



River Bend Community Unit School District #2

Where Everybody is Somebody

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Dear Parents, Guardians, Students and Staff,

The State Board of Education has given permission for school districts to pursue E-learning and Homebased-learning as a way of making up school days lost to inclement weather. The State Board of Education also requires that school districts notify the public about their E-learning plans and that school districts invite the public to provide comments. A public hearing is scheduled at the next Board meeting Monday, October 21st at 6:30. I will also have a discussion at the next Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting on Monday, October 21st at 3:30. Both meetings will occur at the District Office. You may also email or call me with any comments about the E- Learning/ Homebased-Learning plan. My email address dhogue@riverbendschools.net and I can be reached at 815-589-2711.

At this point, the district is using the E-learning/Homebased- learning only to make up days that are added to the calendar to the already scheduled holidays. The District uses the first three scheduled holidays in January, February, and the Monday following Easter as make-up days. The District has not moved forward with a full E-learning/Homebased schedule that would be conducted on the actual day that school is canceled.

After completing our E-learning/Homebased learning day last year, a great number of parents, guardians, and students provided input and feedback. 77% of the students and 81% of the adults that responded to the survey felt the E-learning/Homebased-learning was a better way to manage making up for a lost school day. The feedback from the staff and administrators was also positive. This is not a trend to replace the classroom experience, nor a pattern we feel is conducive to using on a more frequent basis, but used sparingly, the E-learning/Homebased- learning provides a new educational experience outside of the classroom. The teachers and administration feel that the E-learning/Homebased-learning is a way to better provide a homebased learning experience that replicates trends in colleges and the workplace.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update and please feel free to provide input via phone, email, or attending one of the scheduled meetings.

Gratefully,

Darryl Hogue
Superintendent