

Dear Chester, Deep River, Essex, and Region 4 Schools,

Effective for the 2020-2021 school year, the Connecticut Department of Education has provided school superintendents with the flexibility to designate “snow days” as remote, e-learning days.

Regardless of the mode of school (full in-person, hybrid or remote) “snow days” will be remote e-learning days, unless power outages occur. If winter weather disrupts power in a manner that prevents students and teachers from accessing remote learning, school will be cancelled.

On “snow days” teachers and paraeducators will work remotely. On “snow days” there will be no after school extra curricular or athletic activities. School offices and central office may or may not be open depending on the nature of the weather event. Students attending any special education programs in our buildings during periods when the district is in remote e-learning mode, will access their programs remotely on “snow days.”

Whenever possible, “snow days” will be communicated to families and staff the day before to allow staff and families adequate time to prepare. During “snow days” Live Google Meets will not occur, and learning will be asynchronous. Lesson plans and activities will be provided through Google Classroom for each class. These days will count as school days.

Our Grab and Go meals program will continue to be served on “snow days” at their regular locations and serving times. In the event of a school cancellation due to winter weather disrupting power, Grab and Go meals will not be served.

As of the date of this communication, our last day of school is scheduled for June 9, 2021. Valley Regional High School graduation is also scheduled to occur on June 9th. Any cancelled school days due to winter weather disrupting power will be added to the end of the school year as they would in a regular school year according to our [district calendar](#).

Sincerely,

Brian J. White
Superintendent of Schools