



# RESTART/REOPEN 2020-2021

MONROE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dear Monroe Parents/Guardians:

Monroe Local School District will begin the second quarter with a five-day return to in-person learning. All students, except those enrolled in Monroe's Virtual Learning Academy, will attend school in person five days a week starting on Tuesday, October 20.

## Reminders

- There will be no school for students on Monday, October 19 to allow time for our staff to prepare for a full return.
- Lockers at the junior high school and high school will not be accessible. Only clear backpacks for books and personal belongings are permitted in the building during the school day.
- For athletic and extracurricular events, guidelines will remain the same with the continued use of facial coverings, social distancing, and capacity limitations for spectators.
- Restrictions on classroom or lunchroom visits, volunteers in our buildings, and mass gatherings will continue until further notice.

## Transportation Changes

Monroe's Transportation Department is updating bus routes for the second quarter. If your child's transportation needs are changing, a [Transportation Form](#) had to be completed by October 8. If your child is currently in the hybrid model and will continue to ride the bus, you do not need to complete a form but know that your child's bus number or route will likely change.

You can access your child's bus route for the second quarter on the [Petermann Bus Tracker](#) app. This free app can be found on the Google play store or the Apple store. The bus tracker app will reflect the wrong information while we are re-routing between October 12-15. It will not reflect the updated routes **until after 3 p.m. on October 15.**

Your child's student ID number is required to access his or her bus route. If you do not remember your child's ID number, you can retrieve it on ProgressBook.

## **Free Meals**

The USDA has extended its program for free lunches and free breakfasts through June 30, 2021. All students who are attending in person or remotely can receive one free breakfast and one free lunch daily. Students will be charged for second meals and a la carte items or meals that don't meet the free and reduced lunch program requirements.

## **Meal Pickup for VLA Students**

For the second quarter, Monroe's food service department made adjustments to meal distribution for VLA students. VLA students will receive up to five breakfasts and five lunches each week. These meals are available for pickup on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday between 1:30-2:30 p.m. behind the building on the main campus near the elementary school cafeteria door. Two days of meals will be provided on Monday and Wednesday and one day of meals on Friday. VLA parents who are interested in receiving meals must complete an [online form by October 18, 2020](#).

VLA Student meal pickup will begin on October 21, 2020, since there is no school on Monday.

## **Lunch Routines**

As the number of students increases in our buildings, we will be modifying some lunch routines to maintain social distancing. Expanding seating areas outside of the cafeteria at the junior high and high school will be one of the modifications. We appreciate your understanding as we face these daily challenges and make the best accommodations available.

## **Chromebooks**

Monroe will continue with one-to-one learning (one device for every one student). If your child has been issued a district Chromebook, please have them bring their device to school fully charged this first day back and every day throughout the quarter. We appreciate your assistance to make sure the Chromebooks are kept in good condition and charged so students are prepared for class.

## **Learning Option Deadline for Second Semester**

On Monday, November 2, the district will be sending out a commitment form for the second semester. Parents must commit to either the Virtual Learning Academy or in-person learning for their child(ren) for the second semester. The deadline to submit this commitment form will be 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, November 7.

## **Remaining Vigilant**

A key to controlling the spread of COVID-19 is maintaining the health protocols we

have in place. Wearing masks, frequent handwashing, physical distancing, and enhanced cleaning practices are all key to keeping our staff and students healthy. With the increased number of students in the building, maintaining 6 feet of physical distancing will be more challenging. The district will do its best to maintain the recommended social distancing of 3 to 6 feet; however, due to capacity and space, this may be difficult to do at all times throughout the day.

Please continue to conduct a student wellness check including a temperature check prior to sending your child to school. Students with temperatures over 100°F should stay home. If your child is feeling ill or exhibits any symptoms of COVID-19, do not send your child to school.

Symptoms include:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

If your child comes in contact with a positive or suspected positive case outside the school setting, please do not send them to school. Direct contact is within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more of a positive case. If your child has had direct contact with a positive case, they need to quarantine for 14 days after that contact. If your child has had direct contact with a suspected case, please do not send your child to school until the test results have been received. If this suspected case has positive test results, then follow the quarantine guidelines outlined above.

Keeping our students in school is a team effort. We appreciate the work of Monroe staff and parents to best serve our students during this challenging time. Thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

Sincerely,

Kathy Demers  
Superintendent