

## Virtual classes could make snow days a thing of the past for some St. Louis-area schools



The first sticky snowfall of the year brings hope for a snow day for kids, but for some schools in the region and across the country, snow day policies are changing.

In the St. Louis area, several school districts are planning to have virtual classes instead of traditional snow days this year, and many more are planning to use both snow days and virtual learning days if winter weather makes roads unsafe.

It's a shift that accelerated during the pandemic but could be here to stay, said Dan Domenech, executive director of the national School Superintendents Association.

"There's no question that some form of hybrid learning is going to be the standard as we move forward past the pandemic period," Domenech said.

In a November 2020 [national survey of school officials](#), almost 40% said they had converted snow days to virtual learning days. In the St. Louis area, the St. Louis Public Schools and the [Ritenour](#), [Mehlville](#) and [Hazelwood](#) school districts all have plans to learn from home in inclement weather.