



Opening Schools 2020-2021

Mercer Island School District

August, 2020



MERCER ISLAND

SCHOOL DISTRICT

STUDENTS ARE THE PRIORITY

Values

- Students are the priority.
We believe in:
- Supporting the whole child
- Creating inclusive and equitable learning settings
- Ensuring our school communities are safe and supportive
- Providing rigorous and challenging learning

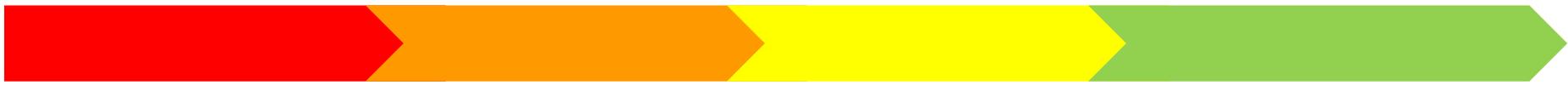
Vision

- Inspiring our students to be lifelong learners as they create their futures.

Mission

The District will foster learning by engaging students in thinking critically, solving problems creatively, and working collaboratively.





MISD Opening Schools Goals

- Keep students the priority
- Safeguard the health and safety of students, staff, and the community
- Return to in-person learning as soon as possible, prioritizing our youngest learners and our students with our most significant needs
- Develop learning models that offer flexible responses to changing conditions
- Empower staff to engage students in more consistent and robust synchronous learning than Spring 2020
- Partner with parents and community in support of the whole child



Timeline

- June -July Workgroups engaged in reopening plan development
- July 24 Superintendent decision to enter Red Learning phase for fall 2020-2021
- July 28 MISD all-staff webinar
- July 30 MISD Community webinar
- August 6 School Board Study Session to hear draft plan
- August 11 School Board linkage session with community
- August 13 School Board meeting to discuss reopening plan
- August 19 MISD plan submitted to OSPI





Health and Safety





HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- THE OSPI REOPENING PLAN TEMPLATE LISTS MANDATORY HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING
- PRIMARY LOCAL HEALTH OFFICER: PATTY HAYES, DIRECTOR, KING COUNTY SEATTLE PUBLIC HEALTH
- PRIMARY DISTRICT POINT OF CONTACT: SUPERINTENDENT COLOSKY
- HUMAN RESOURCES WILL WORK WITH STAFF WHO IDENTIFY THEMSELVES AS FALLING WITHIN THE “AT INCREASED RISK” CATEGORY AND WILL FACILITATE ASSIGNMENT AS FEASIBLE
- SIGNAGE REQUIRING FACE COVERINGS, PHYSICAL DISTANCING AND HAND WASHING /SANITIZING WILL BE PROMINENTLY POSTED
- MISD CONTINUES TO STAFF A FULL TIME SCHOOL NURSE FOR EACH SCHOOL



HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- Buildings open by “APPOINTMENT ONLY” for non-staff.
- Health Attestation - Anyone entering a facility for longer than 15 minutes, must submit a daily health attestation.
- Staff Workstations - Staff workstations will be at least six feet apart.
- Ventilation - air filtration/exchange will use outside air as much as possible.
- “Gathering” Spaces (i.e. staff rooms, copy rooms etc.) - staff must maintain physical distancing.
- Staff Meetings - staff meetings will continue via zoom to reduce exposure.
- Sanitizing Stations- Additional hand sanitizer stations strategically located in buildings.



HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

WHEN IN PERSON LEARNING IS POSSIBLE:

- Provide for proper physical distancing with dedicated entry/exit
- Each site will have student drop off and pick up plans
- Digital thermometers available at each site
- Classrooms, hallways and communal spaces configured to provide for required physical distancing
- Students will be in cohorts for learning and activities as much as possible (including recess & lunch)
- As weather permits outdoor spaces will be used as frequently as possible for learning activities



HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

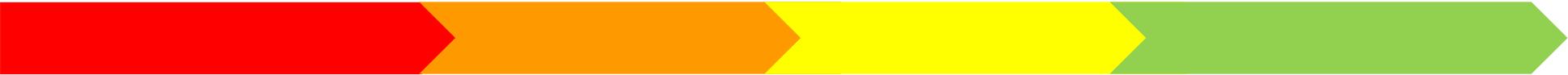
- **WHEN IN-PERSON LEARNING IS POSSIBLE:**

