



RESTART/REOPEN 2020-2021

MONROE LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

Parent/Community FAQ:

The following questions were submitted through email and were copied into this document. Every effort was made to remove any identifiable information, but not to alter the intent of the information. Some questions/answers were covered during the Live YouTube event held on July 15. The recording of this session is available here: https://youtu.be/A_K6kf3up6c

Miscellaneous:

- Why can't tents be set up in the fields on Monroe high school property, and elementary school property, social distance the desks/chairs, bring in multiple teachers and volunteers, and teach the children outside (no computers) as long as the weather holds up? Fans could be used to circulate air. When it turns cold that's when classes will stop, instead of having all these children inside. This would get the children back to learning, and some small sense of normalcy. This idea would obviously require more thought and need more questions addressed but having all of these children inside a building is just going to lead to another lock out.
We have looked into this option previously to find out that it would not be approved for Educational or overflow cafeteria seating purposes.
- My son is starting kindergarten this year and I was wondering if you have considered offering half day options?
We did evaluate this option, but this would increase our district costs significantly especially in the area of transportation.
- I think mine mostly comes down to how can you social distance students in a school that is already overcrowded. I've been in there when the bell lets out in the hallways are packed and people are walking right on top of each other. My other question is how can you sanitize everything. After each student sits at a desk will it be wiped off?? How can you social distance lunchtime? It's already crowded like I mentioned before for the kids to just sit in the classrooms and eat lunch with their class? Will the classes be smaller since they need to push the desk farther apart to social distance.
The six feet of social distancing is a guideline. We have been advised by the health department that if we are unable to keep six feet then a mask requirement should be in place.
- Will students be eligible to take CCP in spring if remote instruction continues and we did not attend the mtg last year but have changed our minds due to covid and remote option?
Only students that attended the meeting in the spring are eligible for CCP classes for the 2020-21 school year.
- Will high school students attend 7 classes, switching for each and lunch? What happens if one student is diagnosed out of those 150-200 people?
MHS students will continue to switch classes. If a student is diagnosed with COVID19, we will follow the Butler County Health guidelines.
- In the reopening plan, a locker schedule is mentioned. On the school supply list, it specifically says female students are allowed a purse but no backpacks are allowed. Would mesh or clear bags be considered for male students to decrease locker trips, time spent at lockers and decrease stress of

forgetting something in their locker? Returning to school is stressful for all of us and I feel allowing a small bag for all students (not just purses allowed for female students) would help decrease some of the stress students will be feeling.

We are eliminating the use of lockers this school year in both the junior high and high school. Since we are not using lockers, we will be providing students with clear backpacks to carry their books and items with them throughout the day and into their classrooms. This clear backpack will be the personal property of each student who will get to keep his or her backpack. Families are welcome to purchase their own clear backpack. Students will be permitted to carry personal hygiene items in small pouches/cases in their clear backpacks.

- Are the schools going to install water bottle refill stations or would this defeat the purpose of the water bottles?

At this time the buildings are evaluating a process for refilling water bottles but have not installed additional equipment at this time.

- If a student is currently enrolled in the IEP program how will this work for options A and A1.
Students will receive their IEP specially designed instruction (SDI minutes) in option A as they always have in the school setting. As for the A1 option, decisions about how specially designed instruction will be provided will be determined with the IEP team and documented in a Prior Written Notice to parents. This may mean services are provided through tele-health, Zoom instruction and/or video instruction.

- Option A, any difference in school start and stop times?

School will now start on Monday, August 24, to provide additional inservice training for staff. At this time the buildings will follow their previous school day times, though there will be flexibility on tardies until the district sees if there is an increase in car rider traffic.

- If a student attends for option A (in person back to school) and this option doesn't seem to be working for parents or students, is there an option to switch to the option A1 (remote online)?

Option A1 requires that a student is registered by Friday, July 31. After that date students will not be able to choose that option until the next semester.

- What will education look like for Kindergarten?

What does a typical K day look like? (As far as staying in one room, recess, lunch, specials, etc.)

MPS will release more specific information at a later date.

- What is the current class size for kindergarten?

Currently, the district is still receiving kindergarten enrollment, so class sizes have not been finalized yet.

- Will there still be a kindergarten screening?

Yes. Please see the website (www.monroelocalschools.com) for more information.

- Is Monroe local schools allowing open enrollment.

Yes, the board adopted an open enrollment policy for the current school year. At this time the open enrollment process is closed.

- What is the plan for securing substitute teachers if and when teachers are infected/exposed? We have already experienced shortages of available substitutes in recent years.

The district will continue to utilize the county substitute pool for any staff that may be quarantined, infected or exposed. If you have interest in becoming a substitute teacher, please visit the [Butler County ESC website](#).

