



**For immediate release April 2, 2020**

Hello Madison families!

We miss you and hope everyone is safe and healthy!

Today, Dr. Jennifer McCormick, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, provided an update to the plan for the remainder of the instructional year for all Indiana school districts. **Effective immediately, all schools will be closed for face-to-face instruction for the remainder of the scheduled school year.** Per the state requirement released today, students must complete 160 days of instruction. The remainder of our school year will be completed using eLearning and will conclude on May 22, 2020. (A detailed weekly plan is included in this document.)

**What does this mean for my student?**

At this time, we are awaiting follow up documentation from the Indiana Department of Education on what exactly this means for all students. As we receive and digest the information we will pass along more specific details in the next few days.

**Seniors:** We are in the process of determining exactly what the Indiana Department of Education’s increased “flexibility” means for you. Please continue to do assignments until otherwise directed. **FINISH STRONG!**

**Grades 7 - 11:** if you are currently enrolled in classes earning high school credits, you must complete the course(s) with at least a passing grade in order to receive the class credit. Your final course grade will be determined based on your completed work.

**Grades PK-6:** Please continue to work hard and do your eLearning assignments. Your teachers miss seeing you in person every day and are working hard to provide you with the very best instruction under these difficult circumstances.

We realize this is a very trying time for our families and certainly not an ideal situation for anyone, for any number of reasons. What I would like to ask you to remember is that we have one another and we will get through this together.

MCS is well-positioned to execute an effective digital learning landscape over the long-term. While not ideal, and never intended to be used past a short-term period, we have a solid plan and a very viable option to help our students retain and refresh curriculum they have been learning up to this point while exploring and exercising crucial time management skills. Our building administrators and teachers are trying to be flexible and accommodating to make sure we are meeting each family where they are in terms of technology, needs assessments, and supportive resources to make sure each of our students can be successful during this time.

Every single aspect of life as we know it from our families, to work situations, to business models, and education has been turned upside down in the last month. Each aspect has had to adapt quickly, some with large sacrifice. We have seen resiliency and outreach in many, many areas to support our front line responders and care for those in dire need. Our food service teams have been working to prepare meals for an increasing number of our students. They served 2,006 meals the week before spring break to 2,876 meals this week. We are working with our internet provider to explore possible solutions to boost our reach and provide out of the box solutions where internet service is available. *We are doing our best to make your child's education the best it can be at this time, to provide some structure and stability where we can, and most importantly - keep in touch and take care of one another in our new digital classrooms.*

With today's news from the state on the extended use of eLearning and the waiver of state-level testing expectations, we have a little more flexibility and less pressure to rely solely on digital delivery of critical curriculum for the purpose of standardized and end of year assessments. We are asking our teachers to be more creative and they are rising to the challenge of finding ways to deliver lessons which are enriching and exciting; this is something you should see more and more of. Please be mindful that they are also learning and experimenting with options, so we encourage you and your student to be patient and enjoy the process.

We do not expect you to homeschool your child. **What we do ask of you** is that you hold them accountable. Make sure they have a space to do their work, ask them to show you what they are doing, how they are doing it, and make sure they are meeting turn in deadlines for their classes.

Please understand there are a number of questions that we simply do not have answers for at this time. We are receiving information from state authorities and are well-positioned to continue to implement eLearning as a local solution. We are still anxiously awaiting state-level guidance on some pretty large topics. As soon as we know more, we will pass it along. In the meantime, we appreciate your patience and understanding.

We have done our best to capture all of the information we think will be helpful for the next month as we work to continue to provide an enriching, digital learning environment. At any time, you can reach out to your teachers, our technology support team, or building administrator with questions.

PLEASE take a moment and read it in its entirety.

**At this time, all buildings, campuses, and facilities remain closed until at least May 22:**

We will continue to be closed for face-to-face instruction through the remainder of this academic year.

### **Academic Hybrid Plan Specifics for the remainder of the year**

#### **April 6 - 10, 2020 \*\*please note deviation from normal schedule due to holiday**

- Monday and Tuesday - State Waiver Days - no online learning requirements
- Wednesday and Thursday - eLearning Days
  - eLearning assignments must be posted Tuesday evening by 5 p.m.
  - If you do not have internet access at home and parents would like to have learning packets emailed to them to print at a different location, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. If using this method, contact your teacher for alternative turn-in procedures.
- \*\*Friday - observation of Good Friday holiday - no online learning requirements

#### **April 13 - 17, 2020**

- Monday and Tuesday - State Waiver Days - no online learning requirements
- Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday - eLearning Days

- eLearning assignments must be posted Tuesday evening by 5 p.m.
- If you do not have internet access at home and parents would like to have learning packets emailed to them to print at a different location, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. If using this method, contact your teacher for alternative turn-in procedures.

#### **April 20 - 24, 2020**

- Monday and Tuesday - State Waiver Days - no online learning requirements
- Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday - eLearning Days
  - eLearning assignments must be posted Tuesday evening by 5 p.m.
  - If you do not have internet access at home and parents would like to have learning packets emailed to them to print at a different location, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. If using this method, contact your teacher for alternative turn-in procedures.

#### **April 27 - May 1, 2020**

- Monday and Tuesday - State Waiver Days - no online learning requirements
- Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday - eLearning Days
  - eLearning assignments must be posted Tuesday evening by 5 p.m.
  - If you do not have internet access at home and parents would like to have learning packets emailed to them to print at a different location, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. If using this method, contact your teacher for alternative turn-in procedures.

