



Milwaukee Academy of Science

2020-21 Virtual Learning Plan and Policies

The vision for our virtual program is that it will mirror the instructional experience of our students when they attend in person. This will be true for time spent in instructional activities, the relationships nurtured by staff, culture-building routines, social-emotional learning opportunities, on grade-level instructional rigor, and support provided by staff to all students to meet grade-level expectations and achieve equitable results.

Instructional Program

Students will have live classes several times during the day for whole group and small group instruction (synchronous instruction). These meetings will be held using Zoom meeting links and shared in your child's Google Classroom. Daily live instruction will occur for all grade levels as appropriate. Students may also have lessons or assignments shared in their Google Classroom to work on independently (asynchronous instruction). Some lessons will be pre-recorded.

Four days per week (Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri) students will follow a full schedule with live instruction and independent work time (synchronous and asynchronous). For most students, Wednesdays will allow for more independent work time (asynchronous) so students can practice skills and/or stay on top of their workload. The middle school will continue with their specific A/B schedule on Wednesdays, embedding independent work time throughout each day. Teachers will be available on Wednesdays for some live lessons or small group work, Specials classes (ie. Gym), communication, office hours, etc. Specific schedules for each student will be communicated at the start of the year.

MAS will use the same curriculum that we would normally use in the classroom during virtual instruction. Students will still have opportunities for Specials classes (Gym, etc) and use our Social Emotional Learning (SEL) curriculum. Upper grades will also be incorporating a Virtual Lunch Room, where students can choose to eat lunch while they hang out on Zoom with their friends.

Instructional Applications/Software including but not limited to:

K4-12 Schoolwide: Google Classroom, Zoom, Class Dojo, PowerSchool

K4-5th: Headsprout/Reading A-Z, Zearn, Benchmark Universe

6th-8th: Eureka, Science Dimensions, Studysync, ALEKS

9th-12th: PearDeck, Zoom, StudySync, ALEKS

K-12 Daily Schedule Overview

Monday Tuesday Thursday Friday	Daily Total Live Instruction (Synchronous)	Daily Total Independent Work Assigned (Asynchronous)	Daily Start/End Time	Wednesday
K4-K5	1 hour 15 min	2 hours	Varies (Students will be assigned to one of these times daily) 8:00-9:15, 9:30-10:45, 12:30-1:45, or 2:00-3:15	Varies based on student schedule
1st-5th	3 hours	2 hours	Varies (Students will be assigned to one of these times daily) 8:00-11:00 or 12:00-3:00	Varies based on student schedule
6th-8th	4 hours	2 hours	10:00-4:30 Alternating A/B subjects each day A Day: Math/Science B Day: ELA/Soc St/ Heath/Phy Ed	No change A/B schedule
9th-12th	4 hours 15 min	2 hours 45 min	9:00-4:00 5 classes per day	Varies based on student schedule

Attendance Policy

Students are expected to attend all daily synchronous/live classes each as scheduled and to complete all daily asynchronous assignments. If for any reason, your child is unable to attend class or complete work for reasons out of your control (illness, appointment, etc.), please notify the appropriate attendance contact in the academy directly to have the absence documented as excused. Please note that attendance rates in virtual school are still reported to the city and state for every scholar, and excused absences count towards a child's rate the same way unexcused absences do. We are obligated to report habitually truant students to the city.

Grading Policy

K4-8th Grade: Similar to in-person learning, scholars will be assessed on a weekly basis. The work and grades that are completed during the virtual learning period, however long that may be, will count towards scholars' promotion to the next grade level in the 2021-2022 school year.

9th-12th Grade: Please refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for information regarding the grading scale, which will remain the same during virtual learning. **Students will be graded on the traditional A, B, C, D, F grading scale, as classes will not be pass/fail as they were in Spring 2020.** Final grades are calculated by the following metrics: 60% summative

assessments, 25% formative assessments, and 15% practice assignments. Teachers will provide additional information on grading policies in their syllabi.

Instructional Supports & Communication

	For Students	For Parents
K4-8th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily Small-Group Response to Intervention (RTI) zoom sessions that are geared towards individual student needs • Multiple teaching staff during zoom sessions • Online curriculum access • Video & technology tutorials and supports • Grade-level Google Classrooms create a “one-stop-shop” place for all things academic, Social & Emotional Learning (SEL) Curriculum 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly communication from staff • Class Dojo Messaging • Virtual Open House • Video/Text Tutorials for using online platforms • Technology Support
9th-12th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teachers will hold daily office hours (3:45-4:15 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays; 3:15-4:14 on Wednesdays). • Each class will also have small group time every Wednesday. Support staff, special education staff, and administrators will be available and present during synchronous work time. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weekly communication from staff • Class Dojo Messaging • Virtual Open House • Video/Text Tutorials for using online platforms • Technology Support

Special Education

Special Education teachers will be present in all core content, whole group zoom meetings. Small group/one-on-one zoom calls will also be provided to ensure services/minutes are delivered. Additional services will be provided based on a student’s IEP. Please contact Mrs. Morris (SPED Director, cmorris@mascience.org) with any questions.

