



# Mason Public Schools

## Distance Learning Plan

# Recap Since March 13, 2020

- In-person instruction was suspended per Executive Order 2020-35 beginning March 16, 2020.
- Staff provided at-home work for students from late March to April 17.
- Mason staff implemented “emergency remote learning” from April 20 – June 5.
- The district’s Reimagining and Reopening Schools committee was formed and met for the first time on May 27.
- The ISD’s Education Reimagined Regional committee was formed and met for the first time on June 3.
- Executive Order (EO) 2020-142 and the Return to School Roadmap were released June 30, 2020, to provide guidance and direction for the fall 2020 reopening of schools.

# Recap Since March 13, 2020

- EO 2020-142 requires districts to submit three Preparedness and Response (PRP) Plans:
  - A plan if the region is in Phases 1 – 3 of the MI Safe Start Plan – this plan must include only remote instruction.
  - A plan if the region is in Phase 4 of the MI Safe Start Plan – this phase does permit in-person instruction.
  - A plan if the region is in Phase 5 of the MI Safe Start Plan – this phase includes in-person instruction.
- PRPs must be approved by the Board of Education and submitted to the Intermediate School District by August 15, or seven days before the first day of school, whichever comes first.
- On July 9, Mason released plans to return in the fall in-person with a remote option for parents/guardians.

# Recap Since March 13, 2020

- On July 27, at a special Board meeting, Superintendent Drzewicki recommended to the Board of Education that the school district open for the 2020-2021 school year remotely due to ongoing safety and health concerns for staff and students.
- The Board of Education voted to begin the 2020-2021 school year remotely.

# Feedback and Information

- Several district administrators served on county and regional work groups this summer.
- The Reimagining and Reopening Schools committee and subcommittees met many times beginning in late May. The committees met to gather information and to provide feedback. The committees include parents, faculty and staff, administrators, and two School Board members.
- Family and staff surveys were administered during emergency remote learning and this summer. The survey results were heavily relied upon to inform decisions.
- Building-level committees are being formed and beginning to meet to evaluate and make decisions on building logistics, procedures, and protocols.

# Distance Learning Guiding Principles

- Learning will be accessible for all students.
- Essential standards will be the focus of learning and instruction.
- Teachers will regularly provide feedback on student work.
- Teachers will offer live instruction for students daily and for all classes.
- Teachers will use Google Meet for live instruction or Zoom if full functionality for Chromebook users is available.
- Teachers will communicate regularly using Skyward, Google Classroom, or SeeSaw with students and parents regarding learning progress and completion of work.
- Students will have an opportunity to work collaboratively.
- Student learning will be assessed throughout the year in a variety of modes: formative, summative, and authentic.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- All students will have access to grade-level/course textbooks/resources as needed to complete their work, which will be distributed before August 26, 2020.
- All pre-K to 12 students will be issued a district-provided Chromebook that students will be expected to use for instruction and assessment. Cases are being purchased for 2019 and newer student Chromebooks.
- The district will provide hotspots to eligible families without reliable Internet.
- Convertible laptops and webcams are being purchased to provide additional technology resources for teachers to support distance learning.
- A part-time IT technician will be hired to support staff and families in the evening.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- SeeSaw (pre-K to 2) and Google Classroom (3-12) will serve as the district's Learning Management systems (LMS).
- Staff and students will follow the district 2020-2021 calendar, and the in-person bell schedules for full days, half days, and late start Wednesdays as outlined in our student/parent handbooks.
- Instruction will follow the in-person bell schedule (elementary will develop a schedule), using either Zoom or Google Meet with a rough breakdown of 60% synchronous instruction and 40% asynchronous instruction.
- During asynchronous portions of the class, teachers will maintain an online presence via Zoom or Google Meet.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- Teachers will provide live whole-group, small group and differentiated instruction as applicable.
- Synchronous portions of lessons will be recorded and posted daily to the LMS so students and parents can view the recordings as needed.
- Staff will follow district provided protocols and expectations when using the LMS, using a common template, to provide consistency for parents and students.
- Parents will have the option of receiving daily or weekly parent/guardian summaries via Google Classroom for students in grades 3 to 12.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- Essential content standards not taught during the 2019-2020 school year will be taught during the 2020-2021 school year. Grade levels and departments will adjust their pace, instruction, and curriculum expectations.
- Interventions and enrichment will be provided at all instructional tiers including WIN, PAWS, and TIES.
- Standards based grades at elementary and traditional grades at secondary will be issued at the end of the trimester. Assignments and assessments will be graded.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- Attendance will be marked in the morning and afternoon at elementary and at the start of every period for secondary.
- Attendance will be taken based on the policies outlined in the student/parent handbooks and GSRP Implementation manual.
- Distance learning may be provided in coordination with partner programs (e.g., Wilson Talent Center, The Early College, HSDCI, Graduation Alliance, Edgenuity, MVU, etc.).
- Staff will utilize accessibility features built into online platforms as needed.
- Special education staff will ensure students know how to access their IEP accommodations, and they will assist general education teachers with meeting these requirements.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- Special education teachers will follow their regular teaching assignment schedule.
- Staff will provide accommodations for students under Section 504 and English Language Learners (ELL) when applicable.
- Students whose IEPs indicate a special education program or related service (i.e. CI program, resource program, OT, PT, Speech, etc. including students with pending initial evaluations), will have an amendment or contingency learning plan if the IEP cannot be fully implemented.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- Staff will monitor and assess the needs of students and families through their communications. If a need is identified, the teacher will elevate that need to the principal or counselor/social worker to make the necessary follow-up contact.
- The district will query parents to determine current mental health needs and provide an online form for parents/students to request support from counselors/social workers.
- Social workers and counselors will provide support and guidance to teachers regarding social-emotional learning, wellness checks, and Internet safety.
- Social workers/counselors will conduct wellness check-ins with students on their caseloads.

# Distance Learning Highlights

- Students will not be penalized for their inability to participate during the day, provided families/students stay engaged with school personnel in developing personalized and realistic education plans.
- Teacher development will be supported through professional learning, coaching, instructional support and collaboration.
- Families will be provided workshops on supporting their student's learning at home, including training on accessing and using the school's digital systems and tools.

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**SMARTER. SAFER.**  
**TOGETHER** 