#### **May 4 - 8, 2020**

- Monday and Tuesday - State Waiver Days - no online learning requirements
- Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday - eLearning Days
  - eLearning assignments must be posted Tuesday evening by 5 p.m.
  - If you do not have internet access at home and parents would like to have learning packets emailed to them to print at a different location, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. If using this method, contact your teacher for alternative turn-in procedures.

#### **May 11 - 15, 2020**

- Monday and Tuesday - State Waiver Days - no online learning requirements
- Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday - eLearning Days
  - eLearning assignments must be posted Tuesday evening by 5 p.m.
  - If you do not have internet access at home and parents would like to have learning packets emailed to them to print at a different location, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. If using this method, contact your teacher for alternative turn-in procedures.

#### **May 18 - 22, 2020**

- Monday - State Waiver Day - no online learning requirements
- Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday - eLearning Days
  - eLearning assignments must be posted Monday evening by 5 p.m.
  - If you do not have internet access at home and parents would like to have learning packets emailed to them to print at a different location, please contact your teacher to make arrangements. If using this method, contact your teacher for alternative turn-in procedures.

PLEASE NOTE: Per State mandate and Indiana law, eLearning is our current and only educational delivery method at this time. **It is imperative that students do the assigned work and turn it in on time. This is the only way grades can be assigned. For now, this is the only way for students to earn credits in their high school classes and for other students to be able to move forward.** IF YOU ARE HAVING ISSUES WITH THE TECHNOLOGY OR ASSIGNMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT YOUR TEACHER. We can help get you through these issues.

**Curb-side Technology Support** - *in case the family pet harmed your device*

**\*\*A student can go to any location for assistance**

- Rykers' Ridge Elementary - April 6 and April 20 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

- Deputy Elementary - April 7 and April 21 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
- MJHS - April 8 and April 22 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Please contact us at [technologysupport@madison.k12.in.us](mailto:technologysupport@madison.k12.in.us) for ongoing-tech support or questions as they may arise. Our Tech Team Gurus are available and monitor [email](#) and [help tickets](#). Students use your Google login credentials to submit help tickets.

We will be adding more dates in May and will communicate those dates once they are set.

### **Meal Pick Up Service**

We are committed to having breakfast and lunch meals available at no cost to the student during the closure period unless we are ordered by the state to shelter in place at some point. We are able to provide one breakfast and one lunch for each student each day. **We will be sending a new sign up form each week**, please watch your inbox for delivery. We will shoot for a Thursday delivery date.

Schedule for meal pick up is:

#### **Monday, April 6** (2 meals)

- breakfast and hot lunch for Monday and breakfast and cold lunch for Tuesday

#### **Wednesday, April 8** (2 meals) \*\*notice the deviation due to the Friday holiday

- breakfast and hot lunch for Wednesday, breakfast and cold lunch for Thursday

- there is no meal for Friday due to holiday

In order to reserve a meal for your student, we ask that you make a reservation in one of two ways. Complete the Google [Meal Reservation Form for Week of April 6, 2020](#) ONE TIME/per student or call 812-274-8104 and leave a message. This helps us prepare the food with accurate estimations and keep it fresh based on your pick-up time selected.

If you call in your reservation, please provide:

1. First and Last name of the student (one reservation for each student, please)
2. The email address you check or phone number (if no email)
3. The school that student will be picking up from
4. Date and time you will pick up meals \*\*Please, if you reserve a meal, make arrangements for pick up so we are not wasting food.

The meals may be picked up on Monday and Wednesday from 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M. and 4 - 6 p.m. from a designated location at each school.

The Backpack Buddies Program participants can pick up their bags on the regularly scheduled day and time.

### **Internet Access Survey Update**

As of this afternoon, we have had over 900 responses to our Student Internet Access Survey. If you have not completed the survey, please take a moment and [click here](#) and answer a few quick questions. The survey will be open until Friday afternoon, please complete the survey only once for your household.

Summary of results to date:

- 92.6% of households have internet access at home
- 33 households responded that they do not have internet access and live in remote areas where internet service is either not available or is unreliable

- We will be working to identify locations where we can utilize our buses to better serve the 38 households living in areas where neighborhoods are clustered and within reach of our mobile routers
- We are also working with Cinergy MetroNet to determine if there are areas we can boost existing routers to better serve public access points while maintaining safe social-distancing practices.

### **Bus WiFi Locations**

Beginning Monday, April 6, we will be providing mobile WiFi using our buses in select locations. Our goal is to target highly concentrated areas of students or remote locations where there may be clusters of homes that need access to reliable internet service. We will be using data collected through our internet access survey to determine locations. We will keep you posted on this as it develops.

While the ranges vary according to landscape and terrain, we have successfully accessed between 800 - 1,000 feet from a parked location. This remote service will work only with school-issued, student devices, and student login information. This is not a public access point, but a way for students to access their assignments and work within the security parameters established for student use.

**Cancellations** - please visit the [link on our website](#) for up to date information.

We are working to keep this page up to date with information and links as they are available to us. Again, please understand there are school-related events that have not been determined. Other events are dependent upon outside sources and we are waiting on information from them to determine the next steps. We will update this page as often as possible.

### **Athletics**

- IHSAA has cancelled all spring sports. Please see the [release from their office here](#).

Please visit our [website link to COVID-19 resources and materials](#).

Thank you for your continued patience as we work together through this unprecedented situation.

Dr. Jeff Studebaker, Superintendent