



The 2020-2021 school year at the MSD of Decatur Township will begin on Monday, August 3, 2020. We will offer face-to-face, in school instruction every day (Monday-Friday) for students who are able to return to school. **Decatur Township will assume your student(s) will be returning in person unless you complete the formal request for the Remote Learning option by Friday, July 24, 2020. This remote learning option is accessible on our Skyward system. Directions are [here](#).** Online learning will be available for students whose risk factors or health issues or those who have immediate family members with health issues.

If you have any questions, please contact our administrative office, 317-856-5265.

The reopening of our schools will have the following stipulations and additional measures for student and staff safety as we begin the 2020-2021 school year:

- ❖ **[Symptoms of COVID-19 self screening](#)** - This is the CDC link for self screening. The phone number for Marion County Board of Health is 317-221-2000 if you feel you or your child is at risk. (www.marionhealth.org) We encourage all families to utilize the self screening process to determine if your child should or should not come to school.

- ❖ **Cleaning & Disinfection**
 - Increase access to cleaning supplies for each classroom
 - Increase accessibility to hand sanitizer for staff & students
 - Extended bathroom breaks for adequate handwashing
 - Clean & disinfect “high-touch” areas throughout the day
 - Clean & disinfect playground equipment

- ❖ **Cloth Facial Coverings/Masks/Face Shields**
 - Cloth facial coverings/masks or face shields are **required** (Per order of Mayor Hogsett as of July 9th), for all students, teachers, support staff and administration when outside or in any indoor area where social distancing is **not** possible. This order by the Mayor came out as of 7/02/2020. This may be subject to change as we approach the beginning of the school year. We will keep you posted if there is a change as soon as possible.

❖ General Building Practices

- No visitors will be allowed inside buildings for any reason other than to pick up or drop off their child beginning on the first day of school. This includes walking your child to class, eating lunch with your child, class parties, events and convocations. Masks must be worn at all times by parents or anyone that is able to enter the building.
- All Parent meetings will be held via phone or virtually. This includes parent/teacher conferences, or IEP/504 meetings.
- There will not be attendance incentives for students.
- Students will be together throughout the day as much as possible using a team approach.
- Water fountain use will be restricted.
- Classrooms will be less ornate- less furniture, less wall decorations
- School buildings will adjust Instructional spaces within the building and classrooms
- Learning will occur outside as much as possible as weather conditions permit
- Backpacks will be allowed, but nothing additional should be attached to the backpack.
- Specific Building Plans/Back to School Nights will be forthcoming later this month.

❖ Transportation

- Transportation by personal vehicle is encouraged
- Bus drivers and students are expected to wear face coverings
- Students will be given assigned seats when riding the bus
- Students will be spaced apart as much as possible
- Open windows for cross ventilation as weather permits
- Siblings will be assigned seats with each other.

❖ Cafeteria

- Assigned seats will be used.
- Social distancing will be implemented, and may look different at each building, based on size and schedule of classes.
- Students and building staff will follow social distancing guidelines in the serving and seating area.
- All foods will be completely enclosed/packaged.
- Eliminate communal access to napkins and silverware.
- Eliminate food sharing and share tables
- During lunch time, water will be provided for all students, per USDA guidelines.
- Students and staff must thoroughly wash hands and/or sanitize hands before entering the cafeteria and upon leaving the cafeteria.

❖ Social and Emotional Needs/Resources

We recognize the importance of providing students and staff with extra social and emotional support as they return to school this year. We will continue to utilize our Second Step SEL Curriculum K-8 and Newsela 9-12 daily. Expect to see welcome activities, additional time for relationship building and a focus on establishing new routines as well as coping strategies.

Our guidance counselors, CUMMINS therapists, CIS site coordinators, and school psychologists will be ready to assist students and staff in need of support. Please see the links below for additional resources. We will be sharing additional resources throughout the year as well.

Be Well Indiana

https://bewellindiana.com/?utm_campaign=awareness&utm_content=&utm_medium=email&utm_name=&utm_source=govdelivery&utm_term=

8 Fun Activities to Practice Social Skills with Your Child

<https://educationandbehavior.com/fun-social-skills-activities/>

Common Behaviors and Reactions from COVID-19

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1s11-Xo2CXacKAk2daXfmxJtx00a74V7c8UOfOaJMMk/edit>

Indiana Youth Institute Virtual Training for Parents (July 28 or August 3)

<https://web.cvent.com/event/59c92fe1-eb16-4db5-868c-10c0776c2257/summary>

Supporting Children's Mental Health: Tips for Parents and Educators

<https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/mental-health/prevention-and-wellness-promotion/supporting-childrens-mental-health-tips-for-parents-and-educators>

Helping Children Cope With Changes Resulting from COVID-19

<https://www.nasponline.org/resources-and-publications/resources-and-podcasts/school-climate-safety-and-crisis/health-crisis-resources/helping-children-cope-with-changes-resulting-from-covid-19>

❖ **MSD of Decatur Township Culture Guide**

In preparation for the 2020-2021 school year, MSD of Decatur Township will have a written document of what represents the core Beliefs, Behaviors and Outcomes for our students, staff and families of our school community. Our vision is to prepare students to be "Tomorrow Ready". We do that through our mission pillars of Learning, Safety and Customer Service. Our Culture makes MSD of Decatur Township a special place to learn, work, and grow. To be an elite culture, MSD of Decatur Township articulates the priorities necessary for the benefit of our children. Please refer to our Culture Guide [here](#).

The following are our MSD Decatur Township K-12 Remote -Learning Options:

❖ **Pre-School**

Due to the fact that there is not a state requirement for children to attend pre-school, NO remote learning option will be provided. Choices for pre-school are to either pay tuition and attend in person at Liberty, or choose not to participate in the pre-school program.

