

MILLINGTON
MUNICIPAL
SCHOOLS



School Reopening

FREQUENTLY
ASKED
QUESTIONS

Millington Municipal Schools COVID Reopening FAQ's

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Academics and Extracurricular Activities

Q: What instructional options do my children have in the 2020-2021 school year?

Options for Instruction:

Hybrid Plan

- Students in PreK- 2nd Grade will attend school in person Monday through Thursday.
- Functional Skills and Special Ed Pre-K students attend school in person Monday- Friday.
- Students who receive special education services for resource and/or co-teach attend school in person Monday –Thursday.
- Students in Grades 3-12 will attend School in person 2 days a week.
- Last Name A- J will attend school in person Monday and Wednesday.
- Last Name K- Z will attend school in person Tuesday and Thursday.
- On the weekdays that students are not in school in person, they will engage in self-paced virtual school.
- Friday will be a day of Virtual School for all but Functional Skills and Special Ed. Pre-K students.

All Virtual Plan

- MMSD will offer an all virtual option for any parents who have strong reservations as it relates to sending their children to school in person.
- Parents will receive a survey to opt in for the all virtual option.
- We will send out information for families to opt in to the all virtual option in the next few days.
- Students will attend online learning 5 days a week virtually from home.
- This will be a semester long commitment.
- Students will have access to TN State standards, high quality instructional resources, a computer, a hotspot if needed and oversight and communication with a MMSD TN certified teacher.

Q: Who will be providing instruction for students on days that are virtual?

A: Hybrid Model: In the Hybrid learning model all students have the opportunity to learn through direct and virtual instruction. During the time that the students are in school, in-person they will have one on one instructional time with their teachers. During the time that students are learning remotely, they will be doing so at their own pace within SeeSaw in grades K-5, Google Classroom in grades 6-8, and Thivist in grades 9-12.

Virtual Model: While students are enrolled in the All Virtual option they will work on modules in a self-paced method. Students in grades K-5 will use SeeSaw for the all Virtual model. Student in grades 6-12 will use Edgenuity for the all virtual model.

Q: If my child is struggling with a specific virtual concept what supports will be available?

A: Students who are struggling with a specific concept will have access to a MMSD TN State certified teacher. MMSD will provide parents and students access a homework hotline during and after school hours. This additional assistance will be provided by teachers who are experts in math, language arts, English, and science.

Q: How will my child's teacher communicate with me?

A: Hybrid Model: Teachers will be expected to communicate with parents on a regular basis through Skyward, email, texting and calls through Remind 101. Parents will be able to text and call teachers.

All teachers and counselors will communicate through.

Q: If a student is out for a prolonged time due to quarantine or isolation, what does instruction look like?

A: If a student is out of school for a prolonged time, they will receive virtual instruction. If illness prevents a student from completing virtual instruction, extended time will be given to complete required course work.

Q: If students choose to or are required to do full-time virtual, will they be able to participate in sports and extracurricular activities?

A: Yes, as long as the student meets attendance and grade requirements.

Q: Will students who are enrolled in the MMSD All Virtual School option be assigned textbooks?

A: Students who attend school virtually will be assigned necessary textbooks.

Q: If my child is struggling with a specific concept what supports will be available?

A: Students who are struggling with a specific concept will be able to access a homework hotline which will be staffed by teachers who are experts in Math, Language Arts, English, and Science.

Attendance

Q: How will attendance be counted?

A: Hybrid Model: Students are required to attend school physically on their scheduled in-person hybrid days. If a student does not attend school on their scheduled in-person day, they will be counted as absent. Parent notes will be accepted to excuse absences due to illness. On days that students learn remotely within the hybrid model; students will be expected to login and complete their daily assignments. There will not be a specified time within the school day in which students must login to complete the online work, it can be completed any time before midnight to count for attendance. Teachers may offer real-time virtual meetings through Microsoft Teams on Fridays.

All Virtual Model: Student attendance will be taken on a daily basis for all MMSD Virtual students. While students do not have to be logged in to complete work at a certain scheduled time, students are expected to login and complete their work daily. The State of TN requires that school districts provide 6.5 hours of instruction for grades 1st through 12th and 4 hours of instructional time for Kindergarten. Students are expected to engage in all the daily activities that the virtual teacher assigns. Teachers may offer real-time virtual meetings through Microsoft Teams on Fridays.

Q: What is the first day for students in Hybrid Plan?

A: The first day of school for students A-J will be August 10th.

The first day of school for students K-Z will be August 11th

Pre-K and Kindergarten students will start school one day the first week of August 10th.

Q: What if my children have different last names? Can they attend school on the same day?

A: Schools will work with families to ensure that children in the same family attend school on the same days.

Q: What if I work part-time and my days of work conflict with the days my child will be learning virtually?

