



Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) – Parents
20-21 School Year
(updated 8-12-2020)

BUILDINGS

1. Will my child have to wear a mask?

Students and Staff will be required to wear a mask.

2. Are face coverings required when entering school buildings?

Yes. Students, staff, vendors and visitors will be required to wear face coverings if entering the buildings. Students shall wear these face coverings during extracurricular activities, as well as on school buses. The district will have extra mask/shields as needed. Students who repeatedly do not wear a mask on school grounds will be educated on their importance and subject to the loss of in-person instruction pending review. We must remember the mask policy is primarily for the health and safety of each student/staff member while in the building or on campus.

3. Can my child bring his or her own mask/facial covering to school?

Yes, your child can wear a mask/facial covering provided from home. They must be school appropriate and shall not interfere with the district's dress code policy.

4. Is there a time or place during the school day when students are required to wear masks?

The Board of Education is developing a mask policy. All students need to wear masks on the bus, while entering the building, and when moving through the building hallways, lockers areas, etc.

5. Will the children younger than 3rd grade be required to wear a mask?

Yes, Governor DeWine announced the mandate on August 3, 2020

6. Will they have opportunities for mask breaks?

Mask breaks will be at appropriate times assigned by the teacher. Mask breaks may include lunch, water breaks, a walk around the outside perimeter of the school, etc.as determined safe by staff.

BUILDINGS(cont)

7. What are consequences for students not following safety requirements/facial coverings or if safety requirements are not being upheld fully, will students be able to switch or be placed in the Remote Learning Model?

Building principals will be revising the Code of Conduct and behavior expectations with students prior to the school year and again frequently throughout the school year. Health and safety protocols will be shared with our parents. Disciplinary actions as will be enforced to adhere to the health and safety of students and staff.

8. How will students that are less cooperative in situations, like not staying in their assigned seat/space, keeping their hands to themselves, refusing to wear facial coverings, etc. be handled to keep the other students and staff safe?

Our administration and staff will have and enforce student's behavior expectations and new safety protocols. Staff will provide reminders, modeling, redirection, and possibly up to removal in various situations where safety is compromised because of behaviors.

9. Will the students' social distance in the classrooms and how will it be enforced?

Yes, where possible. Teachers will assist with direct instruction, modeling and with gentle reminders of social distancing protocols (6 ft). When social distancing is not possible, students must wear a facial covering.

CURRICULUM AND LEARNING

1.If I have multiple students that attend MLSL but some would like to attend in person and some will need to be remote learners, can this be done?

We realize the commitment form did not have the option to select different learning environments for individual households, and there may be a need to have 1 child go to the building, and 1 child stay home. *We ask that you contact the school building your child will be attending to discuss modifying individual student selections within a household.*

1.For the Remote option, will the school be same number of hours as in person?

Yes, the Remote learners will have the same number of education hours as the Blended option learners for ODE tracking purposes. However, the Remote learner will not have a specific log in/off time at this point. The Remote learner will have the opportunity for communication with staff as per the Restart Manual and have the same expectations as the Blended learner of completed assignments, work, etc. as deemed by the instructor.

2. Will special courses such as PE, Art, etc. be offered to Remote Learners?

Yes, special offerings are planned for the coming school year if allowable and also in person by ODH. This may vary at different buildings based on spacing and may be modified for expectations by staff.

3. Will the tests, assignments, and assessments be identical for in-person and online students?

All instruction, on-campus or virtual, will follow Ohio's Learning Standards. Our intention is for the pacing and curriculum between these two options to be similar, although they may vary some in delivery and timing.

4.WILL REMOTE LEARNING BE LIKE IT WAS IN THE SPRING OF 2020?

No. The district has implemented and trained staff for professional development in the remote platform using Schoology and Boardworks. We believe the online learning will be much more effective and efficient and follow the district curriculum and guidance of the Ohio Department of Education with equitable access. Teachers will also have more time committed to the remote learner's needs.

TRANSPORTATION

1. How about transportation and busing?

Students will be encouraged to stay socially distanced while at the bus stop. Students will be socially distanced as much as the physical capacity of the bus allows. The driver will establish seating charts with social distancing in mind to the best of their ability. Hand sanitizer stations will be on each bus, and students will be encouraged to use it upon entry and exit. Students will always also wear masks/facial coverings on the bus during transport. Failure to adhere to this policy will result in removal from district sponsored transportation. Bus drivers will have disposable masks to hand out to students in the event a student does not have his or her mask. Buses will be cleaned daily.

2. WILL MY CHILD HAVE TO WEAR A MASK?

Students will always be required to wear a mask when getting on the bus, when seated, and when getting off the bus.

3. WILL I BE ABLE TO SEND MY CHILD HOME TO A DIFFERENT HOUSE.

Only if shared parenting.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

1. How is the district notified if a student, staff member or family member has tested positive or has been exposed to someone who tested positive? Will this come from the state, the county or will notification be the sole responsibility of the individual parent, staff member etc.?

The District will be notified by Meigs County Health Department.

1. What will happen when someone in the school tests (+) for COVID? Who will be informed? How will tracing occur?

The District will work directly with the Meigs County Health Department. Contact tracing is conducted by County Health Officials; however, the District will cooperate by providing contact information as requested by the County office. Decisions to pivot to remote teaching and learning will be determined on a case-by-case basis after direct consultation with Meigs County Health officials.