- If the governor were to close the schools before the school year begins, but we had already signed up for remote learning, would we have the option of switching to being enrolled in Monroe schools instead, so that our child would still have a teacher(s) and class?
Once your student is registered for Option A1, he/she will be enrolled in the Virtual Learning Academy for the semester. Changes may not be made until the end of the semester.
- If someone decides to change their mind regarding in person schooling or vice versa, what procedures would they need to follow? Will there be cut off dates? Will there only be certain scenarios that warrant an allowance of change?
The Virtual Learning Academy registration will close on Friday, July 31. If you have not registered by that date, then your student will be in person whether in Option A or Option B and remote (Option C) if the school is closed.
- If Butler County is updated to a purple county, will children be permitted to attend school in- person?
The determination on whether the school will be allowed to have in person instruction will depend on the Butler County General Health District guidance given to the school.
- If forced to stay at home again will instruction be up to the parents? Last quarter the teachers did a great job putting lesson plans out for parents to follow. However, my child was not as interested in the material as when he had teacher instruction. Will there be more video led instruction?
The district's updated remote learning plan includes teacher use of a mixture of synchronous (interactions happen in real-time, for example a Zoom session with a small group) and asynchronous (interactions are not in real-time, for example students watch a pre-recorded video) instruction.
- For a student with an IEP, will there be a revision to the IEP to state where my child will be having her OT and PT? Are the OT and PT going to be coming into the room, or would she still be leaving the room to get her services.
OT and PT services are typically provided in a separate room at the primary and elementary buildings. Some services will be provided within a resource room and some services will be provided in the classroom. If you have questions about your child's specific services, please contact the IEP team or teacher to discuss.
- Will we still be waiting until the week of classes to begin to find out who teachers are for classes?
Class lists and schedules for students that will be attending in person will be posted as they have been in previous school years.

Masks:

We had numerous questions regarding masks. The following summary addresses the questions pertaining to our mask policy. ***All staff and students will be required to wear masks at all times at school and on the bus per the Governor's orders and Ohio Health Department guidelines mandating face coverings in public for all counties that are designated Red Level 3 Public Health Emergency Alert, which as of 7/13/20 includes Butler County. Face covering requirements for Monroe Local Schools are subject to change based on the most current health data and safety guidelines available.***

Mask breaks will be age appropriate and provided throughout the day. Though teachers may direct students for breaks, all students will be trained on how to take their own individual break whenever needed. For example, if a student just needs a break they would ensure they aren't directly facing someone and they have some distance from others then they can simply pull down their mask for a short period of time.

All staff and students (Preschool through 12th grade) will be required to wear masks for all in-person options based on the current Butler County Health recommendations and the county level. In addition, Cincinnati Children's Hospital has also recommended masks at school for all students to ensure that schools can open

safely. This requirement is for the protection of all staff and students especially when 6 feet of social distancing cannot be met.

There will be a process for students that may have health issues or other concerns with wearing masks. The process will be through the building nurse.

- The process and forms will be available prior to the start of school.
- Face shields and other measures to be approved through this process.
- The district will work with health care professionals and the Butler County General Health District in making determinations as needed.

Staff will be provided with professional development/training on working with students on managing face coverings safely and appropriately. In the event face coverings become a choice, staff will be encouraged to have discussions with students about the importance of showing respect and understanding for others choices. This information would be included in the classroom guidelines they would review at the beginning and throughout the year just as they cover other expectations for the school year.

Selection of face coverings will follow our dress code policy. In the event that an inappropriate face mask is worn to school, it will be managed per our student handbook policy for dress code. At this time we are awaiting school policies, more information will be forthcoming.

The schools will not be providing face coverings. They will be part of the school supply list.

Sickness/Quarantine/Self Isolate:

Screening, Isolating & Excluding Students & Staff During A Pandemic

- I read through the state recommendations/guidance (And I believe it was there) that they stated attendance will not be as much of a factor this year as it has in the past, because of the risk. But I also know to aid in contact tracing for the county and state health departments that attendance will need to be recorded. What documentation will be needed for proof of a COVID related excused absence? How will the student and families identity and reasons for self-isolation/quarantine be protected? If a family chooses to send their kids and a child gets sick, will the 10 days/year excused format still be in place since the restart requires 72 hours fever free? What if they just have a cold and it doesn't warrant a doctor's visit? It's reasonable to assume that Covid will not be the only virus going through the schools in the fall, just as it would be any year. Will there be additional requirements/expectations about attending school when cold and flu season hit and a child is sick with a cold?

We will follow the same protocols for all viruses this year unless a doctor visit with a doctor note specifies differently. Any student with a temperature whether COVID-related or not will require the student to be 24 hour fever free without a fever reducing medication.

Parents/guardians would need to follow the protocol for reporting illness to ensure the day is excused, which may require either a parent note or doctor note.

The school will still be taking attendance during the school day whether in-person or during remote learning. The Butler County General Health District will contact the school to support their contact tracing. All attendance records and excused absences are confidential student information that will not be shared unless required by law.

- If a child/household is ordered to self isolate or quarantine will the children be able to participate in the online system (plan 1A) to keep up with class work? As of right now the plan requires a 1 semester commitment, would this be altered or would there be packets sent home to help the students keep up? ***Option A1 (Virtual Academy) would require a semester commitment and students would be required to begin the semester in that format. Depending on the length of time for quarantine, a student would follow the same procedure they would for any extended absence from school. If an entire class would be quarantined they may be required to begin the remote learning model if they are well enough to do so. If a school building or the entire district is quarantined then remote learning would begin with online instruction. Paper copies would not be provided or***

sent to homes, though some teachers may ask students to complete items from materials sent home with them that may be paper assignments.

