



# DR. DANIEL A. CLARA

ASSISTANT TO THE SUPERINTENDENT

PO BOX A/2351 RTE 981

ALVERTON, PA 15683

724.887.2002

CLARAD@SOUTHMORELAND.NET

14 December 2022

Dear parents, guardians and students,

As we begin the winter season, this is a good opportunity to review our plans for inclement weather. The Southmoreland School District has been approved to use five (5) Flexible Instructional Days (FID) throughout the 2022-2023 school year. A FID is a day where students will learn remotely instead of having a traditional cancellation or snow day. ***FIDs will be asynchronous days for students. Teacher lessons, videos and materials will be posted so that students may work on them independently or with assistance from trusted adults as they may need. Moreover, teachers will be available through Google Meets and email to work with and support students during the school day.***

All IEPs, GIEPs, and 504 plans will be followed throughout the remote instructional day with as many services provided remotely as possible. If a service cannot be provided, every effort will be made to make up that service. In previous remote learning environments, the special education staff has been able to meet the needs of special education students through remote sessions.

The need to be flexible with learners, especially in a FID environment, is critical. Connectivity and support for our youngest learners can pose a challenge. Teachers have twenty-four hours to work with learners to complete work from the FID. This includes viewing recordings of instruction, completing asynchronous assignments, and ensuring students have gained access to the material. Attendance will be collected using Google Attendance Forms.

The decision to utilize a FID will be made no later than 6:00 AM. Communication will occur on Remind, Google Classroom, social media and the district website. WPXI, WTAE and KDKA are utilized for school closings and delays. On the FID, our district message on these stations will indicate “flexible instruction day” or “remote” instruction only, depending on the news outlet.

In this way, we can ensure that student learning opportunities are provided and connected to core content, but also offer flexibility and options for our students and families who may need it. We remain committed to our mission of “High Quality Learning for All” and we thank you for your support in this work. Best wishes for a safe and enjoyable holiday break!

Very respectfully,

Daniel A. Clara, Ed. D.  
Assistant to the Superintendent  
Southmoreland School District