



Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Application

Status: **Approved**

 Rogers School District (0405000)

School Year 2021-2022

Applications will be reviewed in the order received. Incomplete applications will be returned to the district.
A notification letter will be sent to the superintendent at the email address listed above upon approval by the Arkansas State Board of Education.
NOTE: The approved application must then be posted on the district website - State Required Information.

District:	
LEA #:	0405000
Superintendent:	Marlin Berry
Email:	MARLIN.BERRY@RPSAR.NET
Phone:	(479) 636-3910
Duration Requested (not to exceed five years):	1 Year (School year 2021-2022 to 2022-2023)



AMI (Alternate Method of Instruction)

As per Arkansas Code Annotated Â§ 6-10-127 a district may apply for up to 10 days of AMI for the use of alternative methods of instruction, including [remote] learning, on days when the district is closed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances such as:

- contagious disease outbreak
- inclement weather
- other acts of God
- utility outage

Number of AMI days requested by the district. 10
(Please note that all AMI days utilized must be noted in eSchool. Sporting events, funerals, other school events, lack of substitutes, or lack of bus drivers do not qualify as exceptional circumstances.)

Provide a description of the AMI assignments and materials used at each school within the district to effectively facilitate teaching and support learning for the benefit of the students. Please include information if the district will utilize technology-based assignments or paper packets. (AMI packets must be available on-line or have been sent home prior to the designation of an AMI day)



LEA INSIGHTS

RPS will implement a blended learning model approach utilizing both technology resources and instructional materials that will be provided to students by their teachers. The district will prepare both low tech and high tech options for students to access during AMI days. Each school shall be responsible for developing and implementing assignments based on grade level and content. RPS is now one-to-one with electronic devices and teachers utilize Google Meet and Zoom to engage students in their learning and to provide feedback to students on AMI days. Students are issued a Chromebook (Macbook at RNTHS) at the beginning of the school year to utilize and access instructional material and lessons via Google Classroom (Echo for RNTHS). Teachers prepare lessons that students can access on AMI days or on days that a student is absent from school due to other reasons. All teachers including special education teachers, and teachers who support students in related services, will be accessible to students on AMI days via the following:

1. Google Classroom, Google Meet, or Zoom Meeting.
2. Email.
3. In the event of power loss, students will be able to access teachers via phone calls or text messaging, Remind, or other communication tools via cell phone.
4. In the event a student is unable to access his/her teacher, time will be permitted for the student to complete any lesson or assignment once he/she returns to school after the AMI day.

Examples include:

Rogers New Technology High School will utilize the Echo Learning Management System to communicate with students and parents.

All other schools will utilize Google Classroom as the Learning Management System.

Teachers in all schools will communicate with students prior to an AMI day on how to access the Alternative Method of Instruction and lessons associated with the AMI day.

Provisions will be made for students who have little or no access to technology within their homes to accommodate their learning. RPS has purchased "MIFI" devices that students can check out as a mobile hotspot to access the Internet from home.



Describe how student attendance will be determined for an approved AMI day. (All attendance should be determined and reported in eSchool within 5 days of the AMI day.) May include a link (URL) to the attendance policy for digital learning students if applicable to all students during AMI days.

Attendance will be determined by student completion of the assignment(s) for each class or grade level. Students will turn in assignments via Google Classroom (or Echo) or upon to school. Students will have two days to complete their work after missed days of instruction, and opportunities to receive assistance if needed. Once the lesson(s)/assignment(s) are complete, a student will be counted present for the designated AMI day.

Describe how the district will ensure implementation of Individual Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities on AMI days. Include how the district will involve the special education teacher in the provision of special education services during the AMI day to meet the individual needs of each student.

Any student receiving special education services in the resource classroom setting including students receiving indirect services will be provided the assignments that are provided to all students. The materials will be modified according to the students' Individualized Education Plan (IEP) and when appropriate the IEP committee will have the option to consider other recommendations based on each child's individual needs.

Students in the self-contained classroom setting will receive assignments from their special education teachers that directly relate to goals and objectives on each student's IEP. In addition, the general education teachers will provide the assignments for any classes taught outside the self-contained setting and modified according to the students individualized education plan. When appropriate the IEP committee will have the option to consider other recommendations based on each child's individual needs.



Describe how accommodations and related services will be provided.

Student accommodations will be implemented to the largest extent possible electronically per the student's IEP or 504 Plan. The accommodations that are implemented for onsite learning will be followed to the extent possible. RPS has developed a system to address accommodations via electronic means as a result of the recent pandemic, and electronic accommodations are written into the student's IEP or 504 Plan. Some possible accommodations are Chromebooks are provided with accessibility features and Chromebook extensions. Teachers are trained to use Screencastify and Pair Deck to make content more accessible.

ESOL students will have lessons and assignments pushed out via Google Classroom/Echo by their content teachers and their ESOL Language Development teachers.

Related service providers will provide assignments/activities to be completed at home to maintain skills addressed in the individualized education plan for students receiving related services (OT, PT, ST) as part of their individualized education plan, The IEP or 504 committee will consider the impact on performance and expected progress to determine whether make-up services are necessary.

Please include the link (URL) to the webpage or social media where information will be posted to announce the date of the AMI day and reason for utilizing the AMI day - (this should match the AMI dates entered into eSchool). (Example: December 1 will be an AMI day due to inclement weather)

The link to the district website that allows all student to access their school website is posted below:

<http://rogersschools.net/>

The Rogers Public Schools Facebook and Twitter accounts with information on AMI Days:

Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/rogersschools/>

Twitter – <https://twitter.com/RogersSchools>

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