



Niangua R-V Schools

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www.nianguaschools.com

March 13, 2020

Niangua R-5 Students, Parents, and Guardians

ALTERNATIVE METHODS OF INSTRUCTION

Niangua R-5 staff, students, and administrators have been researching and developing a plan known as Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI). The Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has initiated a program that would allow school districts to provide academic instruction for students during inclement weather or due to exceptional or emergency circumstances during a school year.

The recent outbreak might allow our district to utilize our research and preparation over the next few months. Here is our plan for Alternative Methods of Instruction at Niangua R-5 Schools:

- AMI lessons will be provided by teachers to all students through the Niangua Schools website, individual teacher social media sites, or through handouts available to all students.
- The district will communicate its plan for AMI on the district website, district social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram), Swift K12 emails, text messages, and phone messages.
- Students will complete the work (one lesson per day/per course) in order to receive attendance credit for the AMI or inclement weather day.
- Students who do not complete the work will be marked absent for the related AMI or inclement weather day.
- Absences can negatively impact exam exemptions, perfect attendance, etc.
- AMI work will be due to teachers within five (5) days after school resumes.
- Teachers will evaluate the work and return it with feedback. At the teacher's discretion, the work may or may not result in a grade in the grade book.
- All teachers will be available for students via email, Google Classroom, Classroom Dojo, Google Voice, etc. between the hours of 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. on inclement weather days.
- Niangua R-5 School District will determine which students can implement the plan virtually or through traditional methods but both methods will be available to all students.
- Students that need a chromebook can check one out from the school district throughout this AMI period of time.



AMI packets are being sent home with students on Friday, March 13, 2020, in preparation for the possibility of an “extended” Spring Break period. The district will contact students, parents, and community members through all sources (phone calls, text messages, social media, etc.) prior to implementing the AMI schedule for the possibility of an “extended” break. The district will remain open if the district AMI plan goes into effect. In other words, teachers, staff, and administration will be available to distribute lessons and answer questions after Spring Break. We would all prefer to handle additional instruction online but realize that twenty-five (25%) of our student population does not have access to the internet. AMI packets can be accessed at any time at the main office.

We apologize for any inconvenience that this may cause but want to continue to provide some form of academic instruction in the event students are stuck at home. We also want to make sure that our families have an opportunity to prepare for child care, if needed, and prepare instructional opportunities for our students.

I am always available through my phone number (417) 689-4673, email addresses, tjbransfield@yahoo.com, tjbransfield@gmail.com, tjbransfield@nianguaschools.com, and at school (417) 473-6101, ext. 110.

We always want to be prepared for any situation that occurs and feel that our plan allows everyone an opportunity to continue with our students best interests in mind.

Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'T.J. Bransfield'.

T.J. Bransfield
Superintendent
Niangua R-5 School District