- Field trips & large gatherings cancelled
- Daily reminders of expectations & procedures for frequent hand washing &/or hand sanitizing (including signage)
- Transportation will be available consistent with health and safety requirements
- Face coverings will be required for all who enter buildings
 - Upon requests, cloth masks will be provided to all students and staff
 - Additional PPE for specific job functions that are high risk will be provided to staff



HEALTH & SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

- **CLEANING AND DISINFECTING PROCEDURES:**
 - Clorox 360 machines for each building (electrostatic disinfectant sprayer)
 - Virex sprays & wipes (hospital grade cleaner/disinfectant)
 - Cleaning/disinfecting to occur daily or between cohorts
 - High touch areas cleaned/disinfected throughout the day
 - Restrooms cleaned/disinfected at a minimum twice during the day



Health and Safety: What if Someone Develops Signs of COVID-19?

- If a District employee or student develops signs or symptoms while on site, that individual will be isolated away from others until they can go home.
- The symptomatic person will be advised to follow public health guidance for what to do if you have symptoms for COVID-19, including contacting a healthcare provider..
- All staff members and student guardians will be asked to immediately inform the school/District if someone who has been in a District facility has tested COVID-19+.
- If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID 19, the District will work with King County Seattle Public Health in support of contact tracing.
- A person who tests positive for COVID-19 or has COVID-19-like symptoms will be permitted to return to a District school or worksite consistent with Public Health - King County/Seattle and safety guidelines.



Teaching and Learning



Continuum of Learning 2020-2021



Red Learning

- Remote learning for all or nearly all learners because bringing all students and staff together for classes raises health and safety concerns that cannot, without undermining learning, be well addressed at that time
- Certain students or small groups of students may enter the school buildings for in-person support as determined by a school, program or District
- Synchronous and asynchronous instructional expectations and schedules across segments (elementary, middle and high school)
- A single school or multiple schools in the District may be in a red learning phase while other District schools are not
- Teachers encouraged to deliver remote instruction from classrooms

All schools will begin 2020-2021 in a red learning phase

Red Learning

Why did MISD decide to open the 2020-2021 school year in a Red or remote phase?

- Governor Inslee's Safe Start Phased Reopening
 - Regression in opening due to increasing rates of infection
- Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI)
 - Guidance and expectations
- Department of Health Guidance
 - Infectious Disease Modeling Report
 - King County COVID Data Dashboard
- Community concerns shared by students, staff, and parents
- King County Department of Health Public Statement of Support

Note, a school or schools could immediately change to a more restrictive phase if the Superintendent or State deem necessary

Red Learning

Proposed K-12 Red Learning Schedules

- [Elementary Schedule](#)
- [Middle School Schedule](#)
- [High School Schedule](#)

During remote learning school lunches will be available by online order and payment for pickup at designated sites.





Attendance

- Students will be expected to be present and engaged in scheduled learning opportunities both synchronously, asynchronously and in-person
 - Attendance will be in each instructional block at the elementary
 - Attendance will be by period in middle and high school





Grading and Student Progress

- Grading policies in Spring 2020 were only in place during the emergency school building closure March - June 2020
- Reopening in Fall 2020 will return to previous policies
 - Elementary will continue to be standards-based
 - Middle school will continue with letter grades
 - High school will:
 - Return to the letter grading system used before this past spring.
 - Access and use the Board Policy that allows students to determine one P/NC course per semester & that allows more P/NC courses under special and unique circumstances.
 - Provide support to students to resolve late work and incompletes.





Orange Learning

- Based on OSPI “Reopening Washington Schools: Health & Safety Requirements” or future guidance, smaller groups of students may return for in-person teaching and learning
- A student may be in-person for part of a day or part of the week based on the need for services and supports
- Individual schedules for orange learning will be based on need for intervention and services as determined by the district
- Individuals or groups of students may be designated as being in an Orange learning while others could be in Red or Yellow



Orange Learning

When and how will the decision be made to move to another learning phase?

- Every three weeks, the District will consider various factors to allow for progress through the continuum of learning
 - Week 1
 - School or schools engage in selected learning
 - Week 2
 - School or schools engage in selected learning
 - MISD actively reviews data(King Co Public Health & DOH; staff availability and student learning)
 - Week 3
 - School or schools engage in selected learning
 - MISD actively reviews data and works with departments of health
 - By the middle of the third week, MISD will announce whether the current learning for schools will continue or change and a timeline for the change will be developed

Note, a school or schools could immediately change to a more restrictive phase if the Superintendent or State deem necessary



Orange Learning

When and how will the decision be made to move to another learning phase?

