

MCS eLearning FAQs

Updated 2/9/2019



What is eLearning?

eLearning is a way to continue learning despite inclement weather or a planned professional development day. eLearning offers students a blended learning¹ experience aligned with critical classroom content. An eLearning day counts as a full school day and thus eliminates the need to tack on an extra day at the end of the school year.

What if I do not have Internet at home?

We understand that not all families have Internet access in their homes. Lesson Suites² will be designed with that thought in mind. There will be opportunities for students to gain online access after school or on Saturday (for inclement weather days **only**) during the eLearning window. Additionally, there are several free access points within our community, including the public library, the community pool, and several local restaurants.

I am a parent of a K - 3 grader and we do not have a device at home. What do I do?

You will need access to a device to watch any videos associated with the lesson. Any worksheet a teacher creates will be available in both digital and hardcopy format. MES teachers will post office hours for the eLearning window and will be available to assist students and parents during those times. Computer labs will be open after school and the Saturday of the eLearning window. **NOTE:** Posted office hours and accessibility to computer labs on Saturday applies **only** to inclement weather eLearning day.

Will a 4th grade student be allowed to bring his/her Chromebook home during an eLearning window?

Yes.

How much work should I expect my student to receive?

MCS teachers and administrators will work to ensure the workload and expectations are relevant and reasonable.

How will attendance be taken?

In order to be counted "present" during an eLearning day, students must complete and submit assigned work. Individual teachers will communicate his/her expectations regarding the specifics about assignment completion.

Will teachers be available to answer questions about assignments?

All MCS teachers will communicate/post their office hours for any **inclement weather** eLearning window. A teacher is expected to be available either online line or in person to answer questions and facilitate learning. Each individual teacher will establish his/her own office hours.

¹ Blended Learning - a combination of digital and traditional instructional strategies

² Lesson Suite - term branded by MCS for teacher-created eLearning lesson plans

Does a student have to do the work on the designated eLearning day?

No. Work can be completed anytime during the eLearning window (Wednesday prior to the eLearning day through the Tuesday following the eLearning day).

If I am at school on the designated eLearning day, will I be served lunch?

Lunch will be available on February 9th at MES, MIS, and MJSHS from 12:00 - 12:30 p.m. An eLearning lunch follows the same guidelines as any other school day lunch. To reserve a lunch, complete [this form](#) or call the school office before February 9th.

If I am a parent or guardian of a K-3 student, will I need to help them?

This may depend on the grade level/assignment. Teachers will model lesson content and expectations through direct instruction (digital or written directions). In most cases, the amount of help a parent would need to provide would be similar to the amount of help provided on any other assignment a child might bring home. Students may need help accessing online content if the family chooses to complete the assignment electronically.

Why are we doing an eLearning Day? As a parent, I would rather add an extra day to the end of the year.

The eLearning format allows MCS to provide instruction during critical learning times and maintain the momentum established in the classroom. eLearning utilizes technology to create blended learning opportunities which will expose our students to avenues of learning beyond the traditional classroom.

What if I am out of town or ill during the eLearning window?

As with any absence, we will follow the student handbook guidelines for making up work.

Will there be a survey distributed to parents after an eLearning window?

Yes, after the first eLearning window paper and online surveys will be available to parents. Additional surveys will be distributed as needed.

What about Heartland students?

Heartland does not require students to attend on eLearning days. Those days are categorized as NE (No Effect) days and students are not required to attend. If HCC is open and students attend, they receive extra credit from their teacher and in the case of Cosmetology, could earn extra hours towards their certification process. Students are required to provide their own transportation. **MCS students can never go to HCC if MCS delays or closes due to inclement weather even if HCC is open.**

Who should I contact if I have questions about eLearning?

Please contact your building principal, Amy_Korus@mcsk12.in.us, Randy_Self@mcs.k12.in.us, or Jon_Lippe@mcs.k12.in.us, or Sue Gnagy, MCS Curriculum Director, at Sue_Gnagy@mcs.k12.in.us