



SEPTEMBER 14, 2017

Dear NHJ Parents/Guardians,

We have had another great start to a school year! I would like to welcome back all our returning families who have been with us for so many years and welcome our new families to NHJ. This important memo is being sent to inform you about some upcoming dates pertaining to our eLearning initiative. If you remember back to last school year, we conducted three practice eLearning days in all of our buildings. This was the first phase.

Thus, for our second phase, we will conduct two pre-planned eLearning days. Already built into our 2017-18 school calendar are two snow make-up days: one on January 15, 2018 (MLK Day) and the other one on February 19, 2018 (President's Day). These two snow make-up days (01/15/2018 and 02/19/2018) will serve as our pre-planned eLearning days. In other words, if we have to cancel school prior to either of these two days, then we will conduct a pre-planned eLearning day on either one or both of these respective days, of which your child will still be able to stay at home that day and follow the pre-planned instructions from their teacher(s). If we do **not** cancel school prior to February 19, 2018, then 01/15/2018 and 02/19/2018 will act as regular snow make-up days, in which school will not be in session.

As we take this first semester to plan in advance for this forthcoming occurrence, more information will be communicated by your child's respective building principal and teacher(s). For some general information, the following are some important guidelines that we will follow:

- \*Both offline and online activities may be assigned by the classroom teacher.
- \*All devices will be sent home prior to these eLearning days.
- \*Attendance will be based upon completion of assignments. Timely submission deadlines of these assignments will be established at the building level.
- \*All students who have accommodations for instruction will be provided with or have access to those accommodations.
- \*For those families who need Internet access, as an option, the middle school library will be open from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on these eLearning days. An administrator will be present but any student who arrives must be accompanied by an adult/parent/guardian. School lunch will not be served during this time because this time period is totally optional.
- \*Online office hours and/or various communication methods will be provided by each classroom teacher.

Our purpose for this eLearning endeavor is the following: 1) To provide more continuity of student learning by limiting lost student instructional days due to inclement weather, so that all students are better prepared for the spring testing requirements; and 2) To limit the addition of school days to the end of the school year. While we may not have all of the answers to any unforeseen problems, we are committed to finding the best solutions to make this a successful endeavor. If you have further questions, please contact me. Thank you for your cooperation and continued support.

Sincerely,

Tim Edsell, NHJ Superintendent