



## **Frequently Asked Questions about Reopening**

Below you will find three sections: 1) questions about the hybrid schedule, 2) questions about safety precautions, 3) questions about next year

### **Questions about the hybrid schedule:**

**What is the date of reopening?** Our first day for in-person students will be Tuesday, April 6. Only students assigned to the Monday/Tuesday cohort or the 4 day K4/K5 cohort will attend. More information will come from your academy soon about your schedule.

**Will my virtual schedule stay the same?** Each academy's schedule will change to accommodate our hybrid reopening. Class time changes and/or daily class schedule changes will be communicated as soon as possible to all families. More information will come out from your academy Principal in the coming weeks.

**Will my kids (siblings) be able to have the same days for in-person? Do I get to pick the days?** We have assigned siblings to the same cohort so they will attend on the same days. Families are not able to choose their days--students/families have been assigned to the Mon/Tues or Thurs/Fri cohort. More info will be coming this week on which days your child(ren) will be in-person.

**How many children per classroom?** This varies based on classroom size. Each room has been measured to keep the 6 foot social distancing guidelines in place. In general, there will be 8-15 students per room.

**Are uniforms required? When can they be purchased?** Yes, the MAS uniform is still required and uniform polos and crewneck sweatshirts will be on sale before reopening. MAS will provide one FREE polo per student for students returning in-person this spring. Uniform guidelines will be sent to hybrid families and we understand that some students may need some flexibility during this time (ie. alternative pant colors will be accepted). More information on ordering and curbside pick-up will be provided soon.

**What will arrival look like?** Parents will need to have students wait in the car until they are checked in by a staff member. Check in will begin at 7:50am. We will ask screening questions, take student temperatures, and check for a chromebook and charger. Parents should expect to spend 10-15min as they enter the car line, wait to be checked in, and pull out through the line. We are doing all we can to ensure a smooth process and appreciate your patience, especially on the first couple of days. If there is a temperature over 100.4 or students are experiencing other symptoms, the student will not be able to attend in-person school. Parents of hybrid

students must sign an agreement before starting stating that students are not to be sent to school with COVID-19 symptoms, if they have tested positive, or if someone they have had close contact with or in their household has tested positive. Students will be able to join virtual learning if they are not able to attend in person learning.

**Can parents see how the school will be set up ahead of time and how children will be taken care of?** We are setting up rooms to maintain social distancing guidelines of 6 feet between desks. We will share images and video of classrooms and safety protocols with parents on social media and Dojo as we get closer to reopening.

**What will lunch and recess look like?** Meals will be served in classrooms as necessary to maintain social distancing during meals. Meal times will be shortened to less than 15 min to reduce time without masks. Students will wear masks outdoors during recess and during physical education. We will get outside as much as the weather permits.

**Can I switch back to virtual for the safety of my child?** Parents should choose an option that feels best for them, although we hope to minimize changes if necessary. Our primary goal is for students to attend school daily, whether it is virtual or in person. If a child (or parents) are not adhering to the in-person policies that the school has put in place during the school day or arrival/dismissal, the child will be switched back to virtual learning by MAS. MAS will not be able to accommodate parents who want to switch from virtual to in-person learning.

### **Questions about safety precautions:**

**Why aren't you offering bussing?** Our bus company cannot conduct symptom checks before students get on the bus, which we feel is necessary at this time. As more adults are vaccinated and positivity rates decrease in the zip codes we serve, we will reevaluate this decision for summer school and next school year.

**Will PPE/masks be offered to students? Are masks required?** Yes, masks are required for all staff and students inside and outside the building. Students should plan to bring their own properly fitting masks (covering nose and mouth snugly) on a daily basis. However, the school has numerous disposable masks that will be offered to students if they forget or if their mask doesn't fit securely.

**What safety precautions are you taking?** With guidance from the CDC and Milwaukee Health Department, we are requiring masks, enforcing social distancing, doing more intensive cleaning, screening for symptoms, and following the COVID contact tracing protocols. Parents will be able to find our Health Department approved reopening plan on the school website.

**Will the vaccine be required for teachers? For students?** The vaccine is only available to adults at this time. Thanks to a partnership with the Medical College of Wisconsin, all of the adults in our building were offered an opportunity to get their first vaccine the first week of March and will get their second dose next week if they chose to do so. Getting the vaccines is not required but strongly recommended.

**What is the cleaning process?** Our maintenance staff will be cleaning and sanitizing daily using COVID-19 recommended products. They will clean high-touch surfaces frequently.

Additionally, our HVAC system circulates air within each classroom every 10 minutes, which exceeds CDC recommendations.

**Is the school doing COVID testing?** No, but we can provide resources about testing sites.

**What happens if a student starts exhibiting COVID symptoms during the day?** Students that exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 will be moved to an isolation room and parent pick up will be required within 2 hours. Parents will be informed of the necessary steps to return to school. More information will be shared with families that selected hybrid.

**What happens if a student or staff member tests positive for COVID?** MAS will conduct contact tracing and stay in close communication with the Milwaukee Health Department about their recommendation. MAS will inform staff and families if close contact with a person who has tested positive has occurred. If students are exposed, an email will be sent detailing the required testing or quarantine period before return to school.

\*\*If you have additional questions or would like to discuss your choice for hybrid after reading this information, please contact your school Principal.

### **Questions about next year:**

**Will the school reopen fully next year?** MAS is committed to taking steps to fully reopening and offering transportation next year according to safety guidelines as the pandemic subsides. We will continue to monitor the public health situation and are looking forward to being "back to normal" as soon as possible.

**Will there be summer school?** MAS plans to have a hybrid option for in-person summer school as well as virtual summer school. We are still working on the details.

**When will after school be available?** We are focusing all of our effort on safely reopening the day school at this time. However, we anticipate offering after school programs in the fall.

**When will bussing be provided?** We are confident we will be able to provide bussing next year and will continue to monitor positivity rates and the safety guidelines. As more adults are vaccinated and positivity rates decrease in the zip codes we serve, we will reevaluate this decision. MAS is considering offering school bus transportation for summer school as well.

**What is happening for graduation?** More information will be released by the high school this spring on what our outdoor graduation ceremony will look like this year.