Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District
Alternative Methods of Instruction (2026-2027)

Student Benefit
The Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District believes that learning happens everywhere, not just in the classroom. Nodaway-Holt will utilize a variety of alternative methods of instruction (including technology-based and text-based) to provide instruction on days designated as alternative methods of instruction (AMI) days. The method of delivery may be altered, but the rigor and relevance will not.

Teachers will prepare lesson plans and activities that are both technology and text-based. If there is a predicted inclement weather, activities will be sent home with students prior to an anticipated AMI day. These activities will include items such as project-based assignments relevant to current classroom curriculum and instruction that will both review and reinforce previously taught skills as well as introduce new concepts. Technology-based assignments will be prepared and available in the event of outages or other unforeseen circumstances.

Attendance Determination
Attendance for an approved AMI day will be determined by the amount of work completed on each AMI day. Assignments may be submitted either electronically prior to returning to school, or are due the day students physically return to school. Failure to submit assignments will result in the student(s) being considered absent for the AMI day.

Teacher Responsibilities
Certified teachers will be required to determine appropriate instruction for each AMI day and will prepare lesson plans and assignments. Lesson plans will be completed and posted to the individual teacher's Google Classroom. Certified teachers will be available to provide assistance and feedback for students during designated times or "office hours" for AMI days. Teachers will be responsible for maintaining documentation of all assignments and lesson plans, as well as grading assignments as needed. Teachers will complete appropriate logs verifying student contact and the methods used in delivery to students (i.e. Google Classroom, email, text, Remind app, etc.).

All certified district teachers will be required to login to Zoom at the following times:

- 8:00 am
- 8:52 am
- 9:44 am
- 10:36 am
- 11:28 am or 11:51 am - Depending on which lunch shift the teacher attends on a regular school day
- 12:40 pm
- 1:31 pm
- 2:22 pm - This will be the all teachers virtual office hour
- 2:48 pm

These designated login times follow the junior/senior high school class period schedule, but will be utilized districtwide on AMI days to ensure that parents and students know when teachers are available.

<u>Please note: During the required login times, if no students log in within 15 minutes of the scheduled start time, teachers may log off until their next designated time slot.</u>

Classified Employee Responsibilities
Following all federal and district guidelines, classified employees will be required to one (1) additional day for each AMI day in order to fulfill their contractual requirements. Days shall be added to the end of the school year, or on non-working days following district procedure. If classified employees do not want to add an additional day, they may choose to work, use paid time off (PTO), or be docked one day's pay.

Communication with Parents and Students

The AMI plan will be accessible to all school stakeholders via the school website and in the student handbooks. For each cancelled school day deemed an AMI day, the school will notify all students and parents via the district website, textcaster which does not require internet access, and on the district's Facebook page. All parents will be encouraged to sign up for the school's textcaster to receive such updates. Students specifically will be able to access their Google Classroom accounts or refer to their take home instructions and expectations for the AMI day.

AMI or Make-Up Day Determination

AMI days will only fall into the category of situations beyond the district's control (i.e. major absenteeism due to illness/disease, inclement weather, major catastrophe of buildings/safety, and outages rendering facilities unusable). Decisions will be made in a collaborative fashion with input taken from all stakeholders, with the knowledge that the Superintendent will make the final decision. There may be expectations or cases in which an AMI day is not possible. If there is not time for proper preparation, then the day will fall under the make-up category. If a day falls under the make-up category, the decision whether or not the day is made up, as long as 1,044 instructional hours are met, will be up to the district's Board of Education. Additionally, districts are only allowed to provide alternate methods of instruction for up to 36 hours per year, legally. Beyond 36 instructional hours, AMI cannot be used.

School Closure Decision Chart	
Indicators to determine the use of AMI day	**Indicators to determine a make-up day**
Factors beyond district's control: Excessive absenteeism due to illness/disease Inclement weather events Major catastrophe to buildings Safety issues Outages rendering facilities unusable	Factors within district's control: Lack of substitutes/bus drivers State championship game appearance or other event affecting attendance Death of a student/staff member
Preparation or advanced notice	No advanced notice of event
Stakeholder input	No time to involve stakeholder input
Plan communication and lesson preparation in place on district website and distributed to students and parents	Plan has not been communicated effectively and lessons are not ready to be distributed to students and parents
Superintendent discretion	Superintendent discretion

Special Education AMI for Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District

All students with disabilities in grades Pre-Kindergarten through twelfth (12) will be a part of the district's Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) in the following manner:

AMI Packets

- Students with disabilities who receive instruction in general education classes under indirect services will receive and complete the same AMI packets as their non-disabled peers with the accommodations written on individual IEPs. Special Education teachers assigned to indirect students will check on AMI completion during the indirect progress review.
- Students with disabilities who receive services in a resource room or a self-contained classroom for content area instruction (i.e. Math, English, Science, and Social Studies) will receive AMI packets from their special education teachers. The packets will be returned and graded by each special education instructor.
- Students with disabilities who receive speech language therapy will receive AMI packets from the therapist who provides therapy. Speech-language packets include open-ended activities that can be customized for specific

skills such as auditory processing, fluency, sequencing, and answering questions. There may be specific activities for each month of the year including different holidays in each month. Also included will be a parent/helper letter explaining how to practice each skill at home.

Monitoring the AMI Process

- All Special Education teaching staff will be assigned a time period during AMI days when parents can reach out to ask questions regarding the AMI assignments.
- Therapy providers (Speech, Occupational therapy, Physical therapy, Mental Health therapy) will complete an informal assessment upon a student's return to school after AMI day(s) to monitor slippage in skills. The therapist will provide compensatory therapy when students show regression in skills.
- The AMI process for students with disabilities will be shared and discussed with parents during Annual Review Conferences each school year.