



Marietta City Schools Flexible Approach to Teaching and Learning Phase IV – Marietta High School

The MCS “Flexible Approach to Teaching and Learning” will be guided by public health data and our ability to implement critical safety protocols. We will begin Phase IV, which provides an option for in-person learning to all students in grades PreK-12, on Monday, November 9. During all phases, students who are eligible for in-person learning may choose to remain in virtual learning.

As we transition through each phase, we will be guided by specific factors that consider both community transmission and school-based staffing and mitigation strategies.

MCS Factors for Each Phase:

- Risk Mitigation Strategies: Ability to successfully execute each of the daily risk mitigation strategies outlined in this document, which align to CDC guidelines for safely reopening schools
- Staffing: Ability to staff required positions for teaching and school operations

Public Health Considerations for Each Phase:

- Transmission Data: Case rate per 100,000 people in Cobb County (as determined by Georgia Department of Public Health and Cobb & Douglas Public Health)
- COVID-19 Testing: Timely access to testing and results
- Contact Tracing/Case Investigation: Ability to quickly notify individuals who may have come in contact with person who has tested positive for COVID-19 or is showing symptoms of COVID-19

My hope is that each of you can see and feel our unwavering commitment both to your child’s learning and the safety of all students and staff.

In this together,
Grant

Grant Rivera
Superintendent

Flexible Approach to Teaching & Learning

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PHASE I	PHASE II	PHASE III	PHASE IV
<p>Grades PreK-2 2 days per week in-person</p> <p>Grades 3-12 virtual learning</p> <p>Special Education Grades K-5 (low-incidence classes) 2 days per week in-person</p>	<p>Grades PreK-5 4 days per week in-person</p> <p>Grades 6-12 virtual learning</p> <p>Special Education Grades K-12 (low-incidence classes) 4 days per week in-person</p>	<p>Grades PreK-5 4 days per week in-person</p> <p>Grades 6-8 4 days per week in-person</p> <p>Grades 9-12 virtual learning</p> <p>Special Education Grades K-12 (low-incidence classes) 4 days per week in-person</p>	<p>Grades PreK-5 4 days per week in-person</p> <p>Grades 6-12 4 days per week in-person</p> <p>Special Education Grades K-12 (low-incidence classes) 4 days per week in-person</p>

PHASE V

Grades PK-12
5 days per week in-person

Transition to Phase V will be dependent on the level of community transmission within the "minimal to moderate" range (6-100 people per 100,000 people). Transmission data is defined as 14-day case rate (date of onset) per 100,000 people in Cobb County (as determined by Georgia Department of Public Health and Cobb & Douglas Public Health).

Special education low-incidence classes: Autism, Mild Intellectual Disabilities, Moderate Disabilities, and Severe and Profound Disabilities.

In each phase, students eligible for in-person learning may choose to remain in full virtual learning.

For Phases II - IV, in-person learning days will be Monday-Thursday; Fridays will remain a virtual learning day for all students.

Phase IV
Projected Date – Monday, November 9, 2020

In-person Learning: Students Grades PreK-12

Phase IV in-person learning is offered to all students in grades PreK-12
Students have the option to attend in-person four full days per week (Monday through Thursday).
Fridays will remain virtual learning days for in-person students.
All students and staff must follow the safety protocols (see below for details) during in-person learning.

Phase IV – In-person Safety Protocols

Collective Responsibility

Any return to in-person learning requires collective responsibility for every MCS family. Failure to do such significantly compromises the health and safety of all students and staff. It is imperative, now more than ever, that families do not send their sick child to school out of convenience or medicate the child before school in order to reduce a fever. We all share a collective responsibility to monitor our child and do the right thing.

Daily Self-Check

Each student and staff member will be required to conduct a daily self-check before coming to school. This self-check includes taking a temperature and reviewing the following questions:

If the answer to any of these questions is yes, stay home and contact your school's nurse.

- Take your temperature. Do you have a **fever** (temperature at or above 100.4°F or 38°C) without having taken any fever-reducing medications?
- Do you have a **loss of smell or taste**?
- Do you have a **cough**?
- Do you have **muscle aches**?
- Do you have a **sore throat**?
- Do you have **congestion or a runny nose**?
- Do you have **shortness of breath**?
- Do you have **chills**?
- Do you have a **headache**?
- Have you experienced the new onset of any **gastrointestinal symptoms** such as nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, or loss of appetite in the last few days?
- Have you, or anyone you have been in close contact with, been **diagnosed with COVID-19 or placed in quarantine** for possible exposure to COVID-19 within the last two weeks?
- Have you been **asked to self-isolate or quarantine** by a medical professional or a local public health official in the last two weeks?

Self-Quarantine Due to Close Contact of a Person Who Has Tested Positive for COVID-19 (With or Without Symptoms)

Any student or staff member (with or without symptoms) who is identified as a close contact of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to self-quarantine at home for a period of 14 days from the date of last exposure. Close contact is defined as being within 6 feet of a person with COVID-19 for at least 15 minutes.

Students and staff who have symptoms must be symptom-free for at least 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication) before returning to school or work (even if the 14-day quarantine period has ended).

Please contact Cindy Davis, Executive Secretary for the Department of Special Services, by email (cindydavis@marietta-city.org) or phone (678-695-7238) for DPH guidelines regarding the appropriate timeline to take a COVID-19 test.

Any student who is required to self-quarantine (and subsequently be absent from school) can continue school through virtual learning, if the child and family so desire.

NOTE: This information is continually being updated by DPH and CDPH. We will provide revised guidelines as needed. Flowcharts showing these steps are found at www.marietta-city.org/reopening.

