

610 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street P.O. Box 189 Starbuck, Minnesota 56381 Phone (320) 239-3840 Fax (320) 239-2803 www.glacialhills.org dmathias@glacialhills.org

October 21, 2020

Dear GHES Families,

Well, winter is upon us and we need to prepare for "E-Learning Days" in the event of school cancellation due to inclimate weather or other emergency. This plan allows us to address the missed school days without having to add days to the end of the year, or take away days from the calendar that are already scheduled to be off. E-learning days are different than Distance Learning which has been an option during the Covid-19 Pandemic that began last March.

"E-Learning" refers to a day when school is cancelled due to inclement weather or other emergency and parents are notified of school closings through a text, and/or email, radio and TV. On days when school must be closed, we have the option to participate in curriculum-aligned learning opportunities from home. Using this approach will alleviate the need for students to make up days during scheduled vacation breaks or to attend additional school days at the end of the school year.

If the decision is made to close school and conduct an E-Learning day, it will be made prior to 6:10 a.m. the day E-Learning is scheduled. (If it is possible to make the decision the night before, we will try to do that.) The closing of school for inclement weather is a serious matter and safety is the prevailing factor in reaching this decision.

The E-Learning plans for each grade level will be sent home with the student, and also made available on the school's website <a href="www.glacialhills.org">www.glacialhills.org</a>. During an E-Learning school day, elementary students will choose from a list of learning options, including both digital and hands-on assignments. The assignments are designed to complement current classroom curriculum. These learning options are designed in the form of a "choice board". Specific information, such as what students are expected to complete, how they will show that they have completed the work, and how to contact your child's teacher with questions, will be provided. Teachers are expected to be available from 8:00-3:00 on E-Learning days to answer any questions that students may have. Teachers will include their contact information in the E-Learning packet. All assignments will be due to the classroom teacher within two (2) days of returning to regular classes.

Thanks for your cooperation with all of the changes we have seen in how we deliver education this past year. Let's hope that the weather straightens out and we have minimal days off for the remainder of the school year!

Sincerely,
Deb Mathias, Director