3. What will happen when someone in the school tests (+) for COVID? Who will be informed? How will tracing occur?

The District will work directly with the Meigs County Health Department. Contact tracing is conducted by County Health Officials; however, the District will cooperate by providing contact information as requested by the County Health office. Decisions to pivot to remote teaching and learning will be determined on a case-by-case basis after direct consultation with Meigs County Health officials.

4. What will determine if community virus spread is reaching levels that should affect school decisions? What indicators are being monitored to indicate change in plans are necessary?

It is anticipated that the Board of Education will work with the local Health Department Officials and in conjunction with other covid data points. The board can, with assistance from the health department, change plans at any time the risk levels may indicate necessary.

FOOD SERVICES

1. If water fountains are shut down, should I send bottled water?

The District will have water supplied in our schools through bottled water, however you are encouraged and more than welcome to provide bottled water for your student.

2. Will Lunches be available for Remote Students as well as days students are not in the building?

Lunch distributions for Remote learners and Thursday and Friday will be released at a later time.

TECHNOLOGY

1. WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE A DEVICE FOR MY CHILD?

The district will be providing devices students may use at home. For grades 3-12 these will be Windows based laptops(Lenovo 11e(MHS), Lenovo 100e(MMS), Lenovo 11e(3-5). Student in grades k-2 will be given tablets devices such as an ipad.

2. WHAT IF I DON'T HAVE INTERNET ACCESS AT HOME?

Depending on your location within the district you may have different options available for internet access at your home. The major providers in our area are as follows.

- [Suddenlink Communications](#)(Delivered via Cable TV infrastructure)
- [Frontier Communications](#) (Delivered via telephone line infrastructure)
- [NewEra Broadband](#) (Delivered via Fixed wireless infrastructure)
- [Windstream Communications](#) (Delivered via telephone line infrastructure)
- [Nomad Internet](#)(Delivered via cellular wireless network infrastructure NO DATA OR SPEED LIMITS)

We will also continue to offer wireless connectivity from the parking lot areas of our buildings. To see where this coverage will be located [click here](#).

3. DO I NEED TO HAVE INTERNET FOR REMOTE LEARNING?

Internet connectivity in a remote learning model is a critical piece in providing a quality learning environment to our students. We are diligently working to provide the best educational experience we can to those without an internet connection, the reality is a remote learning scenario works much better having access to internet.

When

ATHLETICS

1.Can students attend sports practice and extracurriculars if they are scheduled for remote instruction?

Yes

2.What is the likelihood that fall sports will actually be played?

As of this release and with all our District's athletic programs, we are awaiting further guidance from the Ohio High School Athletic Association (OHSAA).

SPECIAL EDUCATION/SPECIAL EDUCATION

1. What accommodations will be provided for IEP students?

A: The Meigs Local School District is committed to providing FAPE to each student who is served through an Individual Education Plan (IEP), regardless of the educational option chosen for the student. Accommodations, modifications and specially designed instruction will be available, as prescribed through the IEP, to each student, regardless of if the child is at school or learning remotely.

2. My special needs child will not wear a mask all day, but I am not equipped to teach him at home. What are the district thoughts on this?

A: Governor Dewine issued the mask mandate under the recommendation of the Ohio Children's Hospital Association and the Ohio Chapter of the American Association of Pediatrics which, in part, included the following exemptions:

- A child with a significant behavioral/psychological issue undergoing treatment that is exacerbated specifically by the use of a facial covering (e.g. severe anxiety or a tactile aversion)
- A child living with severe autism or with extreme developmental delay who may become anxious or agitated wearing a mask
- A child with a facial deformity that causes airway obstruction

In the documented presence of any of the above, a student will be excused from the mask/facial covering requirement. Principals and school administrators are currently working on student behavior expectations which will be shared with students and parents when available. When deemed appropriate, disciplinary actions as outlined by the student expectation protocol will be enforced to ensure the safety and health of all students and staff. Parents of special needs students who have concerns about this mandate but whose children do not qualify under any of the exemptions above are urged to contact the building principal or special education coordinator to discuss those concerns prior to school starting.

2. My child receives Occupational Therapy (OT) and Speech Therapy. How will those services be provided to students who participate in the online format?

The Meigs Local School District offers all related services on campus. For students who are receiving online education, the option to come to their school on the days students are not in attendance, (Thursday and Friday of each week) for therapy services is available. In cases where that is not possible, therapy may also be offered through video recordings of the therapist with follow-up phone calls, or through online meeting options. Therapists will be contacting the parents of students who are not in attendance at school to determine what option is best.

4. Who do we contact with questions about preschool attendance/busing/special services?

Meigs Local's preschool program is operated through the Athens-Meigs ESC. Questions regarding preschool should be addressed to Julie Metzler - julie.metzler@athensmeigs.com or by calling 740-797-0064.

SPECIAL EDUCATION/SPECIAL EDUCATION(cont..)

5. My child has a 504 plan. Will it be followed regardless of the learning option I choose?

As with IEP students, accommodations/modifications for students served on 504 plans will be met as prescribed in the plan regardless of whether the student is in school or using the online option.