



Montgomery Township School District Virtual Instruction Model

Board of Education Meeting August 25, 2020

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Superintendent



Upcoming Building Meetings

Family Orientation Sessions:

- UMS: August 27 - 6:00 pm
- MHS: August 31 - 6:00 pm
- LMS: Sept 1 - 5:30 pm (5th G)
and 7:00 pm (6th G)
- OHES: Sept 2 - 6:00 pm
- VES: Sept 3 - 6:00 pm

Back to School Nights:

- LMS: September 30
- UMS: October 1
- OHES: October 5
- MHS: October 6
- VES: October 7



Virtual Instruction Definitions

Term	Definition	Notes
Synchronous	Synchronous learning is used to describe learning experiences happening simultaneously.	MTSD will be running a synchronous school day by expecting all students to be attending classes at the same time.
Asynchronous	Asynchronous learning is the idea that students learn the same material at different times and locations.	Digital learning platforms, such as Raz-Kids, Dreambox, and Headsprout will be used asynchronously to enhance K-4 instruction.
Remote or Virtual Learning	Remote or virtual learning occurs when the students and the instructors cannot be in the same location and therefore leverage technology to allow the student to access learning materials, learning experiences, and additional resources through the internet.	<i>Remote Learning</i> and <i>Virtual Learning</i> can be used interchangeably.



Virtual Instruction Definitions

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Pre-Recorded Lessons	Pre-recorded lessons refer to videos created by our own teachers to compliment our curriculum. By pre-recording lessons, teachers free themselves up to meet with students individually and in small groups to personalize instruction. Pre-recorded lessons can also be accessed by students throughout the entire unit.	Teacher teams work together to distribute the workload of pre-recording classroom lessons. Your student may experience a video created by another Montgomery teacher.
High-Quality, Commercially Produced Videos	Montgomery Township subscribes to a video streaming platform, <i>Safari Montage</i> , that contains thousands of videos from reputable educational companies (<i>History Channel</i> , <i>PBS</i> , <i>Scientific America</i> , etc.). Additionally, many of our textbook companies provide digital resources to enhance classroom instruction.	Although a teacher may occasionally utilize a YouTube video to complement instruction, teachers are likely to utilize professionally produced video content to enhance remote instruction.



Virtual Instruction Definitions

Term	Definition	Notes
Live Streaming	Live streaming refers to the ability to capture the entire classroom space, teacher instruction, and in class student responses.	Montgomery teachers will be providing live instruction through voice and video platforms, but will not be live streaming a synchronous classroom.
Live Instruction	Live instruction refers to the utilization of voice video platforms such as Zoom and Google Meet in order for students and teachers to connect with each other to deepen understanding, reteach, and/or extend learning.	Students at all grade levels will experience live instruction multiple times a day during remote learning.
Interactive Platforms	Interactive platforms are digital tools that increase the ability for students to interact with each other and their teachers online.	Tools like <i>Flipgrid</i> and <i>PearDeck</i> allow teachers to create online discussion forums and interactive teacher presentations.



Why are we choosing live instruction?

- The instructional methods used in a typical in-person classroom are not the same instructional methods needed in a virtual learning environment.
 - Teachers will use pre-recorded and professional educational videos to assist students learning new content.
 - Teachers will use Zoom/Google Meet to engage with the entire class and small groups to extend the learning everyday.



How often will my student Zoom/Google Meet with their teachers?

- All classes in grades 5-12 will begin in a Zoom/Google Meet daily:
 - Take attendance
 - Provide directions and expectations for the daily learning path
 - Answer questions
 - Teach a mini-lesson
- Teachers will utilize the remaining class time to conduct additional meetings with small groups or to conference with individual students.



How often will my student Zoom/Google Meet with their teachers?

- PK-4 teachers will:
 - Start each day in a whole class meeting combining both SEL and academic routines.
 - Communicate the day's learning path that includes the time for when Google Meets will occur to transition from subject to subject throughout the day (Reading, Writing, Math).
 - Invite individuals and small groups to additional Google Meets for personalized instruction.



What are interactive platforms?

The district has purchased subscriptions to digital tools that enhance the remote learning experience:

- **Flipgrid** (K-12) - video-based platform used for asynchronous class discussions, book clubs, performance critiques, and sharing student work.
- **Padlet** (K-12) - digital bulletin board used for sharing ideas and student work.
- **PearDeck** (3-12) - Interactive presentation tool which allows all students to simultaneously respond to questions throughout a teacher lesson.
- **EdPuzzle** (K-12) - Allows teachers to add teacher voice notes and/or teacher questions to a teacher created or YouTube video to check for understanding.



What are digital learning platforms?

Digital learning platforms provide instruction and allow students to digitally practice skills while collecting ongoing data (assessment) on student progress.

This data is used by the teacher to form small strategy groups to individualize instruction based on students needs.

- Dreambox (K-4 Math), Raz-Kids (K-4 Reading), Newsela (5-8 Reading), Khan Academy (6-8 Math), Envision (4-6 Math), Headsprout (K-2 Phonics)



Will my student be on a screen all day?

Teachers will be working to create an authentic learning experience in which students will meet with them online for direct instruction and be assigned group work and independent practice. Teachers will meet with individuals and small groups regularly.

Due to the nature of remote learning, many assignments will require students to work online. However, K-4 teachers will work very hard to create an online-offline balance.



Additional Information

- Attendance will be taken each day
- All students will have a full day of learning
- K-8 will follow their school's start and end times
- MHS will follow a revised school time of 8:00-2:30
- All related arts/electives will occur during the scheduled day



Questions?

Thank you!