



**Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) Plan  
2019 -2020 Application**

**District Information**

<b>District Name</b>	<u>Flippin School District</u>	<b>LEA Number</b>	<u>4501000</u>
<b>City</b>	<u>Flippin</u>	<b>County</b>	<u>Marion</u>
<b>Superintendent</b>	<u>Kelvin Hudson</u>	<b>Phone</b>	<u>(870) 945-6152</u>
<b>Email</b>	<u><a href="mailto:kelvinhudson@flippinschools.net">kelvinhudson@flippinschools.net</a></u>	<b>Cell</b>	<u>(870) 421-4998</u>

<b>Individual School / Campus Name</b>	<b>Grade Level</b>
Flippin Elementary School	K-4
Flippin Middle School	5-8
Flippin High School	9-12

**Previous Information**

Total number of days the district missed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances.

Total number of AMI days used

	<b><u>2017-18</u></b>	<b><u>2018-19</u></b>
Total number of days the district missed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances.	3	0
Total number of AMI days used	3	N/A

**Submission Instructions:**

- E-mail completed applications to [ADE.AMIapplication@arkansas.gov](mailto:ADE.AMIapplication@arkansas.gov)
- The deadline for applications to be submitted is September 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Applications will be reviewed in the order they are received. Incomplete or partial applications will not be reviewed.
- Consult the AMI Guidance document for additional information regarding plan topics.
- Notification of status will be sent via email to the superintendent at the address provided above.
- Approval is granted for the current school year only. Applications must be renewed annually.

- A. If school is canceled due to an emergency or exceptional circumstance such as a contagious disease outbreak, inclement weather , or utility outage, explain the process by which the district shall determine if the school closure will be an AMI or make-up day.** Ballgames or other school events, lack of substitutes, or lack of bus drivers do not qualify as an exceptional circumstance.

All regular school days missed due to exceptional or emergency circumstances shall be considered AMI days until the maximum number of days is reached.\* Days missed beyond the maximum shall be considered make-up days.

\*Any regular school days missed before AMI packets are sent home with students will be considered make-up days.

Should special conditions exist that might prevent the majority of students from completing AMI assignments (e.g. - severe weather conditions combined with a multi-day regional power outage), the Superintendent will consult with the district Administrative Team to determine if meaningful teaching and learning can still take place. If it appears that meaningful learning cannot take place, the Superintendent will declare those days to be make-up days.

- B. 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. AMI Packets must be available on-line or have been sent home prior to designation of an AMI Day.**

A significant number of students in the Flippin School District have no access to computers or the Internet at home. Therefore, basing our district AMI plan on a “digital day” for all students K-12 approach would be both inequitable and unworkable. To meet the needs of all our students, AMI assignments must provide creative solutions for overcoming the limited resources our students have at home. Students at Flippin High School, grades 9-12, have one to one Chromebooks, therefore, High School students will have an option to complete the AMI Assignments in paper format or online via the school's learning management system.

To begin our AMI program, in September, teachers will create five AMI assignments for each class they teach. In grades K-8, teachers will gather in grade level teams to combine the assignments from each class into a grade specific packet. In grades 9-12 each teacher will compile their assignments and post them on Canvas LMS or Google Classroom as well as create a physical copy. They will gather in teams to compile the physical assignments into grade specific packets. These packets will be submitted to the Building Principals for approval. Packets will then be distributed to students. When

packets are distributed, parents will be notified via multiple methods of communication to ensure they know the assignments are being sent home ahead of time.

The process will be repeated if the first five days are used and more AMI days are needed and/or awarded.

Criteria for AMI assignments include the following:

- All AMI assignments should reflect evolving instructional practices, and be designed to deepen understanding and help build essential skills.
- All AMI assignments must be purposeful and meaningful, and primarily involve tasks that are interesting and engaging. Teachers must avoid using worksheets and similar “busy work” for AMI assignments.
- All AMI assignments must have a logical connection to the regular classroom. This includes reflecting all state standards and district curriculum goals.
- Students must be able to complete all AMI assignments using only the basic resources that are readily available at home.
- All AMI assignments should take roughly the same time to complete as an assignment in the regular classroom.
- For self-contained classrooms, AMI assignments may be combined into cross-curricular projects as long as those projects meet the same criteria that would be expected in a regular classroom setting, and can be completed within the appropriate time frame.
- For subject-specific courses (primarily high school), an AMI assignment may be a project designed for multiple days, as long as each part of the assignment (equivalent to one class period) can stand alone.

Before distribution, all AMI assignments will be reviewed by the Building Principal for adherence to these criteria, and for appropriate levels of rigor and relevance. In addition, the district’s Curriculum Coordinator will be actively involved in helping teachers design and principals review AMI assignments so that all completed work provides the maximum benefit to students.

**C. Describe how student attendance will be determined for an approved AMI day.**

For purposes of the AMI day, a student shall be determined as “present” if he/she returns the assigned AMI work upon returning to school or within three school days after classes resume. If a student does not return the assigned AMI work within the stated time frame, he/she shall be counted as “absent.”

**D. Describe how the district will ensure implementation of Individual Education Programs (IEPs) for students with disabilities on AMI days.**

In order for the AMI day packets to comply with each student's IEP, the Special Education Teacher will work with the Regular Education Classroom Teachers, the Building Principal and the Curriculum Director to develop AMI work that is not only aligned with the student's IEP, but also aligned with the goals of the grade level to further learning for all students. The team will use each individual student's IEP as a guiding force to ensure that all work aligns with the specific goals created for that student. In addition, the following statement is included in each student's IEP- "After reviewing student's regression/recoupment data, progress made on IEP goals, and parent/teacher input, it was determined student can make meaningful progress through ADE's district-approved AMI Day packets with IEP accommodations. Should committee members feel a lack of progress has occurred, the committee will reconvene to discuss appropriate options."

**E. Describe how the district will communicate with parents and students the purpose and expectations for an AMI day. Please include the link to the website or social media where the information will be posted.**

Clear communication is essential if AMI days are to be effective. To introduce the AMI program, the district Superintendent will send a letter to all parents explaining the purpose of the program and describing key details. He will also submit an informative article to the newspaper that serves our community, as well as post the article on the school's social media platforms.

Implementation will begin when the Building Principals send AMI packets home with the students. These packets will include a letter to parents with the same information covered in the newspaper articles. Each Building Principal will also hold a fun, up-beat assembly to introduce the AMI program to students.

After the assembly, teachers will follow-up with classroom discussions. They will preview what AMI assignments will look like, and discuss the amount of time students will be expected to spend on assignments.

Throughout this process, administrators and teachers will constantly emphasize that the success of the AMI program depends on active support from the students, and that if AMI days are not successful, the alternative is to return to the old system of adding make-up days to the end of the year.

Once the AMI program is operational, parents will be notified through the district's School Messenger system when an AMI day is needed. This is the notification system that is currently used when school is canceled, so its use for this purpose will provide a seamless transition.

Website Link: <http://flippinschools.com/curriculum/page/254/alternative-methods-of-instruction-information-work>

Social Media Link where information will be posted:

<https://www.facebook.com/FlippinSchoolDistrict/?ref=bookmarks>