

2020-21 School Year Information Frequently Asked Questions - Families

School Schedule	
What is a Hybrid Schedule?	The hybrid schedule involves both in-person learning and remote learning. The primary reason to implement a hybrid schedule is to lessen the number of students who are in the building at one time.
Why is Holmes scheduled to go in-person for full days, but Westview and Maercker are scheduled for in-person for half day?	Due to COVID-19, schools can resume in-person instruction after making significant changes including social distancing, wearing face coverings, and reducing capacity. Holmes School has the classroom capacity to provide appropriate social distancing for all students. Maercker and Westview Hills do not have the classroom space to provide appropriate social distancing for all students to return at once. The hybrid half day schedule at Maercker and Westview allows for 50% of our population to return to a building/classroom at one time. The second half of the day will include remote learning.
	A second factor involves the age and unique learning needs of students in EC-2nd grade. Remote learning is much more challenging for younger students and parents. Maximizing in-person learning at this age will help build the strong foundation that students need to be successful learners in subsequent years.
Why did the district decide on an AM/PM hybrid schedule for grades 3-8 instead of an alternating day hybrid schedule.	The primary reason we chose the AM/PM schedule was to have daily teacher contact time with students. In an alternating day schedule, students are completely on their own every other day because teachers are working with the second group of students.
	The AM/PM schedule allows each child to receive daily-person instruction in ELA, math, social studies and science from their teacher. It then allows for PE and electives/specials to occur remotely. The alternating day schedule requires parents to assume a full teaching load with no teacher assistance on the remote day.
How will students be assigned to the AM or PM in-person schedule?	Student assignment will be made by last name, with exceptions made for special circumstances, accelerated class placement or other unique learning needs. Students with a last name starting with A-K will be assigned to in-person learning for the AM session. Students with a last name starting with L-Z will be assigned to in-person learning in the PM session.
Is there a remote option for families that do not want to return to in-person learning?	Yes. For the 2020-21 school year, the district will offer a fully Online Academy for students in kindergarten through eighth grade. For students in kindergarten through fifth grade, district staff will provide an Online Academy through synchronous and asynchronous learning. For students in sixth through eighth grades students will receive all of their instruction through an online learning system.
	Families that choose the Online Academy will be asked to commit for at least one trimester.
Is Remote Learning still a possibility for all students?	Yes. The entire district may have to convert to a fully remote teaching and learning environment if the state mandates it, or if health conditions in our community require the suspension of in-person learning.

How will families choose between the hybrid in-person and online academy options?	After the Board of Education approves our plan, families will be required to go into Skyward Family Access to choose whether they will participate in hybrid in-person or the online academy. Families will also indicate whether they still require bus service. Families will receive an email after the board meeting inviting them to login and make their choice.
	Families can make different choices for different children in the family. For example, one student can participate in the online academy while another participates in the hybrid in-person model.
What if my family chooses a particular option and then wants to switch after the year begins?	We will be devising a staffing plan based on the choices families make, and it may not be possible to deviate from that once the year begins. Families will need to make a commitment for the trimester.
What are the school hours if I choose the online academy option?	The hours will be the same as the in-person schedule for grades K-5. Grades 6-8 students have the opportunity to be more self directed in their schedule.
What will the online academy look like?	D60 staff will facilitate the learning for students in grades K-5. The school hours will be the same as those students attending in-person. The daily schedule will include both live instruction and independent learning activities.
	Students in grades 6-8 will receive instruction through <u>Edgenuity</u> . D60 teachers will customize the units and lessons of instruction to align with D60's core course curriculum. Electives and PE will also be offered. District staff will assign the courses, and monitor completion. A chat feature allows students to connect with a live Edgenuity instructor seven days a week. The tutor has the capability to demonstrate instructional concepts to provide clarity.
What if I choose the hybrid in-person and the district has to transition to remote learning for all students?	Students choosing the hybrid in-person model will keep the same D60 teacher(s) if the district has to transition to full remote learning for all. Students who choose the online academy will stay with those teachers if the district transitions to full remote learning.
What will the class sizes be for in-person learning?	The exact class sizes won't be known until every family makes a choice between in-person learning or the online academy. However, we anticipate class sizes at Holmes to range from 13-15 students; and at Maercker and Westview to range from 10-12 students. As of right now, all classes will be held in regular classrooms; there is no need to use non-traditional spaces.
How will services be delivered for students with IEPs or 504s?	School teams will collaborate with parents/guardians to determine the appropriate service delivery model. Supports and accommodations will be provided both in-person and virtually.
	Due to social distancing guidelines, IEP and 504 meetings will continue to be held virtually.
Health Issues	
How does the district plan to assess students for temperature and symptoms every day?	All students, staff and visitors must self-certify that they are free of a fever and COVID symptoms before they are allowed to enter the building.
	Staff will complete individually for themselves, while families will certify for each student. The questionnaire will ask what the individual's temperature is and whether or not they experienced any specific COVID-19 symptoms. The exact format for submitting verification of symptoms (ex: technology platform, paper, etc.) is still being developed. Random symptom checks will occur within the school after staff and students have arrived.

