



eLearning Parent FAQ

What is eLearning?

eLearning is the use of technology to enable people to learn anytime and anywhere. Kankakee Valley School Corporation's eLearning days will offer a blended learning environment for students. Teachers will create standards-based lessons with resources and the assignment being available through a learning management system (LMS). Students will also use the LMS to submit their completed assignments.

Indiana Department of Education, Office of eLearning: <http://www.doe.in.gov/elearning>

What is an LMS?

A learning management system is used to organize a class. If you communicate with college students you may have heard them talk about Angel or Blackboard. **KV teachers are using Google Classroom (grades K-5) or Schoology (grades 6-12) as their LMS.** Features/uses of an LMS include: announcements, calendar, gradebook, discussion board, access to digital curriculum, quizzes/tests, make and collect assignments, and cloud storage. Of course, teachers are at different places in learning to use an LMS. Not everyone is using all of the features, but have already begun to give and collect assignments utilizing the LMS.

What is the date for the 2017-2018 school year?

- **February 16, 2018 & April 27, 2018**
 - ELearning assignments are to be completed on or before Wednesday, February 21, 2018 or Tuesday, May 1, 2018. Each school building has determined the time that assignments are due that day. Assignments will be graded and recorded. Consideration will be given to students that need additional time due to unforeseen circumstances.

What will it look like for students?

There will not be a rigid schedule for students to follow but they will be expected to complete required lessons by the day after they return to school. If it fits better into your family schedule your child might divide the work between the two evenings. Or spread it out over the weekend as well as short sessions during the actual eLearning day.

Students are expected to follow the directions given by their teachers the previous day. Google Classroom or Schoology will be the tools for teachers and students for eLearning. All assignments are expected to be completed for all classes, and credit will be given just as it would be on a regular classroom day. By completing these assignments, your student will be marked as attended during the eLearning Day and work scored towards semester grade.

Teachers will be available online for questions or concerns on February 16, 2018 & April 27, 2018 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. This schedule will be available to parents and students prior to the eLearning day.



Why have eLearning days?

Having the technical and organizational skills necessary to do independent, online learning is important for our students. Having time for professional development is important for KV educators.

- According to a study completed in 2011, 32% of college students take at least one online course.
- Even face-to-face courses in college require work to be submitted electronically.
- An article in the Indianapolis Recorder reports that employers feel that 35% of new hires/applicants do not have adequate computer skills.
- Students/teachers can work in their home environments.
- It is possible that, in the future, we would have the ability to provide teachers an entire day of professional development.
- Snow days can become eLearning days and would not have to be added onto the end of the school year.

What if we don't have Internet access at our home?

A computer lab will be open for families to bring their students in on February 16, 2018 & April 27, 2018. The High School lab will be open from 9:00 am - 3:00 pm. Enter in the High School Guidance doors. Parents or guardians must supervise their children at all times. Students may not be dropped off and picked up at a later time.

While most assignments may require Internet, there are several options for families without Internet access:

- For some assignments the required files can be downloaded while at school in advance.
- For some assignments, the student may be able to do the actual thinking/writing process while at home and then quickly upload it when they return to school. (For example, if the assignment is to write a response to a blog, the student could complete it in a word processor while at home.)
- Parents may consider other options, like taking their child to a family member or friends who have access or to one of the many places with free public access, including an open lab at KV Schools.

****Note: students will not be penalized if they cannot get Internet service, but they will be responsible for completing the work requiring the Internet while at school upon return.**

Locations with public Wi-Fi:

Jasper County Public Libraries

- In addition to the computers provided at each branch for patron use, each branch of Jasper County Public Libraries also offers a hotspot for access to the Internet for wireless-enabled laptops and other devices. This Wi-Fi network is available daily from 7:00 am to 11:00 pm. *They typically run maintenance processes on the wireless network on Sundays around 8:00 am. The wireless network may be unavailable for a few minutes while these updates occur.*
- Use of the Library's wireless network implies acceptance of the Library's patron use agreement.



McDonald's (remind students to keep food and drink away from their device.)

- 338 N HALLECK, DEMOTTE, IN 46310-9419.

McDonald's (remind students to keep food and drink away from their device.)

- 8834 W STATE RD 114, RENSSELAER, IN 47978.

McDonald's (remind students to keep food and drink away from their device.)

- 819 SOUTH COLLEGE DR, RENSSELAER, IN 47978.

What if the student's Chromebook is not working?

From experience, this is a rare occurrence but if it happens there are a couple different options:

- Because the Learning Management System is web-based, students may use any other device to upload their work.
- If the student doesn't have a device at home, they may come to the open school lab, visit the library, or use another friend or family member's device.
- If the student cannot find a way to complete the assignments, they will be accepted by the time designated by each school on Wednesday, February 21, 2018 or Tuesday, May 1, 2018..
- When the student returns to school, they will need to take their device to the tech department to be repaired.

How do I contact my child's teacher?

If your teacher has not discussed how to communicate, start by either sending a message through Schoology (HS and MS) or send an email (all buildings). In addition, your teacher may set up other ways to contact him or her.

Your teacher will be monitoring both from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm on the makeup day. Be patient if you do not get an immediate response. Your teacher may be answering other questions and will get to yours shortly.

How will attendance be taken? How does my child get counted as present?

Students must turn in the assigned work by the deadline to be counted present for the day. No work submitted equals a day of absence. Physical work will be due the second school day after you return to school.

Can more than one student login on a Chromebook?

Yes, Chromebooks can have multiple KV users log in utilizing the Google Drive login information.

What if I cannot access the sites online?

Reboot the device to clear out the memory and reset the connection to the local wireless network. Then, try again to access the site.



How can I get help as a student or parent?

All students have their teacher contacts for the eLearning days through Google Classroom, Schoology, or school email. Teachers will give preferred contact information to your students and will be available on February 16th and April 27th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Tech support will be available during the same hours by calling **219-956-3143, extension 2300**. Your teacher is the first contact to be made for help on assignments and academic needs. Technology can be called for issues with the LMS.

What is the eLearning Virtual Option for Inclement Weather as a make-up day?

Kankakee Valley School Corporation (KV) applied to the IDOE for a Virtual Option for Inclement Weather to make up attendance days lost to extreme weather. We were accepted and will use the scheduled makeup days as eLearning days. This will eliminate two additional days to the end of the school year calendar this year.

Kankakee Valley hopes to utilize eLearning days on the actual canceled school day for the 2018-19 school year.