Governor Inslee introduced guidance for reopening schools in [high, moderate and low risk counties](#).

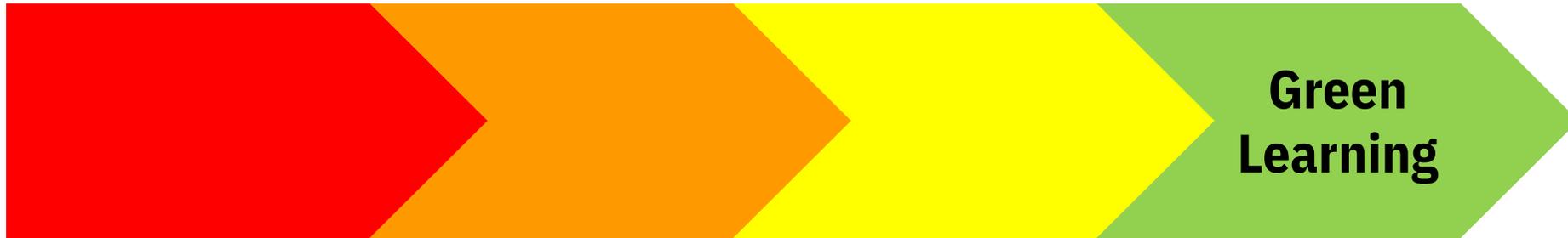
- **High risk** includes counties with more than 75 new cases per 100,000 residents over a 2-week period.
 - For high risk, the governor recommends distance learning and cancelling or postponing all in person extracurricular activities.
- **Moderate risk** includes counties with more than 25 new cases per 100,000 residents over a 2-week period.
 - For moderate risk, the governor recommends distance learning for middle and high school students with in-person options for elementary school students. He also recommends cancelling or postponing all in person extracurricular activities.
- **Low risk** includes counties with fewer than 25 new cases per 100,000 residents over a 2-week period.
 - For low risk, the governor recommends a hybrid in-person and distance learning model for middle and high school students and full-time in-person learning for elementary school students.

If in-person learning is offered, schools must practice physical distancing, hygiene and cleaning of surfaces.



Yellow Learning

- With relaxed health & safety precautions (elimination of the requirements such as the 6-feet of distance), all or nearly all students and staff return for in-person learning at school
Note: Optional Mlonline for families to choose
- Community and parent access will be significantly limited to essential visits only
- Before and after school activities will be significantly limited or moved to remote engagement to allow for proper cleaning between school days
- Off campus field trips and travel will be considered on a case-by-case basis



- All staff and students participate in teaching and learning at school
 - Note: Optional Mlonline for families to choose
- Community members and parents may enter schools but could be limited based on conditions
- Before and after school activities may resume but could be limited based on conditions
- Off campus field trips and travel will be considered on a case-by-case basis

Note, a school or schools could immediately change to a more restrictive phase if the Superintendent or State deem necessary

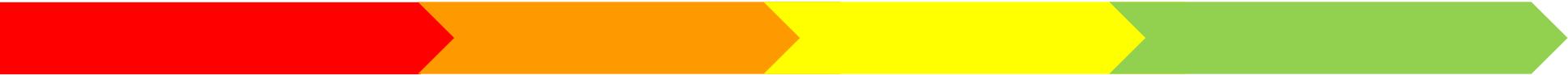


- Mionline IS NOT the same as “Red Learning”
- When MISD is operating on Red Learning students will receive daily instruction from their assigned classroom teacher in whole-class or small group settings
- Mionline students receive instruction from a variety of instructors (some MISD and some contracted via outside providers)
 - Depends on demand and on grade-level/courses
- Students primarily learn asynchronously throughout the week
 - Much, if not all, of the content is designed by teachers whose full-time job is teaching online
- Mionline is a predictable year-long or semester-long online model



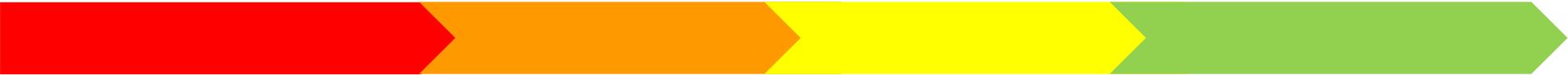
System Supports and Continuous Improvement