- Any of our students that are sitting together for more than 15 minutes can spread the virus to another student. I know not every parent will keep their sick kid home, which puts the staff and students at risk. Are teachers going to scan the students just when they arrive or will it take place multiple times? Would the school (teachers) be taking temperatures before allowing them in the classroom? What are the time estimates for procedures to check kids on entry, staggering access to hallways/lockers, etc.? How much instruction time will be left in a day?
Per guidance from the Butler County General Health District, at this time we will not take temperatures as students enter the class. We do realize that some of our protocol; staggered entry, handwashing, will impact instructional time. We still feel that the face-to-face instructional time that will be left in the day will be valuable.
- Will remote instruction or paper assignments be provided during quarantine (if needed). If a student needs to be home for an extended period of time for option A or absent option A1, how does that affect attendance and school assignments, assessments...etc.?
Depending on the length of time for quarantine, a student would follow the same procedure they would for any extended absence from school. If an entire class would be quarantined they may be required to begin remote learning based on if they are well enough to do so. If a school building or the entire district is quarantined, then remote learning would begin with online instruction. Paper copies would not be provided or sent to homes, though some teachers may ask students to complete items from materials sent home with them that may be paper assignments.
- Will students exposed be required to be tested each time? Parent expense?
The Butler County General Health District will make determinations on when a student needs to be tested and how often that would be based on their individual situation and cost would be determined through those agencies.
- What if my child tests positive for antibodies (meaning a recovered prior COVID infection) but is not sick now?
All decisions will be based on recommendations from the Butler County General Health District and state resources. At this time, students who do not have a temperature or COVID symptoms and do not have a current positive COVID test will be able to attend school.
- If we choose to send our student to school and it is forced to close will the children continue to receive the same education as those who are taking online courses?
No, the district is purchasing a learning management system for instruction for option A1. This online curriculum will meet the same standards as our Monroe Local Schools curriculum, but it will not necessarily match the same pacing or activities that are delivered in school buildings. If the school is forced to close students attending in-person (option A) will continue our class instruction through a remote learning model (option C) utilizing Google Classroom and Zoom.
- In the event of a positive case in our school, will the entire class be required to quarantine for 14 days? Will this absence count against them? Will remote learning become an option for those in quarantine? If a student is tested positive and they have to be quarantined for 14 days or more, will they be moved to remote learning? Will the entire class be quarantined? What plan is in place if the school has to shut down for all who are attending since remote learning is on a different lesson plan. What is the plan if someone (student or staff) tests positive for covid? Whole school/class quarantine? What will be the protocol for families with multiple children in the district, when it comes to 1 member being exposed... example;
Do you require a test to come back to school? If you get a test and it's negative can they return to school?

If a student or teacher is diagnosed with COVID, what is the protocol for those in the same classroom? Will they be quarantined for 14 days? How does this impact attendance rules, especially if this happens multiple times in the semester for the same people? Will kids then be given the option to switch to online?

Do you have a threshold for the number of positive cases in the district before you return the entire district back to remote learning?

If a child/teacher in one of my kids' classes tests positive, do all of my kids have to quarantine or just the one that is in that class?

The Butler County General Health District will direct us on whether a class, building, bus or team will be quarantined. If an entire class is directed to quarantine, then they would continue instruction through a remote learning model. If they are well enough to participate then they would not be counted absent. If they are ill then the parent would follow the required attendance reporting and those absences would be excused. The remote learning model will be an option for those classes or buildings quarantined. If just one student is quarantined depending on the length of time a student would follow the same procedure they would for any extended absence from school.

- What is the protocol/plan if my child's teacher gets sick? ***This may depend on the illness, but we would follow our procedures for a substitute unless it was COVID-related and the Butler County General Health District requires us to respond differently.***
- What is the protocol/plan if a student in my child's class gets sick?
How quickly will parents be notified that someone has tested positive for Covid-19?
What is the policy currently for families to report positive cases to the school? I have been informed of 3 MLS students just this week who have tested positive.
We will follow protocol for any illness in the school with temperatures above 100 and COVID symptoms being sent home. Then following any guidelines from the health department for reporting and sending home information. For any extra-curricular activities currently happening they would be communicated with for any cases per the guidance from the health department.
- If a student has asthma and allergy systems which can be similar to COVID19 will you require them to stay home for 14 days and if so and they return to school and systems return will another 14 days stay at home be required?
If a child has a certain medical condition, we would ask parents to ensure the school is aware of that so we can treat them appropriately. The time quarantined will be specific to that student's situation and the recommendation from the health department.
- If a student has sensitivities to cleaning solutions and the extra exposure to cleaning of areas during school times as well as hand washing soaps and hand sanitizers what recommendations or considerations have been discussed for this? Again, Asthma/allergy triggers and currently hands split open and bleed if excessive hand soap and washing occurs, even if lotion applied after washing.
In these special circumstances we would ask that the parent reach out to the building nurse and teacher to discuss options.

