

MES Family Update - Monday August 10

MES Families,

We hope that you had a good weekend and that more importantly power has been restored if you were one of those customers that have had to wait as long as we have.

Apologies for the delay in getting back to many of your emails. With the power outage and the hope of actually taking a few vacation days – which have become partial vacation days without power – we had great difficulty with connectivity and the ability to respond to emails.

In terms of school reopening, there are some clarifications needed and some changes based on conversations with area administration.

First – at this point in time, Marlborough Elementary School is planning on a full 100% reopening for those families that chose that option. The options of Distance Learning (Parallel Learning Track) and Homeschooling are still options for MES families. Based on the current health data and our ability to provide adequate social distancing in classrooms, we feel that the 100% reopening model is the most educationally sound for our students and meets the safety guidelines sent forth by the CSDE and the Governor's Office.

Second – should at some point in time we need to shift to the Hybrid Model, we will be making an adjustment to our original model so that it mirrors the Hybrid Model at RHAM. Although we felt as though our original model best met the needs of our MES students educationally, the impact that differing models would have on families with students in both schools was too great to ignore.

The new MES Hybrid Model, ***if it needs to be implemented***, will look like this:

School A: Monday, Tuesday (in-person/in-school learning), Wednesday, Thursday, Friday (distance learning at home with support of the classroom teacher).

School B: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday (distance learning at home with support of the classroom teacher), Thursday and Friday (in person/in-school learning at MES).

At this point in time, and apologies for asking again, please let us know if School A or School B is better for your students and your family. We will make every accommodation we can in order to meet the needs of families, but unfortunately there are no guarantees. ***It will be very important for families with RHAM and MES students to be sure to let us know if you need School A or School B for your MES student based on the placement of your RHAM student.***

In order to move forward with the development of class placement and the designation of School A or School B, we need your input by ***Thursday morning, 8/13 at 8:00 a.m.*** Please respond by email to either or both of us at dwhite@marlborough.k12.ct.us and kkelley@marlborough.k12.ct.us. Please do not reply to this Blackboard message.

The change in the Hybrid Model and the reconfiguration of School A and School B will impact our ability to get class placement and school designation in the mail. Our new goal will be to drop placement letters in the mail to families by Wednesday, August 19th.

Thanks again for all of your support and understanding in these incredibly challenging times,

Dan & Kim