8th Grade Promotion and 12th Grade Graduation Requirements

Please refer to the Student/Parent Handbook for specific information regarding 8th Grade Promotion and Ceremony attendance requirements and High School Graduation requirements, which will remain the same through virtual learning. Our HS Counselor will be checking in with seniors frequently regarding their progress to graduation. Please reach out to HS Counselor Mrs. Dubinski (vdubinski@mascience.org) with any questions.

Materials Needed

In addition to a device to access instruction, students will need some basic supplies to take notes or complete work. Supply lists can be found on our website. At the beginning of the year or throughout the year, the school may provide additional materials or curriculum at drive-thru pick ups.

Student Expectations During Virtual Learning

- Students will log into Zoom at the start of each class period/day to access lesson learning objectives, classwork, expectations/directions, and resources.
- Students should utilize the video feature within Zoom to build relationships with students and teachers, as seeing each other face to face is important.
- Students will engage in independent work outside of class as assigned.
- Students will communicate questions or confusion to teachers to help solve problems.
- The Student & Family Handbook policies and procedures are in effect during Virtual Learning in regards to attendance, behavior, academic integrity, and technology acceptable use policy.
- Students are prohibited from taking and/or sharing stills or videos of other students or teachers and their work. Inappropriate pictures/images/language used within virtual platforms will not be tolerated.

Parent/Family Expectations

- Oversee student's schoolwork and support students' on time arrival for live instruction
- Communicate frequently with your student on progress and work completion
- Communicate with teachers about student progress and/or any questions or confusion that may arise
- Participate in Virtual Open House and other parent tutorials to learn about new virtual learning platforms
- Participate in drive-thru material pick up for curriculum/units when offered
- Report malfunctioning, broken, or lost device(s) to exchange, replace, etc. ASAP

Tips on Supporting Your Child's Participation in Virtual Learning

- Getting into a routine is an integral part of making virtual learning successful and purposeful.
- Set up a work space for your child free from as many distractions as possible.
- Make sure to set an alarm well before you are required to login each morning. Get dressed, eat breakfast, and get a good night's sleep every weekday.
- Make sure to take advantage of the break times that your teachers build into their virtual lessons--this means get up, stretch, get a snack, etc.
- While in virtual classrooms, teach your child to utilize the chat features and small-group settings to ask questions and check for understanding.

Contact Information for Specific Issues

Elementary K4-5th Grade:

Instructional Support - Please contact Mr. Beaudoin (Principal) at mbeaudoin@mascience.org, Mrs. Gruse (Assistant Principal of Academics) at sgruse@mascience.org or please contact content teachers directly via email or class dojo.

Tech Support - Please contact Mrs. Gruse (Assistant Principal of Academics) at sgruse@mascience.org or 262-707-5981.

Attendance Support - Please contact Ms. Cruz (Elementary Administrative Assistant) at jcruz@mascience.org or 414-933-0302 x1134.

Junior Academy 6th-8th:

Instructional Support - Please contact Mr. Rooney (Principal) at prooney@mascience.org, Mrs. Schoonover (Assistant Principal) at cschoonover@mascience.org, or please contact content teachers directly via email or class dojo.

Tech Support - Please contact Mr. Rooney (Principal) at prooney@mascience.org

Attendance Support - Please contact Ms. Elizabeth Santiago (Junior Academy Administrative Assistant) at esantiago@mascience.org

High School 9th-12th:

Instructional Support: Classroom teachers, Mr. Troilo (Dean of Instruction) at mtroilo@mascience.org, or Mr. Schalmo (Principal) at tschalmo@mascience.org
College/Career Readiness, Scheduling, & Counseling: Mrs. Dubinski (School Counselor) at vdubinski@mascience.org

Tech Support: Mr. Schalmo (Principal) at tschalmo@mascience.org

Attendance Support: Ms. Perkins (High School Administrative Assistant) at tperkins@mascience.org

Student-Parent Handbook Signature Page

Digital copies of our Handbooks may be found on our website.

- We have reviewed the regular 2020-21 Student/Parent Handbook for each academy.
- We have reviewed the NEW Virtual Learning Plan and Policies (printed copy provided).

Agreement

As a student or parent of an attending student, we agree to comply with the policies outlined in the student-parent handbook found on MAS's website and the policies and expectations outlined in the virtual learning plan. We understand that the 20-21 school year will be unique and that there may be additional policy changes or additions to the student-parent handbook and the school's virtual learning plan, and we agree to comply with any subsequent changes, additions, etc. as they are made.

X _____

Student #1 Name Printed

Grade

X _____

Student #1 Signature

Date

X _____

Student #2 Name Printed

Grade

X _____

Student #2 Signature

Date

X _____

Student #3 Name Printed

Grade

X _____

Student #3 Signature

Date

X _____

Student #4 Name Printed

Grade

X _____

Student #4 Signature

Date

X _____

Parent/Guardian Name Printed

Date

X _____

Parent/Guardian Signature

Date