Chazy Central Rural School District Emergency Remote Instruction Plan

Introduction- The Chazy Central Rural School District recognizes the importance of preparing for unforeseen circumstances that may disrupt in-person learning. To address such situations, we have developed this Emergency Remote Instruction Plan. This plan not only meets the requirements set forth by the New York State Education Commissioner but also serves as an integral part of our 2023-2024 District-Wide School Safety Plan.

Background Information- In response to the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the New York State Education Department (NYSED) introduced a "snow day pilot" program during the 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 school years. This program allowed school districts to conduct remote instruction on emergency closure days. To provide greater predictability, NYSED formalized this flexibility in September 2022, amending section 175.5(e) of the Commissioner's regulations. Now, school districts may choose to offer remote instruction during emergency closures and count these instructional days toward State Aid requirements, provided it aligns with their Emergency Remote Instruction Plan, which is mandated by section 155.17 of the Commissioner's regulations.

Remote Instruction- Remote instruction, as defined by Commissioner's regulations, involves regular and substantive interaction between students and certified teachers when they are in different locations due to school closures caused by emergencies. This includes various delivery methods to ensure effective learning.

Instructional Methods- Our district employs a variety of instructional methods to meet the diverse needs of our students, including:

- Synchronous Instruction: Real-time teaching using platforms like Google Meet, enabling teachers to interact directly with students.
- Asynchronous Instruction: Pre-recorded lessons with flexible participation times.

- Authentic Independent Instruction: Engaging students in self-directed, high-quality learning activities.

Access and Availability- We are committed to ensuring access to devices and the internet for all our students. We achieve this by conducting surveys to identify families with reliable high-speed internet connections and providing devices such as Chromebooks or Chrome-based tablets. Families without adequate internet access receive wireless hotspots or alternative instructional materials. Additionally, community resources may be utilized to provide internet access to those in need.

Schedule and Platforms- To streamline communication and instruction, all our teachers utilize Google Classroom as the primary instructional platform. During emergency closures, we prioritize synchronous instruction as the primary mode, complemented by asynchronous instruction for additional support.

Support for Students with Disabilities- Our commitment to inclusivity extends to students with disabilities. We provide support services and accommodations in line with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs) or 504 Accommodation Plans. Special education teachers collaborate with general education teachers to ensure continuity of instruction.

Reporting-

- Immediate: We promptly report school closures and reopenings to the Commissioner, even when remote instruction is in place. This ensures transparency and accountability.
- Annually by June 30th: We submit survey results on student access to computing devices and internet connectivity to comply with regulatory requirements.
- End of the School Year: At the conclusion of each school year, starting with 2023-2024, we report remote instructional days through the State Aid Management System. This helps determine State Aid eligibility.

Board of Education Approval- Our Emergency Remote Instruction Plan is subject to public input and scrutiny. It is made available for public comment and hearing for a minimum of thirty

days (30) prior to adoption. We annually adopt this plan as part of the District-Wide School Safety Plan before September 1st, and it is prominently posted on our district website to ensure transparency.

Instructional Hours for State Aid- Instructional hours during remote instruction due to emergency conditions are counted toward the required annual hours for State Aid, as specified in Education Law.

Unscheduled School Delays and Early Releases Provisions are in place to ensure that instructional hours are counted for State Aid when unscheduled delays or early releases occur due to emergency conditions.