



Milwaukee Academy of Science

2000 W Kilbourn Ave - Milwaukee, WI 53233 - (414) 933-0302

July 30, 2020

Dear Parents,

As a reminder, **per the City of Milwaukee's Health Department's current guidance, MAS will start the school year with a virtual learning program on Monday, August 31st.** We will monitor feedback from the Milwaukee Health Department and other sources and will strive to reopen our campuses for in-person school as soon as it is deemed safe to do so. Next week, you will receive an important survey to collect updated contact information and help us with planning and preparations. Please keep an eye out for that.

Changes from Last Spring

We are proud of our student, family, and staff response to the unexpected closure last spring, but we know it was challenging and we always strive to make improvements. We are in this for the long haul as we may be delivering virtual, hybrid, and in-person instruction throughout the year. Administrators and teachers have spent the summer learning, planning, and finding additional online supports to make the virtual learning experience engaging and rigorous so our scholars can continue their education at home while the building is closed. **Our basic academic guidelines for virtual learning include more information on live instruction, grading, attendance, and assessments. [Please take a moment to review this document.](#)**

Drive-Thru Back-to-School Registration Days

MAS will provide four days for contactless, drive-thru registration later in August. More information to come soon. Please keep an eye on your email, text, Dojo and social media for updates.

- Parents will choose one day to drive-thru based on last name or best availability.
- Parents will receive a mailing in the coming weeks with forms that need to be filled out and brought back on the day that they attend.
- When you drive-thru, you will pick up grade level or class specific materials.
- When you drive-thru, you may pick up a Chromebook (or tablet for K4/K5) if you do not already have one from last year or summer school. Devices will be loaned out for all students (K-12) who need one. If you would like to borrow a Chromebook, you simply need to fill out the release form that comes in the mail.

Virtual Open House

Teachers will hold virtual Open Houses at the end of August, before school begins. This will be an opportunity for students, parents, and teachers, to come together to get final details on the daily schedule, get fully trained on how to log in to Google Classroom and other platforms, and to get any last questions answered before school begins on August 31st. Our aim is to make sure parents feel comfortable, informed, and able to facilitate learning for their scholars, no matter their grade level, from home. Don't worry--we will continue to share more information throughout August, but we will have this last, live opportunity to connect so everyone feels prepared to start the year.

Incoming 9th graders--We will convert our traditional Freshman Orientation to a virtual half-day shortly before the school year begins. More info to come.

Meeting Your Needs & Getting Online

MAS will continue to meet the needs of families during the virtual learning program.

- Our curbside meal program will continue this fall. More information to come.
- For families in need, MAS is working with internet service providers to offer our students wifi service for virtual learning.
- For other concerns, please reach out to an administrator or our Family Engagement Coordinator, Tierra Williams (text 414-406-8131).

I hope that this has answered many of your questions and give a beginning picture of what this month and the school year will look like. I know that some of you still probably have questions. I ask for your patience as we roll out information week by week as we finalize dates, plans, and schedules. You can expect more information next week as well as that important survey.

Be well and be safe,

Anthony McHenry