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To: Undisclosed recipients: ;

Subject: Inclement Weather Make-up Days

Good Afternoon,

I want to make sure you have information regarding possible make-up days. As you read below, you will see that our options range from not making up the days to adding time at the end of each school day, or adding days at the end of the school year. The Administration will assess our academic program in the coming weeks and make a determination on how to proceed. Please know that, as much as possible, they will protect critical existing dates (i.e. spring break, graduation schedule etc.).

Nancy Meister
ABE District 4

Did you know that APS leaders consider a range of options when determining make-up days for students?

By week's end, APS schools will have been closed a total of six days this school year as a result of extreme weather. Many parents have asked about make-up days. APS will not be required to make up four of the missed days because state law allows for up to four days of emergency school closings. In addition, school districts may not be required to make up any missed days that occur when the president or governor officially declares an emergency.

At this time, it appears that APS is not required to make up any snow days. However, APS Administration may elect to designate make-up days so that students can receive the critical instruction they missed. The Administration is currently exploring options that are the least disruptive to students and parents and most productive for quality teaching and learning to take place. Make-up days that involve adjustments to the school calendar must be approved by the board; adjustments to the school day may be made at the superintendent's discretion. Listed below are a few ways school districts may choose to make up snow days:

- Open school on teacher planning or professional learning days. Note that March 17 is APS' next teacher professional learning day.
- Open school on days that were previously scheduled as school holidays or breaks. At this time, during the upcoming Presidents Day Holiday, APS schools will continue to be closed as planned on February 14 and 17 for traditional schools, and February 17 for year-round schools. For APS annual-duty staff, Presidents Day is still a normal reporting day.
- Lengthen the school day. The law requires school districts to provide students with a minimum of 180 instructional days or the equivalent. The words "or the equivalent" are important because they allow districts to add minutes or hours to the school day in order to achieve the equivalent days of missed learning time.
- Lengthen the school year. According to news reports, some area school districts will make up missed days by adding instructional days to the end of their school year. APS leaders have not made the decision to lengthen the school year. Such an adjustment is a last resort for APS because it would cause a ripple effect in the calendar and delay everything from the last day of school to graduation ceremonies and summer break.

Once APS make-up days – if any – are finalized, they will be communicated widely to all APS students, parents and employees.