Marmaduke School District Ready for Learning Plan 2023-2024

The Marmaduke School District (MSD) has developed a ready for learning plan with the goal of providing an excellent educational experience while maintaining the safest environment possible.

The district will work in conjunction with the guidance of the Arkansas Department of Health (ADH) and the Arkansas Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) in developing and implementing this plan. The plan will be revised as additional guidance is provided from the ADH and DESE. Be sure to visit the website on a regular basis to stay current on the latest procedures and guidelines.

School will begin in the Marmaduke School District on Monday, August 14, 2023.

MSD will no longer be offering a full-time virtual option. This will only be used for our suspended or suspended expelled students, or if we were to have an extended school closure.

Students will attend a full day of school, five days a week.

Transportation

Bus routes will be running as normal. If needed, routes will be updated to provide the safest and most efficient transportation of students.

Hand sanitizer will be available for students to use as they get on and off the bus.

Field trips must be pre-approved by the administration.

Parents and Visitors

Student drop off and pick up lines will remain the same. However, this is subject to change depending on the amount of traffic in these areas.

At this time, parents and guardians will be allowed in the building for school programs and activities, but they will not be allowed in for lunch. However, you will be allowed to check your child out and take them to lunch during their respective lunch period.

Communication with all stakeholders is an important aspect of the plan. The district will utilize the school website, Apptegy, and Facebook to provide ongoing and timely communication.

Open House will be on site and in person as will Parent/Teacher Conferences. Open House will be from 6:00-8:00pm.

Health and Safety

On April 12, 2021, the School Board voted to make wearing masks optional. This was following the Governor's announcement on March 31, 2021, to lift the mask mandate. The option to wear a mask/face covering will remain in place for the 2023-2024 school year. If at any point the District were to have a 3% positivity rate, the committee would meet to see if any changes need to be made to help us assist with keeping the students and staff safe.

Water fountains will be in use, and we will also have more water bottle refill stations available. Students will be able to bring water from home in clear containers. The student's name must be on the bottle.

Students will receive instruction regarding the importance of frequent hand washing, cough etiquette, and other steps to reduce the risk of spreading infections.

Hand sanitizer will be available in each classroom and in the cafeteria.

Each teacher will be provided with disinfecting supplies. Custodians will disinfect often touched surfaces throughout the day. Each classroom will be disinfected at night.

Academics

Students in grades 7-12 will have an opportunity to come to school before the first day to receive information such as scheduling, locker assignments, and orientation. The high school principal will be sending out more information regarding this matter at a later date.

MSD will utilize strategies during the school day as well as after school tutoring to remediate academic weaknesses.

Technology

In the event of an extended school closure, the school will decide to either send laptops home with each student or to use paper packets. If laptops are sent home, curriculum and instruction will be provided through the internet if it is available in the home. If not, students can access curriculum and instruction by means of hot spots located on the school parking lot, as well as hot spots located around the district and county. If the paper packet option is used, this will be done on a weekly basis and pick-up and drop off times will be announced.

Laptops will be checked out from the classrooms under the guidance of the administration and technology department. Laptops will be checked back into each classroom.

If an unanticipated closure occurs, students will be able to come to school at scheduled times to check out the needed technology. If a student is unable to come to school to check out the technology, then it will be delivered to them.

Nutrition

Elementary will eat breakfast in the elementary cafeteria. They will also eat lunch in their cafeteria. Seventh-twelfth grade will eat breakfast and lunch in the high school cafeteria.

Parents and guardians will not be able to eat lunch with their child. However, you will be allowed to check your child out and take them to lunch during their respective lunch period

Deliveries will be allowed at this time.

Students can bring lunch and a drink from home to be eaten during the scheduled lunch periods.

School Nurses

Unused classrooms will be used so that the school nurses can provide increased space for students while visiting the nurse. If students exhibit Covid-19 type symptoms parents will be contacted and students will be isolated from other students but within the view and constant care of the nurse.

If a student comes to school sick, the school nurse will screen the student and check their temperature. If the temperature is over the ADH guidance, the student will be sent home and will need to be fever free for 48 hours without medication before returning to school. When the child returns to school, they will check in with the school nurse.

The ADH controls the procedures to follow if a staff member or student tests positive for Covid-19. MSD will follow the guidance and direction from the ADH.

If a student needs to see the nurse, the teacher will use the intercom to notify the office or call the nurse directly. The nurse will respond in the same manner to notify the teacher when she is ready to see the students. This process will help ensure that the nurses office does not get overcrowded. If a student needs assistance to the nurses' office, assistance will be provided by the nurse or other school personnel.

Miscellaneous

Attendance Policy will be followed as it is written in the MSD Handbook.

Unless approved by the administration, visitors will not be allowed beyond the elementary and high school foyers.

If needed, the committee can meet through email or zoom to decide criteria in a timelier manner.