Wednesday, February 20, 2019

Dear Cass School District 63 Families:

As you know, we had to close school four times this school year because of extreme weather. This number of closings for any one given school year is the most we have experienced in recent school years. As you probably also know, we are required to reschedule these missed school days.

Traditionally, when we had emergency closings, we added the make-up days at the end of the school year. This school year, the law has changed and gives schools more flexibility in what constitutes a school day.

Considering the current legal definition of a school day, we are looking to reschedule this year’s missed school days in a way that we believe is more relevant and meaningful to our students’ studies than tacking on four days at the end of the school year.

Last night, our Board of Education approved the Administration’s recommendation to address our missed school days this year with four E-Days. An E-Day, by our definition, would constitute students being assigned by their teacher a current, relevant and meaningful curricular assignment to be completed outside of school. The assignment should take approximately two and a half hours of study time and will be due approximately one week after the assignment is given. During the given time, there will be designated times teachers will be available for questions and support, if needed. The first of these four E-Days will begin on March 1, with the other three E-Days to be scheduled by the end of April.

Teachers will communicate in more detail with students about the upcoming E-Days and will send home additional, specific information. After receiving their communications, please contact teachers directly with questions.

We are excited about this new learning opportunity for our students and we appreciate your patience and support as we begin this program, which could be a start to a great foundation for additional learning opportunities in years to come.

Sincerely,

Kerry J. Foderaro
 Superintendent of Schools

KJF/glw