



FAQ First Edition 7.23.20

GENERAL QUESTIONS

Would it be possible to change from a semester commitment to a quarter commitment knowing how fluid the situation is currently?

In order to help us plan for the school year, we are asking for a semester commitment. For the continuity of programming and planning space considerations, it will be important for us to have some stability in managing the dual systems we are attempting to provide, particularly the online option. Moving from Online Learning to In-Person would not be available until the semester break. The semester decision was in part based on the recognition that choosing the online option for related student health concerns or family situations was likely not to significantly change as we got into the colder months. Pushing a possible recalibration date to the semester was a natural break. The current plan is to recalibrate and make any adjustments toward the end of the semester. For students who have selected the In-Person At School Learning Option who may need to switch to an Online Learning At Home Option, families would need to connect with their counselor to request a move to online.

How do I view or download the Restart plan? The image on the webpage link from the email is not giving me an option to open the PDF on my iPhone.

After we realized that the pdf was not loading on iPhones, we added a direct link to the plan on our restart page. Please either view from a computer, or if on your iPhone use the link to view the plan.

If a grade or class has to do quarantine at home because of an ill classmate, would the kids quarantined at home due to possible exposure automatically be moved to on-line virtual classes?

Yes. If we have a group of students that are required to be at home for a period of time, they would continue their learning by remotely online through Zoom sessions and assignments provided by their classroom teachers.

If a student is doing online learning, would they be able to participate in athletics/extracurricular activities?

Students/Families selecting the online option are eligible to participate in extracurricular activities.

Will the remote learning curriculum/assigned work be the same as in class? Also will it be lead/taught by a Madeira teacher or will the responsibilities default on the student if at home?

It is our goal to align the standards and pacing of online instruction with what is happening in the classroom. Instruction will be led / supported by a Madeira staff member, but students will require at home supports. The younger the student, the more at home support they will need.

I understand that virtual learning requires a semester commitment. Would a student be able to switch from in person to virtual learning if needed, knowing they would stay virtual for the remainder for the semester?

At this time we are really looking for families to make a semester long commitment in order to help us effectively prepare. If the situation arises that a student needs to move from in-person to the all online learning, adjustments could be made. For the sake of continuity of learning and space planning, we will not be able to move from the all online learning at home to in-person learning at school until the end of the semester.

What time frame is the required "semester commitment?" There seems to be confusion if it's the entire first half of the school year.

Our first semester ends on December 18th. The school calendar can be found [here](#).

If a child is sent home either for non-symptom quarantine or for a fever, are their siblings also required to stay home for the duration as well?

Current guidance from Hamilton County Public Health indicates that those that are directly in contact with a positive case would need to quarantine. If a sibling tests positive, then yes, other siblings living in the same house would need to quarantine. Families will need to work with their pediatrician to determine if families should also stay home.

If we don't absolutely NEED bus transportation, but there is plenty of room after those who do need it sign up, will you open bus transportation up to those that would like to use it or would you still prefer that if possible, we make it work with drop off/pick up?

We will definitely be reassessing capacity after we get a firm grasp on needs. Once we get going and see how it is going, if we have open spaces on buses, we will reach out to those on the route to see who might want to be added. To the greatest extent possible, we will work with families whose situations change and may need transportation.

If a child is home sick, is a negative COVID test required to return to school or is the 72 hour fever free without medication sufficient?

We are working with the Hamilton County Public Health Department on the procedures for re-entry to school. At this time it is unclear what paperwork we can require from families. Our current thought is that we will need documentation that either a COVID-19 test was performed and negative, or that a pediatrician did not feel a COVID test was warranted. We are continuing to be provided guidance on this from the Hamilton County Health Department.

How similar will the remote option be to what was done for the end of the school year? Will there be more actual instruction (live or recorded), structured timing, tests (such as spelling), etc., or will it primarily be worksheets supplemented by a few external video links as was done previously?

Our goal is to increase the amount of live instructional time this fall. We heard the feedback that students needed more live direct instruction on our end of year surveys, and are working hard to respond.

With the in-person learning option, what criteria will be used to decide if the hybrid model and or fully online option will need to be activated? For example, as a "red" county would that be a time when we would use the 50/50 hybrid option?

At this time we are still evaluating the triggers that would cause us to move from 5 days a week to hybrid or full remote. The color system released by the state will definitely be a factor, but we are currently looking to use other data as well, such as zip code data to support these decisions along with guidance from Hamilton County Public Health. There may be a time when our color is not red, but local numbers would warrant a move. There may also be a time when as a county we are red due to numbers in an isolated area of the county with no cases locally. In that event we may not need to move to hybrid or remote. We are continuing to monitor adjustments made by state and local health officials.

