



MPESD

DISTANCE LEARNING PLAN

DISTANCE LEARNING

Schools will remain closed this academic year, but learning will continue. Distance learning is a form of learning that takes place outside of the typical classroom environment under the remote guidance of teachers and support from school administrators and district staff. Distance learning includes offline and online learning.

FLEXIBILITY

These are very uncertain times for our students, families and school staff. We know that home situations or needs may be different. The social, emotional and physical needs of students take a priority. Let your teacher or school principal know if your child needs any special support. Let's treat each other with kindness and respect as we work together to support our students.

RECOMMENDED TIMES

K-2 One hour daily
3-5 Two hours daily
6-8 Three hours daily

This time is for students to do independent work.

The focus will be on reinforcing lessons already taught before the school closure; some new content may be provided if students can complete current assignments with minimum support.

COMMUNICATE

Teachers, Students, and Parents

We know parents and students will need help to navigate online learning. Although teachers will be in regular contact with their students and their families, contact the teacher or your school principal if you or your student need help.

Stay informed: visit the district's:

- website <https://www.mpsed.org/>. or
- Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MountPleasantESD/>

HELP DESK

Phone: (408) 223 - 3724

email:

Gabriel Soza: gsoza@mpsed.org
Sue Ambrosini: sambrosini@mpsed.org
Tony Soto: tsoto@mpsed.org

Need a computer?

Call or email your school principal



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Mariann Engle, Superintendent

Continuity of Learning and COVID-19 Respond Plan

The District in collaboration with our teaching staff has designed instruction for students using online technology including alternative modes in order to best meet the needs of our students during the time when in-person instruction is not a choice. Each teacher will develop a distance learning plan to meet the diverse needs of their students; we highly encourage all students and families to do the lessons that their teachers are designing.

The amount of time that students will be actively engaged with academic assignments will be much less than when students are in school. The district has made the following recommendations to teachers:

K-2	3rd-5th	6th-8th
One hour daily	Two hours daily	Three hours daily
This time does not include the time that teachers may be communicating with students via phone, online or other means to provide instruction, meeting with individual students or small groups of students to provide support. This is time for students to work independently with some help from family members or caregivers.		

Google Classroom is the primary online connection between teacher and student. However, teachers also have the option to utilize the modes of learning that will work best for their students and to utilize tools and resources that will actively engage students in the learning.

As previously mentioned, we encourage all families to participate in the distance learning environment that teachers are designing for their students. However, the district will make available the following resources to ensure that all students have access to instruction:

Topics	Description	How to Access
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Online Learning	Online Learning is how teachers may be communicating with their students, this may include email, Google Classroom, including the use of different applications through Google Suite, and by other means that teachers have used with their students prior to school closure.	Google Classroom, students may log in through Clever using the Google email and password.
Grade Level Packets	Learning packets consist of English Language Arts Activities and Mathematics that students can do by themselves or with minimum support.	Learning packets will be mailed to families who are not accessing online learning.
Choice Board Supplemental activities: the suggested activities in the choice boards are intended to supplement the learning packets and teacher's instruction.	TK-2 Grade	https://bit.ly/2RSP8Wx Español - https://bit.ly/3eErAhF
	3-5 Grade	https://bit.ly/3cwEXyK Español - https://bit.ly/3czW8zC
	6-8 Grade	https://bit.ly/3czXp9L
Online resources through Clever	Clever is a portal the district is using to give access to learning applications that students can have access to by using their Google email and password.	Log in to Clever: https://clever.com/in/mpesd

Regardless of a student's level of access, the plan is designed to ensure that students have access to meaningful academic work and a teacher.

Access to Online Resources. The district is providing the following resources to connect families to online learning:

- Access to a device - contact your principal to request a device.
- Access to the internet - to access your home internet you will need to connect our device (if you decided to obtain one) to your home network as you did to connect your smartphone or smart television.
 - If you do not have the internet at home, you can use your smartphone as a hotspot and connect it to our device (if you obtained one).
 - If you do not have a data plan with your smartphone and you cannot use an existing network, a good option might be Spectrum/Charter, which offers free



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Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi access for 60 days to households with K-12 and/or college students who do not already have a Spectrum broadband subscription. To enroll call 1-844-488-8395. *Installation fees will be waived for new student households.*

- Help desk number is: (408) 223 - 3724
- "How to" resources:
 - Logging into Google Classroom - use your child's email as a username and password
 - Logging into Clever - same as above
 - Coming soon, how-to videos and documents will be posted on the district website at <https://www.mpesd.org/>.

Addressing Students' Social and Emotional Needs. We acknowledge that students and families are experiencing these unprecedented times differently and that there is a lot of uncertainty that may be adding additional stress to our daily lives. As a district, we understand that

- attending to the physical, health, social, and emotional needs of students, families, and staff need to take precedence
- connections with students are critical, maintaining and building connections with students must be a priority for all adults working with students
- the Distance Learning Plan that we implement needs to be flexible. Teachers will encourage students to participate in the greatest degree possible to maintain and improve learning for the rest of the year.

Grading for 3rd Trimester: No Standards-based grading, instead teachers will give a marking of "pass" or "failed" primarily based on the work that students completed in trimester one and two. Teachers will also provide narrative feedback on the student's level of participation during distance learning. We encourage students and parents to participate in the greatest degree possible by:

- Following their teachers' schedules for online or offline learning
- Completing and submitting assignments
- Letting the teacher know if a student needs help to complete the assignments.
- Communicate with the teacher or site administrators, let them know what is going on.
- If students are doing a Learning Packet, we are suggesting that parents take a picture of the page titled "Completed Assignments" at the end of each week of assignments. Parents signed the page verifying that their students have completed the assignments and email the picture to their teacher. In Middle School, students would email the picture to their ELA and Mathematic teachers.

Elida MacArthur 4/28/2020 9:26 PM

Comment [1]: Instead of creating a new document, I added this section to the Parent communication. Please provide your feedback.



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Parent, Teacher, and Student Collaboration:

- Monitor District communication for up-to-date information
- Ensure that your children know their username and passwords for instructional resources
- Check with your child's teacher to ensure that students are logging in to Google Classroom and completing assignments
- Communicate with your child's teacher let them know your child's needs, reach out and ask for help
- Communicate with your school principals, let them know if you or your student need help, site principals are the point of contact to access resources for your students depending on the need
- When at all possible support your child's learning, emotional and physical needs by:
 - Creating daily routines that include time for learning, physical activity, and play
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We recognize that each family is having unique challenges, so we hope that this guidance will support families in making decisions that are in the best interest of their students to balance academic learning, as well as physical and emotional needs as we deal with school closures, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sincerely,

Mariann Engle
Superintendent

Dr. Elida MacArthur
Asst. Supt.