



# Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Application

Status: **Approved**

 Pottsville School District (5804000)

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.

<b>District:</b>	
<b>LEA #:</b>	5804000
<b>Superintendent:</b>	Larry Dugger
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:larry.dugger@pottsvilleschools.org">larry.dugger@pottsvilleschools.org</a>
<b>Phone:</b>	(479) 968-8101
<b>Duration Requested (not to exceed five years):</b>	5 Years (School year 2021-2022 to 2026-2027)



## 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)



Pottsville School District's mission is to prepare students to be college and career ready. We are committed to a continuing effort to offer the best 21st century education in a caring and rigorous educational environment. PSD will utilize a variety of alternative methods to provide student instruction on days designated as alternative methods of instruction days (AMI days). Online curriculum, project-based learning, and individualized instruction will be a part of the various methods used for AMI days. The methods will vary but will include the rigor and relevance of traditional instructional methods and protect the integrity of the Arkansas State Standards in order to reinforce previous learning. PSD is 1:1. With that in mind, all of our K-12 students will receive their technology devices prior to September 1 and begin learning how to utilize online platforms and different software at that time.

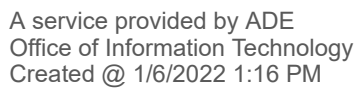
Pottsville Elementary will utilize the following learning management systems/platforms: Kindergarten-Seesaw and 1st through 3rd grades-Google Classroom. Communication with students and families will occur through Zoom, phone calls and emails. Each assignment/project will be based upon prior learning standards taught in all subjects. There will also be activities in physical education, art and music, and the students will choose to do the activity (pull-out class) that they miss on AMI day.

Pottsville Middle Grades (4th through 6th grades) will utilize Google Classroom as the learning management system/platform. Communication with students will occur through Zoom and emails to provide instruction, videos, and other resources to students. Each assignment/project will be based upon prior learning standards taught. Some activities will be cross-curricular in nature and provide rigor and relevance to students.

Pottsville Junior High (7th through 9th grades) will utilize Google Classroom as the learning management system/platform. Communication with students will occur through Zoom, Google Meet, and emails to provide instruction, videos, and other resources to students. Each assignment/project will be based upon prior learning standards taught. Some activities will be cross-curricular in nature and provide rigor and relevance to students.

Pottsville High School (10th through 12th grades) will utilize Google Classroom or Moodle as the learning management system/platform. Communication with students will occur through Zoom, Google Meet, and emails to provide instruction, videos, and other resources to students. Each assignment/project will be based upon prior learning standards taught. Some activities will be cross-curricular in nature and provide rigor and relevance to students.

In all buildings, daily standards-based lessons will be delivered through teacher created activities and virtual resources our teachers currently employ in their classrooms (IXL, Go Math, Khan Academy, CommonLit.org, Nearpod, Newslea, Rosetta Stone, Starfall, Overdrive, Bookshare, ThinkCentral, AR Traveler Databases, ICFV Kinder Nensis Tales2Go Tumblebooks Odysseyware ACT



Work Keys, Generation Genius, Office 365, Empowering Writers, Haggerty, and 95% Group). By November 15 (or prior to any AMI day), K-12 students will also be given paper-based assignments to take home with directions for completion in the event that power outages may hinder students from being able to work on their devices. Each paper-based assignment/packet will include standards-based activities related to learning that has taken place prior to November 15 or before any AMI day. Faculty will be available for communication with students and families during an AMI day through phone calls, emails, facetime, zoom, etc.

During an AMI day, students will be expected to complete assignments and projects during that day. However, if the AMI day was unforeseeable, any student returning to school who was not able to access his or her technology devices to complete assignments and projects or contact his / her teacher for assistance (due to a power outages, etc...) will have seven (7) days to complete them.

All AMI lesson plans for all certified teachers will be submitted to the building principal (or his/her designed) for his/her approval to ensure the integrity of rigor and relevance are maintained.



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.

Completion of assignments/projects and subsequent grades are evidence of student accountability and attendance.

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.

PSD will ensure that each student with an IEP and receiving direct Special Education services will receive activities from his or her Special Education teacher/General Education teacher that will address each student's need and skill level consistent with his or her IEP. By November 15, Special Education teachers and General Education teachers will send home paper-based lessons/packets, manipulatives, and other materials with directions should a power-outage prevent a student from working on his/her technology device. It is the goal of the team to assist that child in maintaining his or her appropriate skill level while taking into account specific accommodations relevant to the child's functioning during any AMI day. Special Education teachers and General Education teachers will communicate with students and families through a variety of methods during AMI days including phone calls, emails, facetime, zoom, etc.

Describe how accommodations and related services will be provided.

Students receiving Indirect services with an IEP or receiving related services (OT, PT, Speech, ESL, and/or Dyslexia) will be provided with appropriate accommodations on their assignments/projects that are consistent with their needs. By November 15, teachers and therapists will send home paper-based lessons/packets, manipulatives, and other materials with directions. The Special Education teachers, Reading Recovery Teachers, Reading Specialists, 504 Coordinators, OTs, PTs, Speech Therapists, ESL Coordinators, and Dyslexia Interventionists, will assist General Education teachers with lessons and activities specific to a student's skill level during an AMI day. Faculty will communicate with students and families on AMI days through multiple means: phone calls, emails, facetime, zoom, etc.

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)

[www.pottsvilleschools.org](http://www.pottsvilleschools.org)



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