

Student Return To Learn Frequently Asked Questions *(updated 8/24/2020)*

1. *How do I make sure I'm not absent in advisory. I can't connect to the google meeting.*

Reach out to your teacher for instructions on how to connect to the google meeting. Most classroom teachers have an Advisory Google Classroom set up in which a student would need the class code to join.

2. *When can I pick up supplies that I need?*

As of right now we will be utilizing Wednesdays for student pick-up / drop-off instructional materials. Students should continue to check emails, the IC portal, and any voicemail messages for future student pick-up / drop-off of materials.

3. *Will all finals be taken online?*

At this time no discussions have taken place as to whether there will be formal final exams this school year. Once that has been determined, this will be communicated to students.

4. *Will all tests be taken online?*

This is at the discretion of the teacher. Tests may or may not be taken online.

5. *Will there at any point be classes that are taken outside for in person learning?*

Yes, at the discretion of the teacher.

6. *How do we mark our attendance when we are on online learning days?*

Students are not submitting a Google form for attendance this school year like they did in the Spring of 2020 when we were remote. All student attendance will be recorded in Infinite Campus by the Teacher, which means students must be on time to their classes and synchronous with their teacher and classmates via the Google meeting link.

7. *Many teachers don't like food in their classrooms. If breakfast is grab and go, where should we eat?*

Teachers are aware of the requirement to have students grab-and-go for breakfast before school, and they have been instructed to allow students to eat breakfast in the classrooms first thing in the morning.

8. *Where do athletes store their gear since locker rooms are closed and items don't fit in my locker?*

Room 1401, which is the old computer lab attached to the media center, is now being used for storage of some larger items. The door will be unlocked and students can put their larger equipment in there. This is for fall sports only. If the door is locked, please see Mr. Wright in the Athletic/Activities Office in the commons for assistance.

9. *How is the e learning going to work? Do we have to do zoom calls for every class? and also do I attend e learning everyday?*

All students should be in attendance every day, regardless of whether or not a student is face-to-face and onsite, or remote and at home. The only exceptions to this may be on a Wednesday in which your teacher may indicate that you are to be working on an assignment, activity, and/or assessment that does not require a student to be synchronous and check in for attendance. (See below for exceptions for Regular Study Hall.)

10. *How will gym work for the students who chose to do e learning all year?*

(Zero Hour: Students will be screened for COVID symptoms and temperatures each morning before class starts by their classroom teacher, while all other students will be screened upon entry into the building in the morning.)

PE: Students will be asked to be on time, virtually or physically, everyday except Wednesdays. Google Classroom and Google Meet will be the learning management system used to give instruction, take attendance, and distribute assignments. Students will be given a code or sent an invite from his/her instructor. Students who are in Group A and B will be asked to participate in moderate physical activity within their class period, even though the use of the locker room is not permitted at this time. All ISBE guidelines will be followed in regards to equipment use and cleaning. Questions may be directed to your child's instructor through email.

Fit for Life PE: dobbertinm@mchs154.org
PE for Athletes: forsythep@mchs154.org
Zero Hour Gen Ed PE: halversong@mchs154.org
General Education PE (1st-8th): robinsonj@mchs154.org

11. *Is this wearing mask thing going to last the whole school year?*

We are unsure how long the requirement to wear a mask will be. Current guidelines require that masks must be worn by all people at all times in the school building, even when social distancing, unless they have a contraindication to wearing a mask and have filed a medical exemption form with our school nurse. Masks may be removed while eating and during band.

12. *Why can't we just wear masks and have everyone go back to school normally. In all honesty i feel like the whole mask thing is just gonna prolong how long this thing goes on.*

(see above)...and...all guidelines and procedures put into place in addition to the mask requirements are from the Illinois School Board of Education (ISBE), the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), the McHenry County Department of Public Health (MCDH), or the Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

13. *When will things be normal?*

Until such time that the ISBE, IDPH, MCDH, and CDC deem it is unnecessary to facilitate school with the guidelines and restrictions we currently have in place, we will be required to adhere to those currently in place, and be required to add others should guidance deem it necessary. Current guidance is defining Phase 5 in Illinois as “either a vaccine is developed to prevent additional spread of COVID-19, a treatment option is readily available that ensures the health care capacity is no longer a concern, or there are no new cases over a sustained period.”

14. *If I have an independent study, do I have to sign in for that?*

Students with independent study should contact their supervising teacher for required expectations for student check-in and attendance. Since the nature of an independent study is student-driven, more often than not, an independent study will be asynchronous with the classroom teacher which would mean daily google meets are likely not required.

15. *Can you clarify excused and unexcused absences for people that are remote?*

Excused and unexcused absences will be recorded the same as any other school year. If you are ill and will not be in attendance, either in-person or remotely, your parent must contact Mrs. Seemann at 815-568-6511 x1302 to report your absence and the specific symptom(s) which you are experiencing so that we may monitor illness trends and report to the MCDH. Please be reminded according to Section 26.2A of the Illinois School Code, the only legal reasons why a child may be excused for being absent from school are: illness, funeral, observance of a religious holiday, family emergency, or circumstances which cause reasonable concern to the parent or guardian for the safety or health of the student. If you are feeling ill, it is imperative that you stay home from school. Students who are ill but still able to participate in remote learning are highly encouraged to do so to ensure continuity in their education.

16. *How long do you think we will doing A group and B group?*

Until such time that the ISBE, IDPH, MCDH, and CDC deem it is unnecessary to facilitate school with the guidelines and restrictions we currently have in place, we will be required to adhere to those currently in place, and be required to add others should guidance change over time.

17. *Will attendance be taken at lunch and study halls? If so, how, there are no google classrooms for those... I am a remote learner.*

Yes, attendance will be taken at lunchtime for all students when face-to-face and onsite at MCHS in case we are required to do any contact tracing. See below for attendance requirements for study hall.

18. *What does C group do for study halls?*

For remote students there is no requirement for students to connect virtually for attendance during a regular study hall, UNLESS the teacher recognizes that the student could benefit from using their time more wisely and the student is academically at-risk; for those students who are remote and enrolled in an intervention study hall (ie Assisted Study Hall, Resource Study Skills or Numeracy), then remote attendance is required.

19. *Does the C group that's last name starts with an L-Z only do online school Wednesday, Thursday and Friday?*

Any student whose parent/guardian requested an all remote learning environment was reassigned to blended learning group “C.” This means that you are expected to be learning remotely Monday-Friday for the first semester.

20. How do I show that I am present to check myself in for school?

Students will be required to attend remotely by being synchronous for every class period by connecting to their teacher’s google meeting link. Listen for specific instructions from your teachers as to whether or not you are synchronous or asynchronous for your classes. Students who are required to be synchronous on a Wednesday will be required to check in for student attendance and will be marked absent if not present and engaged in the class. If your teacher has indicated that your class is asynchronous on Wednesday, you are not required to check-in for attendance purposes.

21. If we didn't get our books Wednesday, when can we get them?

As of right now we will be utilizing Wednesdays for student pick-up / drop-off instructional materials. Due to the vast quantity of materials collected this past week, we will be sending notice to students Tuesday, August 18th that any instructional materials and textbooks collected will be delivered to students’ homes on Wednesday, August 19th during regular school hours. Students should continue to check emails, the IC portal, and any voicemail messages for future student pick-up / drop-off of materials.