Clinic:

- For children that need routine well care, will there be a separate nursing area for them to get the care they need without being exposed to sick germs?
If student has cough and requires to follow their asthma action plan, what safety protocols are in place for the student to visit the clinic several times a day to do inhaler and what safety changes are in place for storing and cleaning inhalers?
Any student having a temperature over 100 degrees Fahrenheit and/or exhibiting COVID symptoms will be in a separate room away from the clinic until they are picked up from school. Students that need daily nurse care including medications/inhalers/etc... will be in the clinic with the nurse. There will be additional safety and cleaning protocols throughout the day in the clinic to help ensure the safety of both students and staff.

****Parents and guardians, please be sure your emergency contact information is up-to-date in the event the nurse or staff member needs to contact home. Please ensure there are multiple, pre-arranged methods of getting a student home from school should they become ill or exhibit symptoms. If you are contacted by the school due to illness make arrangements to pick up students as quickly as possible.***

- What is the situation with school nurses? If a school nurse is exposed to a child who tests positive and the nurse then has to quarantine, what is the backup for the nurse?
Whether through quarantine or any illness, anytime our nurse is sick we contract sub nursing.

Safety:

- Over the past several years there have been safety regulations put into place for “unauthorized visitors” and lockdowns. With the protocols listed here, it seems to be in conflict with some of the safeguarding principles that we were taught (i.e. doors and windows open). I understand this is to increase airflow which is needed to battle the spread of contagion, but I also know that the mental health crisis we are facing during this time has also increased the likelihood of armed attackers to target vulnerable areas. (As a church my insurance company warned us about this possibility as we looked to open.) How is the school going to balance these risks as well as those posed by COVID-19, especially where the directions and protocols are in conflict?
All exterior doors to the building will remain locked per our safety plan and protocol. Only classroom doors will be open for internal airflow and reduced contact on door handles. We will continue to follow our active threat safety procedures in those situations. We have reached out and anticipate an update from the state fire marshal.

Classroom:

- It seems that the recurring theme is that there will be social distancing when there can be. If there isn't enough room in the classrooms to separate the desk, are the students required to wear a mask during the class?
Yes, students will be required to wear masks but will be allowed mask breaks throughout the day.
- Will there be no orientation/meet the teacher this year? If not, will the teachers do a zoom meeting with their students to introduce themselves and their classroom before school starts? And will the 2nd graders who are new to the building be given extra help in getting where they need to go?
The buildings will be releasing information about orientation and meeting teachers closer to the beginning of the school year. All students, especially those new to the building, will be given extra help to ensure they get to locations throughout the building. The first week of school until the students become familiar with the building extra staff are available in the hallways to escort students to their rooms. At the elementary level the safety patrol also assists students daily throughout the year whenever directions are needed.
- Approximately how many kids per class?
Are class sizes going to be smaller this year to accommodate for social distancing.
How far apart will desks be?
How are the class sitting going to be?
Please clarify spacing listed as "greatest extent possible". If that is less than 6 feet, will you still put the kids together?
What is the plan to distance students in the building? Is it possible to space them safely when we have an overcrowded district with large class sizes?
What will be the class capacity due to limited space with the minimum 6 foot social distancing?
At this time we do not have a finalized number for class sizes since some students may choose to register for the Virtual Learning Academy (Option A1). Those students would then be removed from classes for the first semester and may allow us to have some smaller class sizes

than in previous school years. This could provide more space for students to social distance. More details will follow once Virtual Learning Academy registration has been completed and class lists have been finalized.

- Is It possible to install plexi-glass between desk for some grades?
At this time the district has not invested in plexi-glass. Per Butler County General Health District, it would not make a difference in reducing the potential spread in a classroom setting.
- Can you clarify your hand washing versus hand sanitizing process. Will the children (my child is in the elementary school this year) be doing mandatory hand washing that is supervised (they are little...they may wet their hands and use no soap etc).
Each building will be helping to provide developmentally appropriate guidance and supervision of procedures. This may take a variety of forms including instructing, modeling, supervising, and reminding students.

Lunch Time:

- (cafeteria) How will it be possible to sit (with distance) at a safe means? This is easily spread and even when available children/teens and even adults may not wash or sanitize their hands. Will it be an option to eat in the classroom? Or have each child have a bottle of sanitizer on their desk to use between classes/or prior to leaving the room to go to lunch?
Distancing in the cafeteria will be accomplished based on the unique needs of each building and may involve using spaces not traditionally used for lunch seating. Additional seating options for students will be determined if possible or practical at each building level. Each classroom will have either a sink for handwashing or a sanitizer station. This will assist in preparing students as they transition from class to lunch/recess.
- If a child had braces and they are planning on brushing their teeth, I'm assuming this will be permitted
At this point there has been no indication from the Butler County Health District that brushing of teeth would be prohibited.
- What are the lunch plans? Would you be providing or accepting outside food from home?
Based on current information from the Butler County Health District, there would be no restriction on bringing in outside food from home. With the limitations on visitors to the building, visitors will not be able to join their students at lunch.
- Will kids have lunch and recess like normal?
At this time there will be some modifications to the lunch choices, procedures for assigned seating, and any other requirements by the health department. We do intend to provide some sort of recess options but are working now to finalize specifics on how recess procedures will be impacted.
- How will we minimize the contact with other classes during lunch and breakfast without prolonging the eating period? Are you looking into prolonging the eating period?
Currently, with the number of lunches and students that we serve, we are not looking at prolonging meal duration. Our focus is to identify additional spaces where students could eat.