Can you please provide a full copy of the Student Choice Survey questions in advance so we can discuss them as a family before having to answer the online survey page-by-page to understand the questions that need to be answered?

The survey is very short and simple. You will simply be asked for your email, student name, grade level, which option you are choosing (in person or online), and if you choose in person you have a few additional questions about the need for transportation.

My child has seasonal allergies which can include cough, runny nose, and/or congestion. Am I required to keep my child home until symptom free for 72 hours, or is that rule meant for other illnesses?

If a child has seasonal allergies, these will be taken into account when determining if they need to stay home. Our nurses will work with families to determine appropriate steps for students. It is important that we have the most up to date student medical information on file.

A mask is required when not able to social distance. Will my child be required to wear a mask while in the classroom, or only while in the hallway etc?

We will work to find breaks in the day for students to remove masks. This will only occur when they are able to appropriately social distance. Masks will be required in the classrooms as well as the hallways, but depending on classroom setup and activities, breaks may occur in the classroom during the day.

Will there be a choice between eating lunch in the classroom vs the cafeteria?

Building administration will be working on lunch schedules that ensure distancing. Locations will be driven by safety and available resources, not student choice.

In regard to transportation- if we can bring kids most days but may need to fall back on busing every once in a while... is that an option?

In order to plan effectively, to start the year we are asking families to either declare that they need transportation, or they do not. Initially, we may not be able to accommodate requests to be added once routes and seating charts are created. Again, once we are able to fully establish needs and routes, we will work to open up to additional riders. The ability to drive your student to school should not be a sole means for choosing the online option. We will work to adjust our routes to accommodate student needs.

What specific cleaners will you be using to sanitize everything?

We are using List N cleaners, approved to kill viruses including COVID-19. Specific brands will vary, but all will be List N-approved.

Will transition days be open to Option #2 (online learning option) as well as Option #1 (in person learning option) students?

More details on the early release transition days for students to re-engage at school and learn new procedures and protocols will primarily be for those students that are attending learning at school. Online learning students at home may also be remoting into their classroom but more details will be shared as those agendas are finalized.

Is before/after care Champions be provided?

We will be working with Champions to determine what options will be available this year. We will communicate plans once they are finalized.

Why only two options? Why isn't hybrid a third choice?

As a district we are working to support the needs of as many of our families and students as possible while also creating a safe environment. The hybrid model may be used to achieve allowing less students in the building to increase greater social distancing should our local data warrant. We would not be able to run three concurrent models at the same time.

Have you considered assigning kids to classrooms by a self-evaluated risk level and concern level?

Some families have kids or other household members that are high-risk and have been following social distancing rules while other families don't have these same concerns. It would alleviate some concern and risk for the high-risk families to be grouped with other families who are in a similar situation.

At this time we are not looking to group students and families by self-evaluated risk level. We are working to make each learning environment follow the same guidelines for the safety of all staff and students.

If there is low interest in the remote option - would it still be available for those interested?

Yes. We are committed to providing the online learning option regardless of number interested.

How will students rotate classes or will teachers rotate classes?

At MES schedules are being created that may involve staff moving and students staying in the same location. At MMS, a block schedule is being developed to limit the number of transitions that students will make each day, but due to varying academic classes and selected courses, students will need to transition rather than the staff. At MHS, the nature of the schedule will require students to move rather than staff. A block schedule is in the process of being developed at MHS to lessen the amount of transitions needed each day.

How many students do you anticipate will be in each classroom?

We aren't able to give exact numbers of students in each room until we know how many students will be selecting each option. If a specific class has numbers that are too high to meet our distancing requirements, we will utilize additional space within a building to accommodate.

Will twins be assigned to the same classroom?

Please reach out to your building principal to discuss.

What if I decide to homeschool?

The decision to homeschool students is always a choice. Choosing homeschool is not the same as choosing the Learn at Home option. Parents who may choose to homeschool their student this year must contact their child's building office to withdraw their student for the purposes of homeschooling. You, as the parent, will complete paperwork that ensures that you will be providing the curriculum for your child. Homeschool paperwork from the Ohio Department of Education is available at the BOE office or you may click [here](#) should you decide to pursue this option.

In-school: would it be possible to just attend the times when core curriculum (math, English, history, etc) are taught and leave for specials, recess, lunch, etc? (asked by MES parent)

While we will be modifying schedules for the in person option, students will still need to meet state required attendance criteria. We are not developing plans for MES students to leave for portions of the day.

