

## Blanchester Middle School Blizzard Bag Frequently Asked Questions

### What are “blizzard bags” for?

Blizzard bags are being used throughout the state of Ohio as a way to make up calamity days (a.k.a. snow days). This was in legislation passed several years ago and was amended this year due to the excessive amount of school missed this winter. These three “blizzard bags” will eliminate three calamity days we would have previously had to make-up at the end of the school year.

### Where can students get their assigned “blizzard bags”?

There are multiple ways for students to access assignments which are listed below:

1. All “blizzard bags” will be shared with students that have registered for Google Apps for Education accounts. They will be emailed to the student’s g-mail account and shared in their Google Drive\* accounts. Students will then submit work back to teachers using these apps. That way there is no need to print multiple pages and can be accessed virtually anywhere using various devices.
2. Students without internet access outside of school will be permitted to stay after school to use the computer lab at Blanchester Middle School to access their Google accounts starting on Monday, March 31 through April 30. The computer lab will be open from 2:45 pm to 3:15 pm during these times and arrangements must be made prior to the day the student will stay. Students may ride the elementary bus. They will submit the work as described above.
3. Lastly, we can print a packet for students that do not have permission to use the Google Apps for Education and they will submit the papers from the packet to each individual teacher.

*\*Any student that has forgotten his/her password should see Mrs. Cummings (6), Mr. K. Ballinger (7), or Mr. Stahley (8) to have it reset.*

### When are the “blizzard bags” supposed to be turned in?

Students will have ten school days from the date assigned to complete all of the work and submit it to their teachers. These assignments are graded assignments that are required and will count towards a student’s quarterly progress. The dates assigned and due dates are listed below:

Blizzard Bag	Calamity Day	Date Assigned	Date Due
1	1/7/2014	3/28/2014	4/11/2014
2	1/21/2014	4/4/2014	4/23/2014
3	1/28/2014	4/11/2014	4/30/2014

### What types of assignments are students required to complete?

Each grade level has met in an attempt to ensure that students are given meaningful work that ties content areas together. We realize students are trying to complete current assignments and don’t want to overburden them. Many of the assignments will require students to read passages and respond, explore new topics, and practice concepts that will be assessed on the Ohio Achievement Assessments. Specials teachers (Physical Education, Health, Art, Band and General Music) also have assignments for students to complete. Students will complete the assignment for the special they currently have in the fourth quarter.

### Who do I contact if I still have questions?

If it is a question about a specific assignment, please contact your student’s teacher via electronic mail or call the office. Questions pertaining to other topics should be directed to the building administrator via electronic mail or calling the office. Hopefully winter is over and we can begin to enjoy spring!