Self-Isolation Due to Positive COVID-19 Test

Any student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19 (with or without symptoms) will be required to self-isolate and be absent from school or work for 10 days.

If students or staff are symptomatic: the period of self-isolation is 10 days from the date of symptom onset; students and staff who have symptoms must be symptom-free for at least 24 hours (without fever-reducing medication) and symptoms must have improved before returning to school or work.

If students or staff are asymptomatic: the period of self-isolation is 10 days from the positive test.

If you have tested positive, please contact Cindy Davis, Executive Secretary for the Department of Special Services, by email (cindydavis@marietta-city.org) or phone (678-695-7238) for additional guidance.

NOTE: This information is continually being updated by DPH and CDPH. We will provide revised guidelines as needed. Flowcharts showing these steps are found at www.marietta-city.org/reopening.

Contact Tracing

MCS will be using local school staff to support public health officials in contact tracing. This process will include identification of and notification to any person (student or staff) who was in close contact within the last 48 hours of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19. Close contact is considered less than six feet apart for at least 15 minutes.

Face Coverings (Masks/Shields)

MCS will require all staff, students, and visitors to wear a face covering while in MCS school and district buildings and on MCS school buses. Exceptions will be made for medical reasons and to accommodate eating and drinking, outdoor activities, and independent work in personal office spaces where physical distancing can be maintained. Please contact your school's nurse regarding a mask medical exemption. We acknowledge the

importance of providing opportunities (socially distanced and not indoors) for students and staff to periodically remove their face covering. Teachers will create as many opportunities for these breaks as possible. For more information about face coverings, please review [our MCS Mask Guide](#).

Return to School Verification

Please see the previous sections regarding self-quarantine and self-isolation for specific criteria. Students and staff must be symptom-free before returning to school or work. Any student who is required to self-quarantine or self-isolate (and subsequently be absent from school) can continue school through virtual learning, if the child and family so desire.

Classroom Protocols

Class size for in-person learning will be limited as possible given enrollment numbers. To provide the greatest degree of social distancing and safety protocols, teachers will adhere to the following classroom guidelines:

- Separate student desks.
- Limit sharing of supplies, books, materials, etc.; any sharing requires disinfecting prior to passing from one student to another.
- Hand sanitizer and disinfecting spray available in each classroom.
- Increased opportunities (weather and space permitting) for students to go outside.
- Use of disposable bathroom/hall passes.

Student Desk Partitions

Each student and teacher desk will be provided a clear desk partition.



School Meals (Breakfast/Lunch)

For high schools students, breakfast will be grab-and-go from multiple locations throughout MHS. Lunch will be served from the main Cafeteria and from Cafeteria B (Seminar Room). Specific classrooms will be assigned to each lunch location. Seniors are also able to eat outside in the Senior Courtyard; other students may eat outside on the Terrace Deck (J207) in J Hall, but capacity is limited.

Outdoor Activities

Teachers will seek frequent and creative opportunities to allow students to go outside during the school day. Students will be able to use these breaks to remove their face covering/mask while remaining socially distanced.

School Signage

Age- and developmentally appropriate signage will be placed throughout each school to remind students of personal hygiene (hand washing, coughing into arm, etc.) and social distancing from others. Additionally, signage will be used to create one-way directional walk patterns in some areas of buildings.

School Cleaning and Disinfecting

Throughout the school day, extra custodial staff will be provided to each school to further disinfect high-touch areas. Additionally, classrooms, hallways, and common areas will be fogged and disinfected each night.

Phase IV – School Bus Transportation Safety Protocols**Grace and Understanding**

We kindly ask that families extend to us a degree of grace and understanding during the return to in-person learning. In the morning routes, it is possible that buses may be delayed in arriving to bus stops or schools as we navigate through the new protocols and increased car rider traffic. Families are encouraged to download the [Marietta City Schools Traversa Ride 360 App](#) to monitor the current location and arrival time of their assigned school bus (based on GPS tracking).

Bus Windows

In an effort to increase ventilation on the bus, bus windows may be opened (weather permitting) while students are on the school bus.

Social Distancing

To the greatest degree possible, students will be socially distanced and placed in assigned seats on the school bus.

Bus Assignment

To maintain social distancing and capacity numbers, all students who ride the bus home in the afternoon must ride their assigned bus. Students may not switch buses or routes to ride home with a friend.

School Bus Cleaning and Disinfecting

Between each bus route (elementary, middle, and high school), MCS staff will disinfect high-touch areas. Each night, the school bus will be fogged and disinfected.

Phase IV – General School Considerations and Safety Protocols**After-school Extracurricular Clubs and Activities**

Students will have the opportunity to participate in after-school extracurricular clubs and activities, based on ability to implement appropriate safety protocols and social distancing guidelines. Please contact the appropriate sponsor/coach or school principal for detailed information.

Limit Non-essential School Visitors and Volunteers

To protect our students and staff, MCS will limit non-essential school visitors and volunteers to school campuses.

Media Center/Learning Commons

MCS will limit student use of shared spaces and materials in each school's media center/learning commons. Efforts will be made to give students access to learning resources in such a manner that provides the appropriate degree of safety and sanitation.

Student Assemblies and Large Group Events/Meetings

During Fall 2020, significant limitations will occur relative to student assemblies and large group events/meetings. Each principal will provide additional details about how such events may occur virtually, when appropriate.

Student Field Trips

During Fall 2020, student field trips will be limited; consideration will be given on a case-by-case basis for field trips that achieve appropriate degree of social distance and avoid commingling of students.