If we choose the online option, what will we do for state testing?

At this time we do not know. Last year state testing was abandoned, but College Board developed an at home testing model. ODE has not released any information on testing at this time.

Is there an equipment list for online option? Specifically looking for big purchase (Chromebook?) or hard to find things.

If a student chooses the Learn from Home option, we will provide a device if needed.

The plan states that parents can fill out an exempt form for their child to wear no mask/shield. My concern is people may try to fill this out just because they don't want to wear a mask and then we will have more exposure to germs in the schools. Will a Dr. note be required for this?

Yes. We will require a Dr. note if an exemption is needed. We also explore other options, such as face shields, when appropriate.

Will families be allowed to carpool? For instance, if I can drive all my kids to school, but can't pick them up after due to work, could I give permission for my child to ride home with another family of similar last name for pick-up? It's my thought that it would be better for my child to ride home with one other family vs. being exposed to all the other kids on the bus.

Yes. Carpooling will be permitted.

If a student/teacher travels to a known Covid-19 hotspot will the student/teacher be required to quarantine before returning to school?

We will not have the capacity to track the travels of our families. As a part of the pledge we are asking all families and staff to take, we hope that all will follow state guidance to help keep everyone safe.

What happens if parents have shared parenting and one parent chooses option 1 and one parent chooses option 2?

We will need parents to work together to choose one option for their student. If there is a disagreement between parents, we ask them to resolve prior to making their selection. Please reach out to the building administrator if needed to discuss.

Will there be an open house opportunity for parents to visit the school buildings to see set up prior to making a decision?

No. At this time we are not able to accommodate this request. Classrooms are still being altered and will continue to change based on final numbers. Pictures of example classrooms were shared as a part of the presentation to the BOE on 7/20/20, and can be found in the link to that presentation.

For students on an IEP or with a Section 504 plan, how will supports and services be provided?

Special education services and supports and Section 504 accommodations will be handled on a case-by-case basis. In general, supports and services will be delivered as written on the IEP/504 for students who opt for in-person learning so long as safety protocols can be maintained. In the event that an IEP or Section 504 Plan needs to be amended, teams will convene a virtual meeting to discuss the proposed changes. If the district must move to hybrid learning or parents select remote learning, teams will individually discuss how to provide special education services and supports with a good faith effort. If a family chooses the online learning at home option, supports and service will be provided remotely with a good faith effort. Teams will individually discuss how to provide special education services and supports with a good faith effort. As a school district, we recognize how important it will be for school personnel and parents to work together collaboratively to find ways to continue to serve and educate all students.

MADEIRA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

MES Special classes - art, music, physical education, etc. Will these classes continue as normal, continue in a different format, or be suspended until later?

The MES Specials team has been meeting and planning to determine the best way to be effective. Specials will look differently this year as we will have the Specials teachers traveling to the classrooms for instruction. The exception to this would be utilizing the Gym and the outside for Physical Education classes.

Will Kindergarten all day classes still be an option, or will all classes move to half day? Also, will there be any changes to Kindergarten class sizes?

Yes, we will offer OKEP (Kindergarten in the morning/Enrichment in the afternoon). We will utilize the information from families to create our class lists.

Will MES still use communal supplies?

Our MES staff will work to make sure that supplies will not be shared between students. In the event that manipulatives or resources must be shared, appropriate cleaning will take place.

MADEIRA MIDDLE SCHOOL

How will World Language classes be handled for the 8th grade?

Our MHS World Language teachers will be starting their day at the middle school. Every 8th grader, whether a student is taking a World Language or Writing Workshop, will all begin their day at the start time of 7:35 am. All 8th graders utilizing district transportation will be riding with high school students. High school students will be dropped off first and then buses will drop MMS students off at the middle school. While this does not completely separate our 8th graders from high school students, it minimizes the number of high school students and environments that they are exposed to. Adjustments to daily grade level schedules will be communicated once they are finalized.

When will packets, schedules, and lockers be available to MMS students?

We are working on a revised plan for the traditional packet pick-up to be accessed online. Individual student schedules will be mailed to students and communication will go out when the mailing occurs. Schedules will include locker information. We are hoping to be able to offer a modified "open building" option for our 5th graders to come see MMS and try their locker combinations.

MADEIRA HIGH SCHOOL

When will packets, schedules, and lockers be available to MHS students?

We will be emailing the information from our traditional packets to parents and mailing student schedules. Communication will go out when the mailing occurs. Lockers and Chromebooks will be issued to students upon their return to school.

