

June 19, 2020

Maconaquah Patrons,

In an effort to keep our families as up to date as possible, we have made the decision to release our first round of information for Maconaquah's plan to reopen our schools for the 2020-2021 school year. There will be more information to come as we continue to work through the ["Indiana's Considerations for Learning and Safe Schools In-Class"](#) handbook.

Enrollment for the 2020-21 school year will begin on July 15. Maconaquah School Corporation will start in-class learning and remote learning on August 3rd. We will monitor our plan by quarter, meaning our plan will run in 9 week increments. Prior to the start of each 9 week period, we will reevaluate to determine what stipulations need to be altered or lifted.

There will be new health accommodations set forth in order to comply with CDC guidelines. To start, we have selected a few of the heavier guidelines released by the CDC, and have listed below how Maconaquah will implement those guidelines.

- Students and employees exhibiting a combination of the following symptoms of COVID-19 (without otherwise being explained) are prohibited from coming to school: a fever of 100° F or greater, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, repeated shaking with chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell. If a person does come to school displaying any of these symptoms without being otherwise explained, they will be sent home immediately. Ill persons may return if the following conditions are met: they have received a doctors note releasing them to return to school, they have not had a fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers). Additionally, students and employees should remain home if someone in the household has COVID-19 symptoms or is being tested for COVID-19.
- Students who are unable to attend school for extended periods of time (due to testing positive for COVID-19, being directly exposed to COVID-19, or exhibiting a combination of COVID-19 symptoms) will be able to utilize remote learning to satisfy attendance requirements and keep up on graded work.
- All staff will be trained on Covid 19 prior to the start of the 2020-21 school year.
- There will be hand sanitizing stations available throughout each building. Students and staff are asked to please wash their hands at the start of the school day, before eating, after using the restroom, after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing, and after using shared equipment. Although these are typical practices, we want to reiterate them in hopes of preventing the spread of germs.

- Masks are highly recommended for students when social distancing requirements (putting 6 feet of separation between yourself and others) cannot be met (i.e. hallways, cafeterias, etc.). Students who ride the bus WILL BE required to wear a mask during the entire route. Outside masks will be allowed, but must be school appropriate. If a mask is determined to be inappropriate, the individual will be provided a mask from the school. Reusable masks must be sanitized daily. Masks will be available for any individual that would like to utilize one, but does not have a mask of their own. All staff members are required to wear a mask when social distancing cannot be implemented (i.e. bus routes, when providing direct instruction to individual students or small groups of students, when serving food, when cleaning in confined settings, etc.).
- Water fountains will be closed. Students will be allowed to bring their own water. Water bottles will be available for students and staff who do not have their own.
- Students at all levels will continue to have group lunches. Each building will attempt to follow social distancing guidelines if possible. Some buildings may utilize additional spaces outside of the cafeteria to allow students more room to space out. Elementary students will still have the opportunity to participate in recess. Students will be divided into smaller groups, equipment will be sanitized throughout the day, and students will be required to wash and or sanitize their hands before and after recess.
- Janitorial staff will be required to clean throughout the day, and there will be extensive cleaning done when students are off campus.
- No visitors will be allowed on campus unless prearranged by the building principal. Any person that has been permitted to enter the building must self screen prior to arriving at the school.
- Sports will resume summer training starting on July 6. Student-athletes should contact their coaches and/or athletic director for more information on practice schedules.

There will be 2 options when enrolling your student in July: in-person learning, or remote learning (this will not be the same as Maconaquah's eLearning). In-person learning will be held five days a week, Monday-Friday. There will be changes made to previous in-person learning in order to abide by current CDC guidelines. More guidance on these changes will be released in the weeks to come.

The remote learning option will also be five days a week and will provide students with direct instruction videos, assignments, and any other materials that on-site students will receive in the classroom. Students who enroll in Maconaquah's remote learning option will have the ability to attend the school year electronically, however they will still be required to participate in state standardized testing on site. More guidance on this form of learning will be available in the weeks to come.

A full list of Maconaquah School Corporation's COVID-19 Back to School Guidelines will be released prior to the August 3rd start date. These guidelines will include all new and updated requirements for students, staff, and parents. We truly appreciate your patience as we work to create the safest and most productive environment for our students to return to school.