



# Mt. Angel SD

## Back-to-School FAQ Virtual Edition

### 8.25.20

## Instruction

- *What does a learning day look like in MASD Blended Learning at home? How much support will my child need from me?*
  - MASD Blended Learning is taught by MASD staff and follows a schedule based on grade-level or school. If students cannot attend during the day, recorded instruction will be accessible to complete later in the day.

Students will need support in setting up a learning environment, following a schedule, using the technology and submitting work completed.

- *How will Comprehensive Distance Learning be more robust than remote learning in the spring?*
  - Instruction during the Spring COVID-19 closure was a response to an Emergency Closure based on Governor's Executive "Stay-At-Home" orders statewide. Districts quickly utilized existing resources to implement supplemental learning and then shifted to distance learning, grounded in care and connection during what quickly became a global crisis.

Now that we find ourselves in a continued worldwide pandemic, districts have had time to thoughtfully plan for Comprehensive Distance Learning. We have had time and resources available to us that we did not have in the Spring. This will enhance the learning experience for your student. In MASD, we have had a month of planning and will have 11 pre-service days with staff to train on our new digital tools and create virtual classrooms to best serve our Mt. Angel students and families.

- *How will extension and acceleration opportunities be offered for my advanced and/or gifted learner?*
  - Educational acceleration, which has long been used to match high-level students' general abilities and specific talents with optimal learning opportunities
  - Curriculum compacting, which condenses, modifies or streamlines curriculum to reduce repetition of previously mastered material.



- Formative assessment is the most commonly used high leverage instructional practice in meeting the academic needs of gifted students specific to their rate and level of learning.
- We are also developing a social and emotional responsiveness framework that considers the trauma many have experienced and supports all our students in restarting school.
- *When will MASD offer Limited In-Person Instruction and can my student attend school in-person?*
  - Schools operating under CDL can offer limited in-person instruction based on educational, relational, curricular, instructional, and/or assessment need. Student cohorts are limited to 2 cohorts, including transportation in a week. A single student is limited to two consecutive hours in-building. Limited in-person instruction cannot replace the requirements of CDL for any learner. MASD will not begin any limited in-person instruction until at least October.
- *What happens on Wednesdays?*
  - Students: Wednesdays will be asynchronous learning days for K-12 students. Staff will be available for office hours in the afternoons to support students as needed.  
  
Staff: Wednesdays will be reserved for staff meetings, additional training, and Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). They will also have office hours in the afternoon to support students as needed.
- *What are PLCs?*
  - Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are held in each school building. Teams of teachers and specialists use this structured time to examine student assessment data, adjust plans for instruction, and plan for student extensions or remediation.
- *Will electives be available at the secondary level?*
  - Yes, electives will be offered for middle and high school students.

## Schedules

- *What does a learning day look like in MASD Online? Will my child have a MASD teacher?*
  - MASD Online is taught through the Edgenuity or Acellus platform and is overseen by a MASD teacher(s). It is recommended that students follow the provided schedule to stay on track, but families can choose to create an alternative or flexible schedule to best meet their needs.



- *Option for EXTRA Edgenuity courses*
  - Secondary students have the option to take additional courses based on interest.
- *How will attendance be counted?*
  - Regardless of instructional model, attendance is taken:
    - Elementary: Once per day
    - Secondary: Once per class, daily
  - Attendance includes:
    - Daily participation in class activities
    - Interaction with a licensed teacher or educational assistant
    - Communication from the student to the teacher via chat, text message, communication app, email or other method
    - Phone call between the teacher or educational assistant and the student (for younger students, with the parents)
    - Posting completed work within Canvas/SeeSaw
  - When there is no evidence of student interaction during a 24-hour period surrounding a scheduled school day, students are reported absent for the day.
- *Will teachers have office hours for students learning from home?*
  - Teachers will provide office hours five days per week.
- *When will school start?*
  - The first day of school for students will be Monday, September 21.
- *Why will the school day be shortened this year?*
  - Teachers need to be able to support the needs of the students during instruction and still have time to support individual students or families.

## Family Engagement

- *Will parents be allowed to volunteer in person in classrooms/schools?*
  - At this time, volunteers will not be allowed.
- *What will parent-teacher conferences look like?*
  - Parent-teacher conferences have not yet been determined; however 4 virtual home visits will be conducted for each student.



## Support Services

- *Will students be provided Chromebooks?*
  - Students enrolled in MASD last school year may still have Chromebooks issued to them from the Spring. Our priority is to make sure that all students needing a device will have one issued to them prior to September 21. Stay tuned for more information.
  
- *What if I need help with my student's Chromebook?*
  - Our tech department will offer office hours just like they did in the Spring. More information will come about the specifics of this.
  
- *Will counselors still be available at each school?*
  - Yes, support staff — like counselors and mental health therapists — will be available to work with students.
  
- *Will my child still receive their 504/IEP/TAG services?*
  - Yes, all support services will continue in the virtual setting as determined by their team.