

Alternate Method of Instruction

Act 862



Stacy Smith, Learning Services

Panelists:

Dr. Ivy Pfeffer, Deputy Commissioner

Dr. Eric Saunders, Research & Technology

Greg Rogers, Finance

Mike Hernandez, State Superintendent

Deborah Coffman, Accountability

Dr. Jeremy Owoh, Licensure

Webinar Objectives

- Overview of options for make-up days
- Review ACT 862
- Review the Alternate Method of Instruction (AMI) application
- Q&A - Panelists



Overview of Options

- Days added to calendar “Snow Days”
- A.C.A. 6-10-126
 - “may delay the start time or release early a school or schools within the district...”
 - Inclement weather, contagious disease, utility outage
 - No more than 5 times
 - Delay until 10 am or release no earlier than 1 pm
 - “Shall count as a credited school day, with no requirements to be added to the calendar”
- A.C.A. 6-10-127 Making up Missed Days
 - Adding time to the beginning or ending of a regular school day
 - (minimum of 60 minutes)
 - Alternate Method of Instruction (AMI)



ACT 862

Commissioner of Education** may grant up to the equivalent of ten (10) student attendance days for public school districts that have an **alternative instruction plan approved**, including without limitation virtual learning, on days when the public school district is closed due to **exceptional or emergency circumstances** such as: a **contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather, other acts of God; or a utility outage.



AMI Application

“...school district’s alternative instruction plan shall **demonstrate how teaching and learning** in the public school district will **not be negatively impacted by the use of alternative methods of instruction.**”

- Considerations regarding district policy and procedures within the district
- Extended deadline October 1
- Email the application to Patricia Martin at Patricia.Martin@arkansas.gov.
- Second Application period in December



Commissioner Memo LS-18-018



ARKANSAS
DEPARTMENT
OF EDUCATION

Alternative Methods of Instruction - DEADLINE EXTENDED and Webinar

Memo Information

Memo Number LS-18-018

Memo Date 8/18/2017

Memo Type Administrative

Section Learning Services

Regulatory Authority Act 862 of 2017

Response Required NO

Attention Superintendents



Application- Fillable form

DISTRICT INFORMATION

District Name:

LEA Number:

Superintendent Name:

Address:

City/State/Zip:

Phone Number:

E-mail Address:

The number of days the district missed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances in the 2015-2016 school year:

The number of days the district missed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances in the 2016-2017 school year:

Number of days requested for 2017-2018 Alternate Methods of Instruction (1-10):



Application Questions

Describe the alternative means or methods of instruction. Please include within the plan how technology and resources would be available to the students if needed.

Legislation allows for virtual learning

Describe how teaching and learning through the alternative methods of instruction (AMI) will benefit students at each school within the district.

*“How teaching and learning will not be negatively impacted”
Elementary, middle school, high school*



Application Questions

Describe how student attendance will be determined on an approved AMI day.

Several have submitted based on completed work

Describe the teacher responsibilities and/or contract requirements for an AMI day.

District decision that follows your policies and procedures
Process question



Application Questions

Describe the classified employee responsibilities and/or contract requirements for an AMI day.

District decision that follows your policies and procedures
Process question

Describe how the district will communicate with parents and students the purpose and expectations for an AMI day.

Explain to parents and students the expectation
Process question



Application Questions

If it is determined that school will be canceled, explain how the district will determine if the day will be an AMI or make-up day.

Consider options in regards to “teaching and learning” and “safety”
Process Question



Possible Scenarios

- Digital platform, one to one technology, presentations- teachers available
- 9 week packets, approved by principal for AMI day
- Review days based on identified weak areas
- Assignments given day after AMI day, with time allowed to complete assignments (Sat.)
- Several classes working together on common AMI assignment or report

Be creative! Positive impact on teaching and learning.