Transportation:

- How exactly will social distancing be an option on school buses. I am aware of the wide array of unknowns; but due to how it is spread and the amount of children/parents who rely on the transportation department for their children how exactly will this be done? And if someone test positive after symptoms- the entire route will be shut down? Or how will notifications be done (main mean of contact I'm assuming)

At this point in time the Butler County Health District has approved our seating plan from back to front with two to a seat and at times three if required. Family members will be assigned to the same seat. The additional ventilation provided by windows and the roof hatch weather permitting will also be in place. For any situation where a positive case is identified the Health District evaluates and directs the response. At this time they have provided general guidance on the notifications and messaging. We will continue to work closely with them as they determine the requirements.

- How will social distancing be handled on the buses that are already sitting 3 kids to a seat?
Please see the previous answer, the importance of wearing a mask and symptom checks at home will be an effective support to enhancing bus safety.
- For the Bus situation – She will be on the disability bus, are there any new protocols for Disabled students?
The procedures for students with disability will be the same as all students. Adjustments may be made in the event there is a need required by an IEP or other medical issue.

Transition & Other Building Areas:

- For in person classes-- will recess still be available to students? If so, what are the guidelines? Will there be any specials (I.e. gym, music, art) and recess. What will recess and P.E. look like for our kids? Will be permitted to play with one another? Also will there still be recess, gym, art, etc. How will that work? Mask in gym? will kids have lunch and recess like normal?
The primary and elementary buildings still plan on having recess with some equipment not being utilized. Specific information about recess is currently being determined and will be shared when available.
- In person classes-- How will unified arts classes be handled? Will the students still be offered these classes? Most items in these classes are shared amongst many students in other classes. Will there be any specials (I.e. gym, music, art) and recess. If there will not be any specials when school starts back, will you be shortening the school day?
Unified arts at the primary and elementary levels will still be provided to students. There may be adjustments to schedules and activities to ensure all students' safety. The building is currently determining how materials can be safely shared and in most situations not sharing materials.
- Will electives be offered?
At this time, electives will still be offered - however the Butler County Health District has indicated concern with classes that could produce increased respiration. Each building is evaluating electives that may be impacted and working to adjust to provide an alternative option.
- Is there a new plan for student drop-off/pick up with the potential for increased car riders? Option A, any changes in car rider drop off and pick up?
At this time we can not determine adjustments until we have information about which students will be learning online through the Virtual Learning Academy (Option A1) and how many students will be moving to a car rider. We will make adjustments as this information becomes available and we are able to see the impact on the traffic flow. Students will not be counted tardy due a back up in the car rider line until we are able to make adjustments.
- Are they still having recess and bathroom breaks?
Students at the primary and elementary school will continue to have recess, but may have some adjustments to the activities available. Specific information will be shared once that has been determined. Students will continue to have bathroom breaks, but the number of students in the bathroom will be different to allow for more space for distancing.

Extra-curricular:

- Will school activities be able to be provided for the students (homecoming/prom)?
We will continue to evaluate and work closely with the Butler County Health District on guidance for large group gatherings. As these important events draw closer, more information will be sent from the MHS Principal.
- Will there be school trips: plans for the different grades (Columbus, Washington and/or Europe)
Will the 8th graders be going to Washington DC this year? We have not signed up as we were afraid of the trip being cancelled and losing out on money paid.
School parties and field trips are not permitted at this time. If situations change throughout the school year the district may reconsider its position.
- My question is about fall sports: My son is in 8th grade and plus football. My concern is how can they be safe by being socially distancing 6 feet apart, not on top of each other when they are tackling, breathing on each other when in a pile on the field, and each other's faces when trying to keep the other team from getting the ball? I can understand some of the other sports, but football is pretty close contact. With my son wanting to play I have a hard time allowing him to go be with his buddies and friends when I know how 13/14 yr old boys are. Conditioning would be ok, but tackling on a field to me sounds pretty dangerous, and possibly not allowing parents, grandma and grandpa to watch or exposing them to the conditions is scary. Maybe a immune compressed family member that my child has been in contact with on the team or playing with as he bring it home to possibly myself that is immune compressed? I want him to be able to play and be a normal kid but he is afraid to "give this COVID" to others and not worried about getting it himself as he is pretty educated about wearing a mask, not touching things, using hand sanitizer, washing hands, and social distancing.
Since June 2, when our student-athletes returned to campus for group workouts and training, Monroe Local Schools has worked closely with our state and local partners to ensure the safest possible "Return to Play" protocols and procedures for our student-athletes and staff. The guidelines for which participation in interscholastic athletics is currently permitted has been established by the Office of Governor DeWine, the Ohio Department of Health and has included recommendations from the Ohio High School Athletic Association. While Monroe Local Schools believes wholeheartedly in the physical, social and emotional benefits of participation in extracurricular activities, including interscholastic athletics, we certainly realize individual circumstances must be considered by each of our student-athletes and their families. Monroe Local Schools is committed to providing participation opportunities for our student-athletes in the safest environment possible by following the requirements set forth by our state and local leadership and continuing to work closely with our local partners, including Premier Health.
- Will kids enrolled in online classes still be able to participate in Extracurriculars?
If I choose remote learning, can my child still participate in school sports?
Can info be shared about sports participation if registered for remote instruction through Monroe, another online like K12 or a traditional homeschool student ?
All Monroe Local Schools students are able to participate in extracurriculars including those that choose Option A1.
- Also if I choose online learning for my 8th grader still be able to go on the Washington DC trip that has already been paid for?
All Monroe Local Schools students are able to participate in extracurriculars including those that choose Option A1. School parties and field trips are not permitted at this time. If the Butler County General Health District's guidance changes throughout the school year the district may reconsider its position.
- How band class would be handled? There are a lot of kids in that room at one time and masks would obviously need to come off to play many instruments.

