



## Marietta City Schools Virtual Learning – Grades 6-8 Fall 2020

Based on the most recent guidance by health experts, MCS will offer only virtual learning for all students to start the school year. The protocols detailed in this document are specific to students and families at **MSGA and MMS**. Our approach will continue to be responsive to health data and recommended protocols by public health officials and medical clinicians.

We acknowledge the magnitude of this decision for our families; we also hold firm to our first priority and greatest moral responsibility: the safety of our students and staff. We recognize, in this moment, we must collaborate with our families to meet both the academic and social-emotional needs of our middle grades students. MCS will continue to be progressive and innovative during this time – we will rise to this moment and partner with our families in ways that perhaps we have never imagined before.

<b>Student Schedule, Assessment, and Accountability (6-8)</b>
<b>Student Schedules</b>
Schedules will be available in ASPEN by July 31. Please refer to the end of this document for the MSGA and MMS daily/weekly schedules.
<b>Expectations of Teachers</b>
Teachers will assign work. Teachers will provide feedback. Teachers will provide direct, live instruction in accordance with their school’s student learning schedule; additional team/grade-level videos are encouraged for supplemental learning. Teachers will respond to email and phone messages within 48 hours.
<b>Expectations of Students and Families</b>
Students should engage with the teacher, which includes but is not limited to participating in live learning sessions and completing assignments. Students and families should make reasonable attempts to access Schoology and other online platforms recommended by your teacher. Students and families should maintain frequent contact with your child’s teacher – please do not hesitate to ask questions when you or your child need help. Students and families should establish a routine that includes setting learning goals for the day. Be consistent in your daily schedule while giving yourself and your child the grace to be flexible, when necessary. If you are unable to access Schoology, please email <a href="mailto:schoologysupport@marietta-city.org">schoologysupport@marietta-city.org</a> or call 678-695-7255. If your child does not have access to a laptop/Chromebook or hotspot or needs technical support with a district-issued device, please email <a href="mailto:techhelp@marietta-city.org">techhelp@marietta-city.org</a> or call 678-695-7215.
<b>Balanced Approach to Assessment</b>
Teachers will incorporate various types of assessments, as appropriate for the grade/course. Teachers will provide students with multiple attempts to demonstrate mastery. Student grades will be recorded, and students are responsible for assigned work.

<b>Special Education/504 Services</b>
Students who receive special education/504 services will continue to receive programmatic support to the greatest degree possible through virtual learning. If you have specific questions or needs regarding how your child's services will be provided through virtual learning, please contact Kristal Brown, Director of Special Education, by email ( <a href="mailto:kristalbrown@marietta-city.org">kristalbrown@marietta-city.org</a> ).
<b>MILE/Gifted, Remedial, and ESOL Services</b>
Students who receive specialized MILE/gifted, remedial, and/or ESOL services will continue to receive programmatic support to the greatest degree possible through virtual learning. If you have specific questions or needs regarding how your child's specific services will be provided through virtual learning, please contact your child's principal.
<b>Student Attendance</b>
Student attendance will be recorded daily and will reflect the student's degree of engagement in virtual learning sessions and completion of assignments. If a family's schedule prohibits a child from attending the virtual learning sessions, please communicate with the teacher. Students who miss a class will be expected to make up missing work.
<b>Student Grades in Aspen/Schoology (Grades 6-8)</b>
Teachers will continue to instruct, assess standards, and record grades in Aspen, as appropriate. You can see your student's current progress/grade in Aspen at any time. Login to Aspen and click on the "Academics" tab, located on the left side. As students and families have specific questions about assignments and grades, please contact your child's teacher.
<b>Georgia Milestones</b>
At the present time, the Georgia Department of Education has applied for a federal waiver not to administer the Georgia Milestones this school year. Additional details will be forthcoming if/when this waiver is approved.
<b>MILE Testing</b>
Due to required testing protocols, MILE testing cannot be administered virtually. As such, all MILE eligibility testing will resume when students return to in-person learning.

<b>Student and Family Support Services (6-8)</b>
<b>Meet-n-Greet/Virtual Open House</b>
Principals will create virtual opportunities for staff to meet their students and families. Look for additional details from your school principal.
<b>Chromebooks</b>
Students who received a Chromebook in Spring 2020 should retain this device. Students who do not have access to a Chromebook will be loaned a device at no charge. MCS-issued Chromebooks and/or hotspots can be picked up, returned, or repaired at your student's school on Tuesdays and Thursdays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. Please email <a href="mailto:techhelp@marietta-city.org">techhelp@marietta-city.org</a> or call 678-695-7215 with any questions. Any student who has been issued a Chromebook is financially responsible for the return of this device in satisfactory condition.

