



OWEN D. YOUNG CENTRAL SCHOOL  
P.O. BOX 125  
VAN HORNESVILLE, N.Y. 13475-0125  
Mr. Brennan M. Fahey, Superintendent of Schools

Telephone: (315) 858-0729  
Fax: (315) 858-2019

October 9, 2020

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Yesterday's emergency closing, brought to my attention the importance of communicating with you the differences this year can present regarding school closings. Yesterday was an emergency day that we could not offer a continuation of learning option due to the power outage. As a result, this counted against our four emergency days built into the school calendar. However, in the event that we need to close the school building in the future due to weather this year we are allowed to go to our virtual learning model for the day.

To practice this environment many schools are scheduling a practice virtual day. Owen D. Young would like to take our scheduled superintendent day on Friday, October 23<sup>rd</sup> and change that to a virtual instructional day. This makes it an official school day but allows us to practice this setting while the children were already scheduled to be home. Preventing us from asking parents to arrange another day of coverage for their children that is not an emergency.

What this means is that students will be required to complete school work on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Teachers over the next two weeks will prepare students regarding how they will be logging on to complete work when we are virtual. For example, some students are able to download their school work and videos at home but unable to stream into a live lesson. We also have students who have no internet ability. These students will continue to be prepared using our offline procedures. Directions will also be provided to parents so that they are prepared to support their children while knowing exactly what the expectations for that day are. Students who are able to stream into the lesson with teachers will be providing a schedule for when they are expected to log on and participate in the lesson.

The purpose of this virtual day is to allow teachers to troubleshoot issues they currently cannot anticipate. It also will allow parents an opportunity to troubleshoot issues they face with the different virtual learning modes. We can then gather information and better communicate to make our virtual program as seamless as possible.

We appreciate your support throughout the school year and hope you will understand why this modification in the school calendar is required. Please contact me if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Brennan M. Fahey  
Superintendent of Schools