Special Services

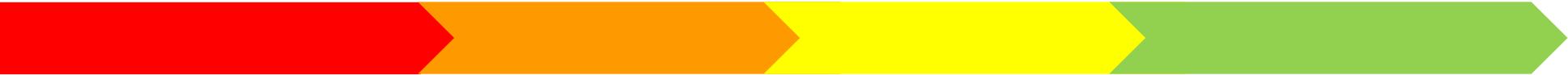
- All students are General Education Students first
- Access to General Education, Specially Designed Instruction, Supplementary Aids and Services, and Related Services will be provided throughout the Continuum of Learning
- In-person evaluation testing started the week of August 3 prioritizing incomplete evaluations from the Spring
- In-Person services, as appropriate, will be prioritized for our youngest learners and students with significant needs
 - Appointment services will be available based on individualized student needs
 - Every 3 weeks, the District will review data and work towards providing students with significant needs and the youngest learners increased in-person time
- [Special Services parent webinar](#) scheduled for August 19



Nutrition Services

- Lunch will continue to be served whether in a remote or in person learning setting
- In person lunch service will include protocols including grab & go or staff plating food for each student
- Elementary in person lunch will be in cohorts physically distanced
- MS & HS in person lunch service will use recommended precautions for physical distance including lines and seating

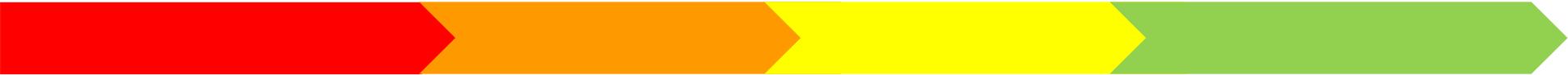




Technology- Supporting Staff and Students

- [Student and Parent Information for Fall 2020](#)
 - iPad Pickup Information
 - MISD Hotspot Information
 - Damaged iPad Information
 - Returning Technology if student has unenrolled
- Learning Management Platforms
 - K-1: SeeSaw
 - 2: SeeSaw or Google Classroom across a building grade level
 - 3-5: Google Classroom
 - 6-12: Schoology

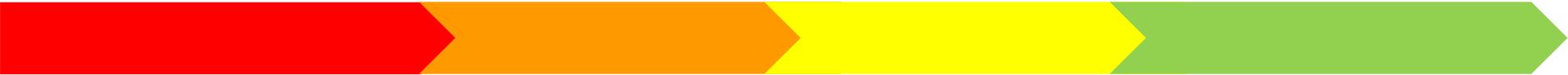




Professional Development and Learning

- Professional Learning
 - Global Online Academy
 - Harvard Graduate School of Education
 - Katie Novak and Universal Design for Learning
 - Fisher, Frey, and Hattie *The Distance Learning Playbook*
- Common Expectations
 - Learning Management Systems
 - Zoom
- Extended Opportunities
 - Aug 10-Sep 1
 - Blend of asynchronous and synchronous
 - Paraprofessionals/support staff



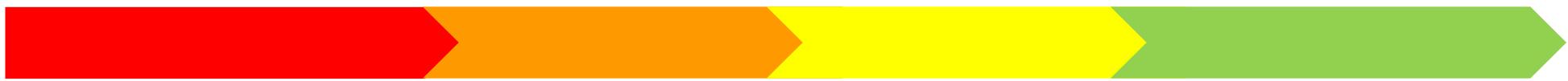


Assessment

Level	What?	When?
Elementary	Modified Universal Assessment Matrix	September 2- October 30
Secondary	IABs or Team generated assessments	September 2- October 1

Teachers at all levels will work to assess any potential challenges students may have when entering school this year. While this is not out of the ordinary for us, it is modified to meet the needs of the system and OSPI's re-opening requirements. For example, at the elementary level, we regularly assess students using our benchmark screening tool. That said, we are altering our usual matrix to prioritize the most essential assessments. At the secondary level, teachers pre-assess students to determine instructional needs. Though this is the case, not all teams have common assessments for courses, so we're moving in that direction.





Information on reopening schools is updated
regularly at:
www.mercerislandschools.org/fall2020