❖ **Elementary (K-6)**

- Students will return to school on Monday, August 3rd, unless otherwise designated by the parent through the request and completion of the Remote-learning Request via Skyward.
- All remote learning requests must be approved by District Administration.
- A Remote Learning teacher will be designated by grade level to deliver instruction to students.
- Students will receive instruction in the areas of English Language Arts, Reading, Math, Science and Social Studies.
- Special Area classes such as PE, STEAM, Music and Media will not be offered through this remote learning option.
- Delivery of instruction will be provided via WebEx through a blended model of recorded lessons and whole group check-ins.
- There must be a minimum of 20 students for Kindergarten remote learning to occur.
- There must be a minimum of 30 students district-wide per grade level for Grades 1-6 remote learning to occur.
- If a student is designated to the remote learning option, the commitment to this option is a nine week grading period minimum. Moving back to the traditional classroom option will only take place at the conclusion of each nine weeks grading period.
- Ipads will be disseminated to students who choose the remote learning option by the Technology department.
- All Textbook Rental and Student Fees will remain the same for students who choose the remote learning option as the traditional building option.
- A case conference will be conducted for any student who has an IEP or 504 to determine specific accommodations.

❖ **Decatur Middle School (7-8)**

- Students will return to school on Monday, August 3rd, unless otherwise designated by the parent through the request and completion of the Remote-learning Request via Skyward.
- All remote learning requests must be approved by District Administration.

- A remote Learning teacher will be designated by grade level to deliver English Language Arts & Math instruction to students.
- Science and Social Studies will be offered via APEX Learning. This is an independent study option that is not teacher directed.
- Related Arts classes will not be offered through this remote learning option.
- Delivery of instruction will be provided via WebEx through a blended model of recorded lessons and whole group check-ins.
- There must be a minimum of 30 students per grade level for Grades 7-8 remote learning to occur.
- If a student is designated to the remote learning option, the commitment to this option is a semester minimum. Moving back to the traditional classroom option will only take place at the conclusion of each semester.
- Ipads will be disseminated to students who choose the remote learning option by the Technology department.
- All Textbook Rental and Student Fees will remain the same for students who choose the remote learning option as the traditional building option.
- Any exceptions to courses or Middle School Offerings will be discussed on a case by case basis by District Administration.
- A case conference will be conducted for any student who has an IEP or 504 to determine specific accommodations.

❖ **Decatur Central High School (9-12)**

- Students will return to school on Monday, August 3rd, unless otherwise designated by the parent through the request and completion of the Remote-learning Request via Skyward.
- All remote learning request forms must be approved by district administration.
- DCHS Core teachers will live stream lessons for their classrooms while students watch from home if they choose remote learning.
- A mix of APEX Learning and remote learning will be utilized for student learning.
- Not all classes can be delivered remotely for grades 9-12.
- If a student is designated to the remote learning option, the commitment to this option is a semester minimum. Moving back to the traditional classroom option will only take place at the conclusion of each semester.
- Ipads will be disseminated to students who choose the remote learning option by the Technology department.
- All Textbook Rental and Student Fees will remain the same for students who choose the remote learning option as the traditional building option.
- A case conference will be conducted for any student who has an IEP or 504 to determine specific accommodations.
- Any exceptions to course offerings will be discussed on a case by case basis by District Administration.

❖ **Decatur Township School For Excellence (7-12)**

- Students will return to school on Monday, August 3rd, unless otherwise designated by the parent through the request and completion of the Remote-learning Request via Skyward.
- All remote learning request forms must be approved by District Administration.
- DTSE 9th and 10th grade students will utilize a teacher directed remote platform.
- DTSE 11th & 12th Grade students will use the APEX Learning Platform.
- If a student is designated to the remote learning option, the commitment to this option is a semester minimum. Moving back to the traditional classroom option will only take place at the conclusion of each semester.
- Ipads will be disseminated to students who choose the remote learning option by the Technology department.
- All Textbook Rental and Student Fees will remain the same for students who choose the remote learning option as the traditional building option.
- A case conference will be conducted for any student who has an IEP or 504 to determine specific accommodations.
- Any exceptions to course offerings will be discussed on a case by case basis by District Administration.

❖ **eLearning**

In the event that a school or the entire district needs to close, we will move to eLearning, which will look different than the above options outlined. All teachers who conducted in-person learning will move to Canvas and WebEx to support the students they teach. The permanent eLearning option will continue as status quo since building closures would not affect the permanent eLearning option.

❖ **Technology/iPAD/ Mi-Fi Procedures for eLearning only**

Option 1: I registered in the Spring and already have an iPad to use for eLearning in the Fall.

- *Once you've selected online learning in Skyward, nothing more needs to be done.*

Option 2: I did not register in the Spring; yet, I still have my iPad which was deactivated.

- Drop your iPad off during registration on Tuesday, July 21 at the school and pick up on Monday or Tuesday July 27 and 28, if you chose eLearning option.

Option 3: I registered online after July 13 and have selected eLearning. However my iPad is deactivated.

- Call (317) 856-2221 to make arrangements to have your iPad reactivated.

Option 4: I am new to the district or returned my iPad and have selected eLearning.

- Pick up an iPad on Monday and Tuesday July 20 and 21 at the Technology Center.

Mi-Fi's Option 1: I do not need a Mi-Fi. I have internet access at home.

(This does not include internet service via your phone)

Mi-Fi's Option 2: I do not have access to the internet and need to use a district Mi-Fi.

Sign out a Mi-Fi on Monday and Tuesday July 20 and 21 at the Tech Center.

*****Further information and clarification of the following items will be provided and updated as we continue to prepare for the opening of our school year.**

