

Parents, it has been suggested that a “Frequently Asked Question” sheet might assist families in making decisions about Virtual Instruction. In the space below, are some questions and responses for families.

Question: If I decide not to send my child back to school and choose a virtual option, what could I expect?

Answer: For families that choose to attend school virtually, the Mound City R-2 School District is looking to partner with the Springfield MO School District and utilize the Launch Virtual Program.

Students in grades K-5 would be a part of a Virtual classroom with set hours like a regular school day. Classes would start somewhere between 8:00-9:00 a.m. and run for 6 hours. Students would receive instruction in ELA, Math, Science and Social Studies. They would also receive P.E., Music, Art, Coding, and Information Literacy for one hour, one day a week. The student to teacher ratio would be 25:1.

Students in grades 6-12 could enroll in up to 7 courses. Launch representatives have informed the Mound City R-2 School District this would require a student to plan on needing to spend 5-6 hours a day on their course work to stay current and on track to pass. In the words of the Launch representative these are not “easy breezy classes”.

Question: What technology will the Mound City R-2 School District provide for Launch?

As in the past, the Mound City R-2 School District will provide students with a Chromebook for use.

Question: What if I decide I do not like the virtual program?

Families will have a 3 week window of time in Launch to make a final decision about remaining in the program. If a family decides this program is not for them, they may exit the program.

Question: What would my options be if I left the virtual program?

Students who leave Launch will need to enroll back in the Face-to-Face instruction being offered at the school, or they may sign off on a form at the school stating they are homeschooling.

Question: Am I required to stay in Launch for the entire school year?

After a student attends Launch past the 3 week introduction period, they must remain in the program until the end of the 1st quarter. Students can make changes at the beginning of the 2nd and 3rd quarters only.

Question: How are classes graded? Who assigns grades?

The Launch instructor will grade all materials and tabulate a student's grades. While a student is still considered a Mound City R-2 School District student, grades and questions about grades would be dealt with through the instructor at Launch.

Once a student completes a grading period, Launch will forward a final grade to the Mound City R-2 School District and that grade will be placed in the students' permanent file.

Question: My child is on an IEP, will Launch work with my child?

Launch will honor the IEP of the sending district and will make modifications based on the requirements of the IEP.

If a child is receiving speech, occupational therapy, or physical therapy, ACES will make arrangements with families to meet those requirements.

Question: Is it possible for my Launch membership to be revoked?

Students will be monitored during the first 3 weeks of the virtual quarter. If it is deemed the student is not making adequate progress in the program, the school will remove the student from the program as this is an additional cost to the district. Grounds for removal would be, not logging in at times directed by Launch, failure to complete course work in a timely manner, and/or violations of Launch expectations.

Additionally, students failing any coursework at the end of a grading period would be removed from Launch and the student would be required to return to regular instruction.

Question: If athletics are important to me and I am concerned about the loss of a sports season, can I choose to not attend school and save one of my years of participation for next year?

The Missouri State High School Activities Association (MSHSAA) allows athletes to compete for 8 semesters. Once an athlete's clock starts, it cannot be stopped. From the fall of an athlete's freshman year in school, they have 8 consecutive semesters to play sports.

Question: If I attend school virtually the entire day, can I participate in clubs, events, or sports after school?

Currently, the Mound City R-2 School District's policy is that extracurricular activities are available to students who attend school at the Mound City School building. At this time, students who are not enrolled in face-to-face instruction at the school are not allowed to participate in extracurricular activities.

Students who choose to utilize Launch would be students of the Launch program. FFA, FBLA, FCCLA, gifted, athletics, or other school related events would not be accessible to Launch students.

Question: If the Mound City R-2 School District finds itself needing to provide instruction virtually, can my child exit Launch and attend the Mound City R-2 School District virtual school?

Once a child has enrolled in Launch and is a fulltime student Launch, they could only exit Launch and attend school virtually through the Mound City R-2 virtual program at the start of the 1st, 2nd, or 3rd quarters. Students will not be allowed to transition at the start of the 4th quarter.

Question: Is it possible for my child to attend a virtual school through the Mound City R-2 School District and not through Launch?

At the present time, the answer would be no. However, the school will analyze the amount of students who choose to attend virtually and may make a decision to offer a virtual program through the Mound City R-2 School District. Unfortunately, until the school knows how many students are going to attend face-to-face and virtually, we cannot make a final decision.