

Thursday, November 13, 2025

Dear Parents and Guardians,

As winter sets in I'd like to take this opportunity to explain Flexible Instructional Days. Pennsylvania law allows public schools the ability to implement Flexible Instructional Days in lieu of traditional in-person instruction. Flexible Instructional Days are considered an alternate approach to delivering instruction if a circumstance arises that prevents instruction in customary manner, such as inclement weather. Bear Creek Community Charter School applied for permission to utilize flexible instructional days, and has received the appropriate approvals from the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

In the event that Bear Creek Community Charter School chooses to utilize a Flexible Instruction Day, students, parents and staff members would be notified via School Messenger Text Messaging, e-mail blast and through our local media and social media outlets (WNEP, PA Homepage, Facebook).

If inclement weather is anticipated, students will be sent home with Chromebooks the day before the predicated inclement weather.

All students in second through eighth grade are familiar with their Google passwords. If your child is kindergarten or first grade, he/she has a QR code to hold in front of the camera which will log them in. We utilize a single sign on platform called Clever. Once students log into their Chromebook Clever launches. From Clever students need to simply click into various programs for use. Work for FIDs will be posted in Google Classroom. Also, in Google Classroom teachers will post their office hours. Office hours are times when teachers will be available live via Google Meet to answer any questions students and parents may have regarding the day's work.

On Flexible Instructional Days parents and students will be directed to check their child(ren)'s teacher's webpage and Google Classroom for more information. Flexible Instructional Days have two mandatory components: (1) Students must complete an online attendance question found on the teacher webpage; and (2) Students must complete the assigned work.

Student attendance will be taken through a Google Form posted on each teacher's webpage. The online attendance question will be found at the top of every homeroom teacher's webpage in a red bar. It should be filled out once per student. Parents, guardians and students can use the link on any page for any student, so someone with multiple students does not need to visit multiple teacher webpages. Once attendance has been taken for a student his/her name will disappear from the attendance list. Upon completion of the online attendance question, students are to log in to Google Classroom and complete the posted lessons under the direction of a certified teacher. Each student in Bear Creek Community Charter has a Google account and is a member of their teacher's Google Classroom. Students in grades kindergarten through second are to complete work in mathematics and English Language Arts. Students in third and fourth grade are to complete work in mathematics, reading and English Language Arts. Students in grades five through eight are required to complete assignments in the four core subjects of math, English Language Arts, Science and Social Studies. Student work is to be submitted in Google Classroom by 11:59 p.m. of the Flexible Instruction Day. All student work assigned during a Flexible Instructional Day is graded and counted as part of the student's overall grade.

Questions about student work should be directed to the student's teacher via Google Classroom or e-mail.

Students are required to both complete work and answer the attendance question to be considered present.

Bear Creek Community Charter School will continue to monitor student attendance on Flexible Instructional Days. If it is determined that students and families are not sufficiently engaging, flexible instructional days may be eliminated and make-up days will be added on at the end of the school year.

Schools are limited to five Flexible Instructional Days for the school year. Bear Creek Community Charter School will make the decision to utilize a Flexible Instructional Day or a traditional snow on each inclement weather day. Should we utilize a traditional snow day, make up days will add additional school days to the school year, these days are listed on the bottom of the school calendar. Also, should inclement weather not be predicted but occur the school may utilize a traditional snow day which will require a makeup day.

Thank you,

Kristen Young

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Director of Curriculum and Instruction

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