A: Schools will work with families on a case by case basis where there are conflicts.

Q: How will attendance be calculated for the MMSD All Virtual School?

A: The daily completion of assignments will be used to determine progress in the virtual model.

Q: How many hours a day are required for the MMSD All Virtual school?

A: As mandated by the State Department of Education students in grades 1-12 are required to have 6.5 hours of instruction per day. The completion of assignments will be used to determine progress in the virtual model.

Kindergarten students are required to have 4 hours of instruction per day. The completion of assignments will be used to determine progress in the virtual model.

Q: If my child is unable to attend school due to chronic or acute health issues, what are my options?

A: Students who have health issues that prevent them from coming to school can enroll in the virtual model.

Q: If I have a family member who lives in my home who has chronic health issues and is at risk of severe complications due to COVID and I am concerned that my school aged child will bring home the COVID virus, what are my options?

A: Parents can choose to enroll their student in the virtual option with Millington Municipal Schools.

Transportation and School Safety

Q: Will buses still run and how will Durham address social distancing?

A: Buses will still run but it is not possible to ensure social distancing on buses. For that reason, we request that parents transport their child(ren) to-and-from school. However, we recognize that this may not be possible for some families. We will continue to offer bus services for those students who need them. Be aware that there may be up to two students per seat.

Q: Will I still be able to come to the school and eat with my child?

A: No, visitors will not be allowed in the building. All parents or guardians who must enter the building for required meetings will be screened for symptoms of illness related to a communicable disease. All parents, guardians or outside stakeholders who enter MMSD buildings will be expected to wear masks while around staff or students.

School Health

Q: Will my child be required to wear a mask?

A: At this time, we are taking our guidance from the Shelby County Health Department. It is the expectation of MMSD for students to wear a mask when they are on the bus, entering and exiting the building, transitioning in the hallway, or in any common area. Students will not need to wear masks while in the classroom within their personal learning space.

Q: Can my child bring their own mask from home to wear?

A: Yes, students are allowed to wear their own masks. Masks can be decorated but cannot cause a disruption to the learning environment.

Masks will be provided for students and staff.

With the understanding that some students will not be able to wear a mask due to health reasons, plastic face shields will be available.

Q: Will student's temperatures be taken every day?

A: Shelby County Health Department has advised schools that it is not necessary to take students' temperatures every day. The expectation is that parents check their children's temperature and answer a health questionnaire every day before transitioning to school. This questionnaire can be found on our MMSD district website under Departments->Student Services-> Coordinated School Health or by navigating to the following link:
https://www.millingtonschools.org/departments/student_services/coordinated_school_health

Q: What if another student in my child's class test positive for COVID?

A: We are taking our guidance from the Shelby County Health Department which requires the infected person to identify who they have been in contact with within the last 48 hours of showing symptoms of COVID-19. Contact is defined as being in a 6-foot proximity of someone

for 10 or more minutes. Exposed is defined by the health department as being around an infected person, unprotected for 10 minutes. Persons exposed are required by the health department to be quarantined 14 days. During that time students would receive virtual instruction.

Q: How will schools make sure that students are socially distancing in the cafeteria?

A: Each school has a plan to make sure that students continue social distancing while eating lunch. This may include some students eating in the cafeteria and some students eating in the classroom.

Q: How often will students be washing their hands?

A: Each school has a plan to schedule times for handwashing. In addition, hand sanitizer dispensers will be available for students in the hallways as well as in the classrooms.

Q: What will social distancing look like at my child's school?

A: School administrators and district level employees from the Operations department have worked together to design a seating plan for every classroom that provides for the required social distancing as recommended by the Shelby County Health Department.

Transitions outside the classroom will be limited. When appropriate teachers will move to different classrooms instead of classes moving.

Each school has a team made up of administrators and teachers who are developing schedules for required transitions.

Q: What happens if schools are forced to close again due to COVID?

A: If schools close again, the district will implement all virtual learning. This plan includes a combination of direct teacher student interaction through virtual meeting platforms like Microsoft TEAMS as well as district purchased learning platforms.

Q: If my child is unable to attend school due to chronic or acute health issues, what are my options?

A: Students who have health issues that prevent them from coming to school can enroll in the virtual model.

Q: If I have a family member who lives in my home who has chronic health issues and is at risk of severe complications due to COVID and I am concerned that my school aged child will bring home the COVID virus, what are my options?

A: Parents can choose to enroll their student in the virtual option with Millington Municipal Schools.

School Nutrition

Q: How will my child eat breakfast and lunch during the day?

A: Elementary Procedure:

- All PreK-5 students will eat breakfast and lunch in the classroom.
- Our class sizes allow social distancing based on our Hybrid model of instruction.
- All food is delivered in covered containers so to mitigate any contamination in transit in the hallways.
- All MMSD cafeterias will lengthen the serving time for lunches. Students will have the same amount of time to eat, but based on the logistics of social distancing, the cafeterias will be serving food longer each day.
- We will still provide breakfast and lunch to students on the days they learn virtually and to all students who have opted in to our all virtual model.

