



# Alternative Methods of Instruction



*What you need to know about Ozark's Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI)*

**What is AMI and AMI-X?** Alternative Methods of Instruction is Ozark School District's virtual learning program utilized in the event of a school closure. We first utilized this program during the extended school closure of spring 2020. When school is closed due to inclement weather, we will implement AMI. When school is closed due to COVID-19, we will implement AMI-X. AMI and AMI-X utilize the same instruction.

**When will AMI be used?** The first four days the entire District is closed due to COVID-19 or weather (such as snow and ice), there will be no online instruction. We will begin our Alternative Methods of Instruction (AMI) on the fifth day of closure.

For instance: If Ozark School District closes for four days due to COVID-19 (AMI-X), then closes due to weather (such as snow or ice), AMI will begin on the fifth day, the weather day.

**Will AMI be used if a class or building is instructed to quarantine at home?** In the event we are instructed to close a single class or building due to COVID-19 quarantine, AMI would begin immediately. The four day grace period is utilized in the event of a District-wide closure.

**Why is the District implementing AMI?** Ozark strives for excellence and AMI allows us to continue that tradition. We believe the best instruction happens within the classroom and extended/multiple closures have a negative impact on instruction and the learning that takes place. Our goal is to continue our learning virtually when necessary to eliminate the interruption to instruction.

**Why begin AMI on the fifth day of district-wide closure?** The first four days provide our staff and families time to plan.

**Will the District be more likely to close for a weather day if AMI is available?** No. Ozark School District understands weather closures are difficult for many of our families. We will continue to make weather related decisions as we have done utilizing forecasts, National Weather Service conference calls, driving roads, etc.

**Will the rigor be similar to spring 2020?** Last spring gave us a foundation to build upon for AMI. We learned a tremendous amount. From this point forward, our AMI will be much more closely aligned with our classroom instruction and level of rigor.

**Will participation be required or optional?** From this point forward, AMI will be required. Students will be expected to engage in the instruction and complete any assignments. Attendance will be counted based on the work completed by the student.

**What if we do not have a computer or internet capabilities?** We will provide every student who needs a device with a Chromebook - siblings within the home will not need to share devices. We do have a limited supply of wifi hotspots for families needing internet access. The parking lots at West Elementary and South Elementary can also be utilized for wifi access.

**How will students receive a device or hotspot?** Families will be surveyed throughout the year to find out if they need a Chromebook/hotspot. If we are concerned with a long term closure or an incoming weather forecast, we will distribute devices before students leave school.

**How is this program different from the other educational options?** Only students enrolled in in-person learning participate in AMI. This program is an extension of the classroom with students having the same teachers as when they are in-person. Ozark School District will utilize AMI beginning the fifth day of district-wide school closure. Families choosing online instruction as their educational option through MOCAP will have teachers and curriculum from the MOCAP vendor they choose.