In person classes - how is band class being addressed?

We are awaiting guidance from the Butler County General Health District. More information will be forthcoming.

Cleaning Supplies:

- I am under the impression supplies have been donated. With increased cleaning how long will everything last and are there plans to have backup in case supplies are in high demand again (bleach wipes/sanitizer etc)
We have been working with our suppliers since the spring to procure cleaning supplies. There are some hard-to-source items facing the region but we continue to work with multiple vendors to ensure our inventory meets our needs.
- Who is providing the extra cleaning supplies for classrooms? (Lysol wipes, hand sanitizer, etc.)
The district will be providing materials (however wipes are not largely available in the quantities that we would require). We have invested in microfiber cloth as a reusable product.
- Will HVAC filters be a special type to "catch" virus? Will they be changed more often? Will they be changed each time there is a confirmed positive Covid-19 case in the building?
We are working with our architects and engineers to make adjustments to our building systems. We are using the highest quality filters possible for our systems. We met with a health department representative this spring and their recommendation was to continue to use our current filters and follow a replacement schedule.

Virtual Learning-Option A1:

If remote learning is chosen, will students be supplied with a laptop or Chromebook for class use?
Are there specific technology requirements for the remote learning, Chromebook, touch screen, etc.
If we choose to do online learn through the school will chrome books be provided to the students?
If remote learning is chosen, will students be supplied with a laptop or Chromebook for class use?
Will laptops be provided by the school?
If we opt for remote learning for the semester, will our child receive a chromebook?
Would the school be providing chrome books for the hybrid choice or online learning?
A device can be requested during the enrollment process. Additionally, a student can request help with obtaining internet access during the enrollment process. If we move to hybrid, the same process will apply.

What technology/materials are needed?

Option A1, will there be details on what the online remote application/software is and what is needed to have it installed or accessed on home computer/tablet devices?

A device and internet is the only technology needed to run SchoolsPLP. A phone is not an appropriate device to use with SchoolsPLP. Other materials, for example a workbook, may be needed but this depends on the course being taken.

What company or program will be used to implement remote learning? The information stated it would be 3rd party.

What is the online platform that will be used for the remote option?

What company is being used for remote learning?

Which online learning platform or vendor are you planning to use virtually?

What platform will the school be using for online classes?

The district is purchasing the SchoolsPLP Platform through the Butler County Educational Service Center.

I have a lot of the same questions that are in the Little Miami district's website for their restart plans, particularly the ones about the virtual learning plan. Will Monroe be using the same VLA as Little Miami?

MLS is not using VLA. The district is purchasing the SchoolsPLP Platform through the Butler County Educational Service Center.

Has the company doing the online model been used successfully by other districts before?
Other districts are using SchoolsPLP for their virtual learning platform this year. SchoolsPLP is offered in all 50 states and offers over 550 courses. They have been providing a digital curriculum for more than 20 years.

Can a YouTube video be posted showcasing the online format?
Here are demos depending on the grade level you are interested in. Please see grade level access below. Clicking on “work in course” gives you the best glimpse into the lessons.

<u>Elementary</u>	<u>Middle School</u>	<u>High School</u>
Site: https://demo.schoolsplp.com/	Site: https://demo.schoolsplp.com/	Site: https://demo.schoolsplp.com/
login: estudent	login: middle	login: high
pwd: estudent	pwd: middle	pwd: high

- Is the remote learning curriculum the same as in person curriculum? Should there be a tough transition if we choose in person for 2nd semester?
 If remote learning is chosen 1st semester and then in person classes chosen for 2nd semester and vice versa, will there be a learning gap between curriculums?
 If we choose to send our student to school and it is forced to close will the children continue to receive the same education as those whom are taking online courses?
 Will the classes my child takes closely match the classes they would take if not attending online?
 How closely will online and in person curriculum be aligned? Meeting all the same objectives?
SchoolsPLP’s curriculum is aligned to Ohio’s state standards, the same standards as Monroe Local Schools, but it will not necessarily match the same pacing or activities that are delivered in school buildings.

Will the remote learning option be VLA (Virtual Learning Academy), and will it be overseen by a Monroe teacher?

A Monroe teacher will coordinate the virtual program and Monroe teachers will also provide support to the students. Please understand this does not equate to a full-time teacher. Core instruction will be provided through an online platform that will be supplemented with teacher support outside of the school day.