A: Middle and High School Procedures:

- Students will eat in the cafeteria and some classes may overflow into the classroom to promote safe social distancing. While in the cafeteria students will be seated at tables in which they are spread 6 feet apart and will not sit across from one another.
- Our class sizes allow social distancing during lunch based on our Hybrid model of instruction.
- Breakfast will be handed out when the students walk in the building and will be eaten in the classroom. All food is delivered in covered containers so to mitigate any contamination in transit in the hallways.
- All MMSD cafeterias will lengthen the serving time for lunches. Students will have the same amount of time to eat, but based on the logistics of social distancing, the cafeterias will be serving food longer each day.
- We will still provide breakfast and lunch to students on the days they learn virtually and to all students who have opted in to our all virtual model.

Q: How will MMSD ensure that my child's food is prepared and served safely?

A: Guarding the Health and Safety:

- All Employees are screened when entering the building with a temperature check and a symptoms questionnaire.

- All employees serving food are required to wear masks during preparation and serving.
- Other PPE will be provided upon the employees request if they feel the need for it.
- All nutrition employees are going through training from the Shelby County Health Department.
- All of our reopening plans are vetted by the Shelby County Health Department (SCHD)
- We are paying close attention to the SCHD and other pertinent documentation released by the TN Department of Agriculture and TN Department of Health (See attached)

Special Education and Student Services

Q: My child receives special education services. How will their needs be met?

A: Millington Municipal schools is committed to meeting the needs of students as outlined in their individual education plan or IEP. These agreed upon services for students with disabilities will be upheld as documented in the student's IEP. If a student receives special education resource or co-teach services, that student will attend school the four days available for instruction each week. If a student receives services in the functional skills or special education preschool classroom, those students will attend school five days a week. If a student receives a related service such as speech, PT, or OT, that student will receive those services on the days they attend school.

Q: How will the loss of instructional time be addressed for my student who receives special education services?

A: Special education teachers and related service providers will document each student's level of performance for each goal and objective found on the current IEP prior to school closure as well as upon return to school identifying any areas of regression Data will then be collected approximately 6 weeks after returning to school identifying areas of regression that were not recouped. IEP meetings will be scheduled to discuss if additional services are required to address areas of regression that were not recouped.

Q: When will students assigned to the alternative program be expected to attend school?

A: Students assigned to the alternative program will attend school Monday through Friday from 7:30-2:30.

Q: Will each school have an Open House first semester?

A: We will conduct open houses virtually at each school.

Q: Will there be extracurricular activities and sports in the fall?

A: Guidance for extracurricular activities and sports in the fall will be taken from the Shelby County Health Department and the TSSAA governing body.

Q: Will students at the elementary schools still have extra classes like PE, Art, Music, Guidance, and Library?

A: At this time there will not be LAMPS classes offered. In class time will be focused on reading and math.

Students will have the opportunity for physical activity and recess with their cohorts.

Q: If a student comes to school and is found to be sick, what will happen?

A: If a student comes to school and is found to be sick the parent will be contacted to immediately come to the school and pick up their child. While waiting for parent pick up the student will be supervised in a designated area.

Q: What resources will be available for students who are feeling anxious, stressed, or depressed as a result of the prolonged school closures?

A: Each school has full time school counselors. The district employs two district level social workers. Millington Municipal Schools also continues to partner with Professional Care Services to provide counseling to eligible students at school.

Q: Can students who receive special education services enroll in the MMSD All Virtual School option?

A: Yes, Students with IEP's can enroll in the virtual school option. An IEP meeting may be required to modify services on the IEP.

Technology

Q: How will my child get a device and internet to use?

A: Hybrid Model: Every student in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade will have their own 1 to 1 device that will be assigned after the start of school. In addition, the district will provide assistance with internet access through the use of hotspots for families who do not have any Internet access.

All Virtual Model: Every student who enrolls in the MMSD All Virtual model will be assigned a 1 to 1 device and provided a Internet hotspot if needed. Students will receive their 1 to 1 device before the school year begins in a drive-through pickup fashion. More info will be given as it relates to the logistics of pickup.

Q: How do parents request hotspots?

A: During the MMSD Online Registration process, parents will answer a question about Internet access at home. If a parent states that they do not have Internet at home, then the family will be issued a MMSD hotspot.

Q: How will my child get a device and internet to use?

A: Every student in grades K through 12th grade will have their own 1 to 1 device that will be assigned after the start of school. In addition, the district will provide assistance with internet access through the use of hotspots for families who do not have internet access. Each school will communicate with families when devices are available.