<b>Internet Access</b>
Based on device availability, a personal hot spot may be loaned to students. Please email <a href="mailto:techhelp@marietta-city.org">techhelp@marietta-city.org</a> or call 678-695-7215 for details regarding availability, pick-up locations, dates, and times. Additionally, as offered during Spring 2020, Wi-Fi school buses will be available throughout the community. Please click <a href="#">here</a> for locations, days, and times.
<b>Student Workbooks and Consumables</b>
At the start of the school year, school staff will distribute student workbooks and other student-issued materials and consumables. Please refer to communication from your principal for specific dates and times.
<b>Media Center Resources</b>
The media specialist at each school will communicate opportunities for students to access digital resources at MSGA and MMS.
<b>Social-Emotional Support</b>
Professional school counselors, social workers, and school nurses will be available to support students through individual and small-group sessions. As you have specific questions or needs, please contact your school's professional school counselor or principal.
<b>Schoology Training</b>
In August, each school will provide family training videos/sessions in Schoology. Our priority is to help each family understand the functionality of Schoology and how best to support their child's virtual learning. As you have specific questions or needs regarding the location of content in Schoology, please contact your child's teacher. If you are unable to access Schoology, please email <a href="mailto:schoologysupport@marietta-city.org">schoologysupport@marietta-city.org</a> or call 678-695-7255.
<b>Meal Delivery</b>
Meals will be delivered each school day throughout the Marietta community during virtual learning (Monday – Friday, excluding school holidays). Please refer to the <a href="#">MCS website</a> (after August 1) for specific information regarding locations and times.
<b>Student Tutoring</b>
MCS is exploring options to provide free, supplemental tutoring through virtual and/or in-person formats before or after the virtual school day (based on staff availability). If/when health experts confirm conditions are safe enough to offer in-person, small-group tutoring, any participating student or staff member would be required to wear a mask and adhere to strict risk mitigation guidelines (socially distance, wash hands, etc.)

<b>Athletics and Extra-curricular Activities (6-8)</b>
<b>Middle School Athletics</b>
MCS is working in collaboration with the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) to develop and adhere to appropriate guidelines for athletic practices and competitions in middle grades. We expect these guidelines to continue to evolve; each coach will provide updates to our student-athletes and their families, as appropriate. As you have specific questions or needs, please contact your child's coach or Craig McKinney, Director of Athletics ( <a href="mailto:cmckinney@marietta-city.org">cmckinney@marietta-city.org</a> ).

### **After-school Extracurricular Clubs and Activities**

Middle grades students may 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.

### Marietta Sixth Grade Academy (MSGA) Daily/Weekly Schedule

Time Block	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:45 a.m. – 9:25 a.m.	<b>Student Readiness*</b>	<b>Student Readiness*</b>	<b>Student Readiness*</b>	<b>Student Readiness*</b>	<b>Advisement Session</b>
9:30 a.m. – 10:40 a.m.	PERIOD 1A	PERIOD 4A	PERIOD 1B	PERIOD 4B	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)
10:40 a.m. – 10:55 a.m.	Screen Break Time	Screen Break Time	Screen Break Time	Screen Break Time	
11:00 a.m. – 12:10 p.m.	PERIOD 2A	PERIOD 5A	PERIOD 2B	PERIOD 5B	
12:15 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>	<b>LUNCH</b>
1:15 p.m. – 2:25 p.m.	PERIOD 3A	PERIOD 6A	PERIOD 3B	PERIOD 6B	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)
2:30 p.m. – 3:55 p.m.	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)	

\*Student readiness – During this time, students prepare for the day such as eating breakfast, organizing their workspace, and ensuring computer is working properly.

\*\*Refer to teacher’s page in Schoology for specific office hour schedule. Teacher staff development/faculty meetings may also occur at this time.

### Marietta Middle School (MMS) Daily/Weekly Schedule

Time	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
8:00 a.m. – 8:25 a.m.	Student Readiness*	Student Readiness*	Student Readiness*	Student Readiness*	Student Readiness*
8:30 a.m. – 8:50 a.m.	LAUNCH Attendance / 7 Mindsets	LAUNCH Attendance / Reading Plus	LAUNCH Attendance / Reading Plus	LAUNCH Attendance / Reading Plus	LAUNCH Attendance / Reading Plus
9:00 a.m. – 10:20 a.m.	PERIOD 1A	PERIOD 4A	PERIOD 1B	PERIOD 4B	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)
10:30 a.m. – 11:50 a.m.	PERIOD 2A	PERIOD 5A	PERIOD 2B	PERIOD 5B	
12:00 p.m. – 12:50 p.m.	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
1:00 p.m. – 2:20 p.m.	PERIOD 3A	PERIOD 6A	PERIOD 3B	PERIOD 6B	Student Work Time (Teacher Office Hours**)

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