- How is the remote learning day structured? Time commitment?
 How many hours per day are required?
 How structured is remote learning and what is the parent commitment? Basically is it feasible to work full time and still do remote learning with your child?
 Will there be set hours to check in with a live teacher or only through email?
 What type of assignments will be given? Is it solely online work?
 Since teachers are doing in school classes and virtual classes, will students be getting the same lessons and not busy work?
 Will assignments need to be turned in at the same time every day or by a certain deadline (ex. end of the week)?
 Option A1, can you give an example of how much time/efforts from Parent this option A1 for remote online learning will be daily and will online be full day set hours or set of hours, but can be completed

anytime during the day? Asking this to determine how Parent which still working form home, but wants to coordinate work schedule with remote online times to be available for students needs.

What will the online schooling look like?

Will the students have videos or zoom meetings weekly?

Will you provide a sample of a day or even a week for parents to view before committing to it?

if I'm wanting to commit to the remote learning for my second grader what days would I need to be

home with my child and focusing on school work. I work full time and I'd definitely need to plan to have my schedule taken care of before I would be able to commit to a 35+hr school schedule for my child.

Will there be specific hours of school work that we'll need to be available for (child/teacher discussions, lesson learnings, etc)?

Students will be expected to spend up to a minimum of 6 hours per day (30 hours per week) on course work in order to meet state requirements for online learning, but there is flexibility on the days and times that students complete the work. It does not have to mirror the school days or times. All of the work will be all online. Teachers and students will participate in periodic virtual check-in meetings designed to support student course progress.

One of my concerns is that the online learning last spring was very basic; nothing new was introduced. We are currently working through a 5th grade to 6th grade bridge workbook and my son, who has always been a straight-A student, is obviously lacking academically in a lot of areas. I am concerned that if I choose the online option, he will get further behind the in-school students. How can I be sure that learning will be consistent across the different platforms and if I ultimately decide to have him come back in-school after one semester, what accommodations will be made to ensure that he is brought up to speed with the other students?

The virtual learning experience for the 2020-2021 school year will have a centralized learning platform called SchoolsPLP. Students will be assigned to a teacher who will help to facilitate their learning and keep them on pace. The content in the program is rigorous and aligned to Ohio state standards, the same standards as Monroe Local Schools.

- I have children in advanced courses in elementary and jr high, if I choose online learning will they still be in the advanced class/ programs?
What If the online work or in class is not challenging enough for a student, will advance work be given?
What access would online students have for gifted services?
With the remote learning option, will students already identified as gifted still receive gifted instruction through remote learning, and will they maintain that identification upon being rejoining regular classroom instruction? What about Superior Cog.?
My 8th grade children is taking high school credit class this year, if I choose online learning will they still be able to take those classes?
Honors and AP courses are offered in SchoolsPLP for 9-12 grade. If your child was registered for Spanish or Algebra 1 for their 8th grade year, then they will be able to register for the same classes. If your child is identified as gifted or superior cog, they will remain identified, but there will be no gifted services provided in the virtual learning.
- Will Spanish 2 be offered for remote learning?
Can we see the course listing for online instruction, same ole lesson and or the company that created/website?
Can my daughter resume a foreign language or ASL through this format ?
Will high school students choosing the remote learning option be able to take foreign language classes or any other elective classes specific to Monroe schools?
My freshman took Spanish And algebra as an eighth grader - will they be able to take Geometry and Spanish 2 via online classes?
Are honor level classes available online?
Online option - Lists only 4 core classes - will there be access to other classes? Some kids are on tracks that they wish to maintain, like architectural engineering.

My daughter and I really would prefer the remote learning option, however, she is in concert band. Based on the information I read, it was very unclear what was happening with high school elective classes. She is very upset about possibly not getting art, Spanish, and band. However the possibility of getting sick and getting me sick is causing her unneeded stress. I am just trying to make the best decision for her. I think if she will be able to have her electives remotely, the decision is made. But if not, we may have some additional thinking to do. Thanks so much!!!

Monroe High School Counselors will try to match the student's 2020-2021 schedule to similar courses in the SchoolsPLP platform and will work with students on selecting their courses. Here is the link to [SchoolsPLP Ohio Course Offerings](#). Monroe is still aligning our courses with the courses in SchoolsPLP. Not all courses in SchoolsPLP will be available to our students.

