FID. Learners will be assigned work to be completed either using their school-issued devices and applications OR paper/pencil assignments. Students are expected to complete assignments for all classes that would normally meet on the FID as this would count as a typical school day.

Younger students or students with accommodations may require some support from an adult. Teachers will design learning activities and assignments that are developmentally appropriate and similar in timeframe to daily classwork. Students working independently on an assignment will likely take less time to complete the assignment compared to a large group setting, yet this may vary depending on the individual student and grade level.

If a student cannot access the Internet or the paper copies of the learning activities, he/she will have three (3) school days to complete the assignments. Any student who fails to complete their FID assignment within three school days will be marked as absent.

# Students with IEPs

FID lessons will be designed for students with IEPs utilizing their program modifications, specially designed instruction, and supplementary aids and services identified in their individualized education plans. Upon return from an FID day, the special education teacher will meet with students to review work submitted, checking for completion, and understanding. If needed, students with IEPs will have up to five (5) school days to complete assignments. On FID days, special education personnel will be available to answer questions through email from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm.

# Access

Students will primarily access activities for the FID through Google Classroom, if available. Alternative activities will also be provided in the event that students are not able to access online resources. A choice board of activities will be provided for each elementary grade which will be shared both digitally and via paper copy. Secondary students will have a desktop folder on their school device that will house FID activities for offline access. If a student cannot access the Internet or the paper copies of the learning activities, he/she will have three (3) school days to complete the assignments. Any student who fails to complete their FID assignment within three school days will be marked as absent on the FID.

# Work Completion and Attendance

Recognizing that students may face other circumstances or a lack of Internet connection on a day of inclement weather, students will have three (3) days beyond the FID to complete all assignments. Assignments will be submitted either through Google classroom or by returning the paper/pencil activities to the teacher as evidence of completed work. Students that do not complete the assignments within three (3) days for the designated FID will be noted as absent for that day following the District's attendance procedures. If your child is ill on an FID, follow normal attendance reporting procedures to notify the school.

# Cycle Day

The FID cycle day will be the next consecutive day in the cycle. Multiple FID days in a row will follow the same cycle day schedule. Students will follow the same cycle day schedule as used during the FID upon return to school. This will allow immediate follow-up for work completed during the FID.

For example:

Monday (typical day)	Tuesday - <b>FID</b>	Wednesday - <b>FID</b>	Thursday (back to school)
Day 2	Follow Day 3 class schedule	Follow Day 3 class schedule	Day 3

# Teacher and Staff Availability

Your child's teacher(s) will be available for assistance via email from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm during the FID. Your school's principal, counselor and nurse will also be available on an FID via email.

# School Calendar Impact

With the change to the start date of our school year from 8/24/20 to 8/31/20, we used three (3) built in snow days as well as two (2) potential snow make up days. If you remember, the calendar was adjusted to support the Professional Learning of our teachers to support virtual instruction.

Flexible instructional days eliminate the need for a make-up day since students are completing classwork at home. Implementing an FID will not require additional make-up days when school is canceled. These make-up days could shorten the spring break or extend the school year. The District can use up to five (5) FIDs per school year. FIDs are considered a school day and count toward the number of instructional days/hours required under Article 15 of the Public School Code and Chapter 11 of the State Board of Education regulations. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact your school principal.

# Communication and Implementation Timeline

- Presentation to the District Leadership Team November 11
- Communication to District Teachers November 12
- School Board Weekly Update November 20
- Flexible Instructional Day Presentation November 24
- Teachers will Instruct Students about what to do on an FID December 2
- Districtwide Communication and Live Webpage December 7
- Flexible Instructional Day Ready to Use After December 7

# Thank You





Questions?