What happens when a student/staff member tests positive.	Any person testing positive for COVID-19 must quarantine for 10 days and alert their health care provider. Anyone with a positive test must check in with school staff before returning to school.
	DuPage County Health Department Quarantine vs. Isolation
What are the notification procedures when a student or staff member tests positive.	We built our plan around ensuring that 6 feet of social distancing is used to determine classroom capacity. This is why Maercker and Westview will be using the hybrid schedule - both schools do not have enough classroom space to ensure proper social distancing. The wearing of a face covering and maintaining 6 foot of social distancing is the gold standard recommended by health officials to lessen the likelihood of infection. We will send a notification to any individual who spent more than 15 minutes within 6 feet of anyone testing positive for COVID-19.
What is the protocol for staff or students who show symptoms or test positive for Covid? What about family members?	Any staff member or student who shows symptoms of COVID-19 while at school will be immediately quarantined in a separate area until they can safely exit the building. Anyone with symptoms will be required to check in with school staff before returning to school.
Will the school district provide masks?	The district will provide two cloth masks to each student and staff member. The district will also provide a temporary mask for students who arrive at school without a mask.
What if I do not want my child to wear a face covering.	Face coverings are required by the State of Illinois. Every person(staff, students, visitors) must wear a face covering at all times when they are inside a school building. Students that cannot adhere to the in-person learning requirements will be required to enroll in the online academy.
What happens if I choose the hybrid in-person return and have to quarantine for 14 days?	If a student is unable to attend school for a period of time, the specific circumstances will be considered to determine if the student is to join the Online Academy, or if work is sent home from the in-person teacher.
Facility Cleanliness	
How will the building be cleaned? How will we make sure children are safe from too much chemical exposure?	All areas of the school will be cleaned daily, with particular focus on high-touch items (ex: desks, chairs, doors, handrails, bathrooms, etc.). D60 will clean and disinfect with EPA-approved disinfectant. We also follow all CDC and IDPH guidelines for cleaning. Classroom doors will be left open to allow for more air flow and eliminate additional touching of door handles. Every classroom will be equipped with hand sanitizer, which all students must
	use when entering the class. In addition, students will spray every desk after the class period ends before leaving. Then, after the disinfectant has time to activate, students from the next class period will wipe the desks using paper towels before using the desks.
	Restrooms will be cleaned more frequently on a rotating basis throughout the day.
	The maintenance staff will introduce more fresh, outdoor air into each building. Air filters on HVAC equipment will be changed more frequently.
Food Service	
Will students in grades 3-8 still have access to meals	Yes, students will have access to grab and go meals when leaving school each day. On the first day of school, students attending in the am session should be

	sure to eat breakfast before coming to school. Breakfast for the next day will be sent home.
Transportation	
How will busing work?	Bus transportation will still be provided. Bus capacity is limited to 50 people by state mandate. Bus routes will be designed with the goal of having one student per seat, but that may not always be possible. Assigned seating will be used when possible to ensure appropriate social distancing. If there are siblings on a bus, they will be assigned a seat together. Every person on the bus must wear a face covering at all times.
How will the buses be cleaned?	Buses will be cleaned after students disembark and will be disinfected using an electro-static spray disinfectant in between routes and at the end of the day.
Are students still allowed to walk and/or ride a bike to school?	Yes, students can still walk and ride bikes to school.
I already paid for bus service but have since changed my mind and will drive my kids to school. Can I get a refund?	Yes, full refunds will be provided for any family not electing to utilize bus service. Families will receive a communication after the board meeting asking them to choose between hybrid in-person or the online academy. Families will also be asked whether they still intend to utilize bus service. Refunds will be processed in August for any family that changes its mind about bus service.
Day to Day Issues	
How will building specific needs be decided on since all three buildings are unique?	Once the 2020-21 plan is approved through a resolution by the Board of Education, School Building Leadership Teams (BLT's) will meet to address school specific needs. There are many ways school teams can customize the student experience and day, and those decisions will be made at the school BLT level.
Can teachers decide to take their classes outside for teaching anytime if the weather is ok?	Yes, each BLT can address how this might look at each school.
What is the status of student activities and athletics?	All fall sports are canceled. Our athletic conference will continue to evaluate this on a season by season basis. There will be no in-person activities held. There is the possibility of holding activities remotely. Activity sponsors will share more information after the school year has begun.
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