- Are students still able to do ccp with the remote learning?
Students who are enrolled at a university or college for CCP can continue with CCP. Participation in Monroe's dual enrollment courses is still to be determined.
- By what date do we have to decide if we're sending our child to school in person or doing remote learning? Also how long do parents have to decide if children will be homeschooled for 1st quarter as rules keep changing so often it changes the decision for parents whether to send kids or not. What are the deadlines for making a decision for fall and spring semester?
Registration for option A1 for the Fall semester will begin on July 27th and close on July 31st. Registration for the Spring semester will begin on November 2nd and will close on 7th.
- Can we start the year sending our kids so they can meet their teachers and get situated in their new grade then switch over to online learning?
If we choose in person learning but our child doesn't do well with the model. Can we pull them out for online learning?
No, you have to commit to either Virtual Learning or in person learning for a semester. After one semester you can stay or switch to the virtual learning model.
- Will the orientation for remote learning be in person?
Will the mandatory meeting for online class option be via zoom or will we have to attend in person?
The orientation meetings will be held remotely through Zoom.
- How many credits can the student earn through remote learning? Ex 2 science courses or just 5 credits max ?
We will attempt to honor the courses selected by the students last spring. However, there may be some courses that are not offered virtually. If that is the case, school counselors will be in contact with the student to make the necessary changes.
- Will this still be required for an Honors diploma?
The district will still be offering Honors diplomas for the 2020-21 school year, but it is still being determined if all requirements can be met through the Virtual Learning Academy.
- How will online learning look? Will it be similar to how the Spring was done or would it be more like 'log into each of your classes via Zoom and learn in real time'?
The district's updated remote learning plan includes that teachers use a mixture of synchronous (interactions happen in real-time, for example a Zoom session with a small group) and asynchronous (interactions are not in real-time, for example students watch a pre-recorded video) instruction.
- If we choose to keep the kids home 1st semester, can we choose to send them to school second semester if the situation changes with Covid?
Option A1 requires a one semester commitment (2 quarters). The first semester is from August through December. The second semester is from January through May. You commit by

semester so you can choose virtual learning for one semester and in-person learning for second or vice-versa.

- What/when will parents of kids with IEP/504 have to do to get those accommodations in place for online learning? What will be the process for students with a 504 plan, who are learning remotely?
There are some technology features (screen reader, enlarge) that will be available through the learning platform. Staff that will assist with this learning will know if students receive extended time and will not grade items until that additional time passes. If there are specific accommodations that you would like to know about please ask those questions at the orientation meeting. Accommodations are specific to individual students, so it is hard to provide an exhaustive list.
- What percentage of students do you anticipate utilizing online learning?
At this time roughly 10% have expressed an interest in this option.
- You mentioned 280 students voiced interest in remote learning, what percentage of the student population is that? Do you have a breakdown per school?
We have approximately 3,000 total students attending our district. The ~ 280 responses amounts to roughly 10% who indicated in the survey from late June/early July that they would be interested in a remote learning option.
MPS 36
MES 104
MJH 60
MHS 73
- Is the homeschooling option for the semester mean it's 2 full quarters they will be home? Making sure we are not interchanging the terms quarters and semesters.
Option A1 (Virtual Academy) will require a semester commitment, so two quarters. The first semester is from August through December. The second semester is from January through May.
- Are there additional costs for remote learning?
The district will be incurring the additional cost for the learning management system, but there may be a school fee for this option depending on the materials recommended for the course.
- Will my child still be assigned a homeroom teacher even if remote learning is chosen for 1st semester?
Your child will be assigned a teacher, but they would not be assigned a homeroom teacher until they attend in person.
- Will this impact my child's ability to graduate on time - will electives offered mimic the classes my child has requested?
There will be electives that will be offered in SchoolsPLP that will mirror the Monroe electives. Graduation will not be impacted.
- Will students opting into online learning be eligible for the same awards and scholarships that come from the school?
At this time students will still be eligible for scholarships based on meeting the specific criteria for those. Please be sure to review all of the criteria for any scholarships you plan to apply for because many of these are not managed by the district. Awards are to be determined.
- Also, will GPA be calculated according to MLS standards?
Yes, GPA will be calculated according to Monroe standards.

- How will grades be determined?
More guidance will be forthcoming on grades.
- If the governor declares mandatory shut down will those students in class switch to the same online model the homeschool students are doing?
No. If a building or district is shut down, a student who is in virtual learning must remain in the virtual learning path. Conversely, a student cannot transfer into the virtual learning option during the shut down period.
- You mentioned there will be teacher involvement, will it be Monroe teacher involvement or teacher involvement from the vendor? Are there teachers that will be exclusive online teachers or will they do both online and in person teaching? What does the teacher/student ratio look like for the online option? Will you have a teacher per grade level and what would the max amount of students be?

In our Virtual Academy, a Monroe teacher will support these classes. Teachers who support our virtual students could be strictly assigned to virtual learners or could be a teacher who also has a daily class in the building. Ultimately, the student-to-teacher ratio will depend on the number of students who enroll in the MLS Virtual Academy and the number of teachers available. Please understand this does not equate to a full-time teacher. Core instruction will be provided through an online platform that will be supplemented with teacher support outside of the school day.

- How will state testing be handled for virtual learning?
At this time the district has not been given guidance from the state on how testing will be handled for students that choose the Virtual Academy (Option A1). Currently all students will be required to take the state test. The district will provide details about testing once the state releases information.
- If I go with remote learning that we are still a part of the Monroe schools. I do not want to leave Monroe. Is this something I need to consider.
All students that are registered for the MLS Virtual Academy (Option A1) are still students of Monroe Local Schools.

Homeschooling:

- If we were to unenroll our child from Monroe Schools to do homeschool (rather than the remote learning option) in the fall and possibly the winter/spring semester, but re-enroll for either 2nd semester or fall of next year, would students previously identified as gifted through Monroe still get to be in gifted classes, upon re-enrolling?
Once a student has been identified gifted they are always identified gifted per the state guidance. It is the district's intention to provide services for any gifted student who enrolls during the school year in a grade where services are being provided. However, due to class sizes services could be provided in an alternate way not necessarily in the gifted cluster classroom.