



# Magnolia School District

2020-21 School Year



## **VIRTUAL OPTION: K-8 Provided by MSD Instructors** **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

### **Who will provide the student devices?**

Student devices will be provided by MSD for those who need them.

### **Who will provide internet access?**

Parents-Guardians who enroll their students in the MSD Virtual Option are responsible for providing reliable internet access for their student(s). There may be a limited number of portable hotspots available for those who qualify.

**A valid parent/guardian mail address and current phone number is also required.**

### **Is there any additional cost like tuition or fees?**

No. Beyond the possible cost of providing internet access, the MSD Virtual Option will be free to the enrollee.

### **Who will be providing the instruction for the virtual option?**

Virtual instruction K-8 (Magnolia Middle School, Central Elementary, Eastside Elementary) will be provided by a Magnolia School District Instructor certified for the grade and content being taught.

Students who enroll in the Virtual Option for K-8 will be assigned a schedule and teacher(s) as they normally would, but they will be designated as a Virtual Student on the teacher(s) roster.

Each Virtual Student will be made a member of the teacher(s) online Class Team(s) where instruction, materials, assignments, and assessments will be provided by the instructors responsible for them.

The instruction will be largely asynchronous, meaning that all virtual students will not be required to be online at the same time. However, there will be a synchronous component, meaning there will be peer-to-peer collaboration or "class" meetings through the MSD Learning Management System that follows their assigned schedule. This synchronous component will not be a requirement.

Students will have access to email support outside of normal school hours through their assigned MSD instructor. However, that support system is not staffed live, 24/7.

Virtual instruction for Magnolia High School (grades 9-12) will still be provided by the Arch Ford Educational Cooperative and will be guided by their certified/licensed instructors following Arkansas State Standards.

### [Magnolia High School Virtual Option FAQs](#)

#### **Can students switch back and forth between the virtual and the in-person/on campus options?**

Students are not “locked in” to a particular option, and Magnolia School District is committed to providing the flexibility parents/guardians/students require while also considering the concerns for instructional scheduling and planning required by MSD staff.

K-8 may return to Blended Learning (on-campus) after the first two of weeks of school.

After the first two weeks, students who wish to return to on-campus classes, must inform the counselor’s office at their student’s campus of their intent to return before doing so.

Students who begin a week enrolled in the Virtual Option will finish that week in the Virtual Option before being allowed to return at the beginning of the following week.

In other words, if on a Wednesday, a parent/guardian decides the Virtual Option is not working for their student:

- They should call the counselor’s office at their campus, request a change from Virtual to On-Site Instruction.
- The student will finish the week as a Virtual Student.
- The student will return to On-Site Learning at the beginning of the following week.

#### **How will attendance be counted in the Virtual Option?**

According to DESE commissioner’s Memo [COM-20-128](#),

A student is absent if the student is not:

1. present for onsite instruction provided by the district, or
2. participating in a planned district-approved activity, or
3. **engaged in scheduled instruction at an off-site location, including remote learning.**

#### **How will grades for Assignments be communicated to parents/guardians/students?**

The easiest way for parents to see Assignments that have been completed and graded is through the [HAC](#) system.

Since students are generally given partial credit for even minimal attempts at completing Assignments, a grade of 0 should be considered as No Attempt/Not Done.

Grades will be taken in the Virtual Option and counted toward 9-Weeks and Semester averages.

**Will preAP classes be offered?**

Yes. The 6-8 Virtual Option will provide pre-AP Courses

**Will students who require special services be included in the Virtual Option?**

Yes. All Teams created that include any student(s) with need will have as a Co-Owner of that Team an MSD teacher who specializes in the modifications necessary for those students.

**When is the deadline for the virtual option?**

Midnight, August 9, 2020 is the deadline. This will allow for student placement and administrative planning. A new enrollment period will be opened after the second week of school.

**If a student chooses to participate in the Virtual School option, are they still eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities?**

Yes.

Students who have chosen to enroll in the Virtual Option through Magnolia School District, are regularly attending the required off-school-hours practices and activities in person and otherwise meet all other eligibility requirements, will be eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities.

**Will school lunches be provided for students enrolled in the MSD Virtual Option?**

We are currently working on this issue and will provide information regarding this as soon as possible.