

MFL MarMac 2021-22 Return to Learn Plan
As Required by the Iowa Department of Education
700 South Page
Monona, IA 52159

Thank you Bulldogs and welcome to the 2021-22 school year! The plan, put very simply, is to have school in-person all year to the degree possible. Even though we are hopeful that COVID-19 will not be the force that it has been in the past, we still are required to have a Return to Learn Plan, and I support that requirement. The following plan is provided with your needs in mind. This plan is open for input, and please feel free to email me with any questions at dale.crozier@mflmm.k12.ia.us

Dale Crozier, Superintendent

Overview

- A. **Our objective is to put students first in our decisions**, with both physical and the social-emotional health being weighed. This plan is tentative, and it is subject to change. We will follow the guidelines of the DE and IDPH as we move forward, as well as collaborating with Clayton County Health personnel to ensure a safe and healthy learning environment.
- B. **We will have On-Site Instruction until or unless advised or instructed otherwise by the state.** There will be no mask requirement at this time. If anyone chooses to wear a mask, they may, and we will enforce the right to wear them free of questions from staff and students. There will not be a virtual option at this time, unless otherwise guided by the state. The only exception to this rule is that we may have some virtual snow days after Christmas. There is still pending legislation on this issue, and we will determine that solution later.
 - 1. Although there will not be a virtual option, teachers may utilize various forms of technology in the delivery of instruction that may include recorded videos, school email, teleconference methods, and other normal and acceptable modes of instruction.
 - 2. There may be rare cases as identified in an Individual Educational Plan (IEP), where a student may be “home bound” for a period of time. This is a different situation than virtual learning, and in these situations, we will follow the IEP.
- C. We plan to start school on August 23rd and go five days a week all year as stated in the school calendar approved last spring, unless otherwise recommended or directed by the state, in which we will reevaluate the situation at that time.

- D. MFL MarMac will continue to integrate two Learning Management Systems as vehicles to help us continue providing quality learning outcomes to meet our ever-changing needs. A Learning Management System (LMS) is a virtual hub (website) where students can access their classroom content and materials, calendar information, educational resources and collaborate with their teachers. Additionally, having an LMS makes learning more streamlined and organized as it allows teachers to manage content, record and measure learning, store student data and more easily communicate with their students. We will be utilizing our Learning Management Systems throughout the school year. Our Learning Management Systems will continue to be Seesaw for grades Pk-5, and Canvas for grades 6-12.

- E. In the event that school is disrupted via outside circumstances including a reoccurrence of the pandemic, we will follow the Iowa Department of Education and the Iowa Department of Public Health. If this were to occur, we may return to virtual (continuous learning) or hybrid learning (a combination of continuous learning and on-site instruction). If this situation were to occur, we will continue with student learning, as well as provide for the social and emotional needs of students with on and off-site mental health services, as well as food and lunch services.

Options in our Plan if Current Circumstances Change

A. Understanding “Current Circumstances”

This plan is presented “under the current circumstances”, which are currently favorable to have on-site learning. This could change depending on state recommendations and mandates. We have every intention of serving our students and putting their needs first in our decisions. We are concerned with safety, which includes physical safety, and the social-emotional needs of our children and our families.

B. On-Site Learning, and other options if we are advised or mandated differently by the state, in which we will reevaluate at that time:

: ON-SITE LEARNING: On-Site Learning is in-person classroom learning. **We are planning to have On-Site Learning 100% of the time all year, unless advised or mandated differently by the state,** in which we will reevaluate at that time. There will be a continued emphasis on social-emotional outcomes and making sure that everyone is physically and mentally well. There will not be procedures put in place to provide social distancing unless there is a change in state guidelines and mandates, in which we will reevaluate the situation at that time. There will not be a mask mandate unless there is a change in the state guidelines and mandates, in which we will reevaluate the situation at that time.

: CONTINUOUS LEARNING (Virtual) IF NEEDED: We are **NOT** planning to have Continuous Learning (Virtual) unless we are recommended or required to by the state, in which we will reevaluate it at that time. Continuous Learning means that our students will learn from home via online programming, packet learning or some of both. This learning can occur with direct interaction between the teacher and student, (synchronous learning), which might be a Zoom or a phone conference. This learning can also occur between the teacher and student at different times (asynchronous learning), such as a recorded (flipped) video stored on a Learning Management System (LMS), which will be Seesaw for grades Pk-5, and Canvas for grades 9-12. We will have established times for student-teacher interaction, and attendance will be taken.

: **HYBRID LEARNING IF NEEDED:** We are **NOT** planning to have Hybrid Learning unless we are recommended or required to by the state, in which we will reevaluate it at that time. Hybrid learning is a combination of On-Site and Continuous Learning. Hybrid Learning also occurs when we deliberately schedule some On-Site Learning days in school and some Continuous Learning days not in school.

OTHER ITEMS OF IMPORTANCE

A. Masks

Students will **not** be required to wear masks unless the recommendations and mandates from the Iowa Department of Education change, and they could change. However, if anyone chooses to wear a mask, they may do so. Also, we will instruct and encourage all students to respect those who choose to wear a mask. We all need to respect the mask situation and demonstrate tolerance.

B. COVID Screening

Our nursing staff will coordinate appropriate screening for COVID-19, that is relevant to the current recommendations and mandates from the DE and IDPH. We are asking parents/guardians (or childcare providers) to be watchful of COVID-19 symptoms with your children. The following is a review from last year.

COVID-19 Screening Questions:

Is my child exhibiting any of the symptoms below?

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

C. Quarantines: Quarantines for those sick with COVID-19 or showing symptoms of COVID-19 are still in effect and they will be managed in accordance with the IDPH and the DE current rules at the time. The nursing staff will manage this.

D. Breakfast and Lunch will continue to be free until there is further notice from the state. If we become in an extended Continuous Learning Situation (for example if the Governor would shut all schools for a period of time), we will go back to delivering meals as we have done in the past.

E. Cleanliness: Our school will be sanitized and cleaned daily, and we will continue with some of the practices that we adhered to during the height of the pandemic last winter. We will continue to use sanitary supplies to the degree necessary. We continue to encourage the frequent washing of hands, as well as the practice of good hygiene.

- F. **Social-Emotional Learning** will continue to be infused into daily interaction with teachers. Each teacher will be engaging with students on both social-emotional as well as academic wellness and health daily. We will involve our area hospitals and local agencies. It is our goal that each student will have at least one adult to connect with.

- G. Thank you, and at the end-of-the-day, our overall goal is to meet and honor the needs of all students.