

## Orange COVID-19 Instructional Models Overview

### **Models of Instruction**

The following is revised information pertaining to the Orange models of instruction during COVID-19. The registration form that went out back in July was to gather responses for family choices, consisting of either a Blended or Remote Learning option. Running both of these at the same time is referred to as a **Hybrid Model** of instruction. The Hybrid model consists of Orange staff delivering BOTH, a Blended Learning option and a Remote Learning option, simultaneously. The Blended Learning option consists of a combination of in-person face-to-face instruction as well as virtual face-to-face instruction, while the Remote option consists of virtual face-to-face instruction from home. Face-to-face sessions are synchronous, with all students engaging in the instruction at the same given time. Both of these hybrid models also include asynchronous lessons that can be engaged in at a time that works for the student, during personal learning time. The virtual face-to-face instruction may include students at home joining the in-person face-to-face sessions via video conferencing (Google Meets or Zoom)\*. This will play a larger role in grades 6-12 due to the increased independence of middle school and high school students. Principals will communicate these details.

It is important to note that no matter what path you choose for your children, there is a possibility that we could find ourselves back in Full Remote Learning just as we have started the year. The Full Remote schedules may look a little different than the Hybrid Remote learning option since the staff will be fully dedicated to just one delivery model (again, as we have begun this year). Finally, it is important to note that the building handbooks and Code of Conduct remain in full force. A [handbook addendum](#) can be found here. The addendum includes quick reference links for students and families as well as reminders per the Code of Conduct. **\*Zoom, Google Classroom and Google Meets lessons are strictly forbidden to be recorded and/or shared by students or others without permission of the teacher**

### **Hybrid Blended Learning (Half day in-person blended with remote learning)**

Students attend in-person classes for part of their instruction and receive the rest of their instruction virtually, blending in-person and remote instruction. We learned a lot and gained valuable insight in the spring about how to improve remote learning. These improvements will make blended learning even more effective, maximizing the virtual component.

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**Guidance from Medical Professionals**

## Safety and Other Considerations

Decisions related to safety protocols are based on guidance from the CDC and the Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH). Also, in addition to many medical professionals from our own community who have offered input and advice, we have enlisted the University Hospitals Healthy Restart team for guidance. The UH team visited our campus on Monday, 7-20-20 to discuss safety protocols, sanitizing and logistical considerations with the school nurses and a team of administrators. For more details about the UH Healthy Restart team, please see their [Healthy Restart Playbook for Reopening Schools](#).

Along with providing feedback for ongoing plans, the CCBH will guide the district if a student or staff member becomes ill or tests positive for COVID-19. The district will follow their guidance on contact tracing, quarantine and return to school protocols. **It is more important than ever for families to make sure all contact information is up-to-date and thorough.** Principals will continue sharing more details and important information about course offerings and schedules particular to their buildings. Details about special education services, expectations for students, families and staff, safety protocols and much more will be included.

## Physical Distancing and Masks

Students will be kept 6 feet apart in the classrooms, and **masks are to be worn by ALL staff and students.** We ask that families please provide an appropriate mask for your child daily, and if you have not already done so, **begin practicing effective mask wearing.** The school will provide masks if a student forgets or if a family cannot provide masks. The Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) defines “close contact” as being within 6 feet of another for at least 15 minutes. This becomes very important when there is an individual identified as COVID-19 positive in school as contact tracing for quarantine purposes is based on who was in “close contact” with the identified individual. **Barring any unusual circumstances, under CCBH guidelines, only those individuals considered to be a “close contact” will need to quarantine.** Individuals who are deemed exempt from wearing a mask must provide documentation from their doctor. In these cases, face shields may be considered. If this face covering mitigation cannot be used by an individual, the remote learning option will be offered as an accommodation.

Another important mitigation related to distancing is the elimination of socializing and congregation. Hallway traffic will be limited to one-way stairwells foot traffic and/or single file lines as much as possible, being sure to avoid close contact.

## How Did We Create the Cohorts?

Dividing the student body in half to achieve safe physical distancing in classrooms was achieved by **dividing the district geographically and by community:**

<b>“North” (PM) Cohort:</b> Hunting Valley, Pepper Pike and Woodmere
<b>“South” (AM) Cohort:</b> Moreland Hills, Orange Village, Solon and Warrensville Heights

This yielded a split that the principals are able to make work with the existing student schedules, with very few exceptions.

## **Busing**

While we can commit to maintaining six feet of distance between students in the classroom, the same does not hold true when it comes to busing. Buses have been equipped with hand sanitizer dispensers, and masks are required to ride. However, bus space is finite and fixed, and transporting all kids who need it is a must. Many parents have committed to self-transporting during this trying time, and it is greatly appreciated as it will help maintain distance between kids if numbers are lower. The goal is to seat passengers one (1) per seat. Household members may be asked to share if ridership dictates such. In the off chance that the rare occasion presents itself, two neighbors or friends may be asked to share a seat if they are agreeable to it. In this case, face shields will be given to those students to be worn in addition to their cloth mask, increasing layers of mitigation. We are hopeful this is not necessary, but we are prepared. Families will be contacted if this request is to be made.

## **Meals**

Meals for those choosing to participate in the school food service program, will be on a grab 'n go basis with MHS and BMS students taking their meals to be eaten safely at home where they can remove masks and avoid close contact with others. OHS students, attending all day, will have designated areas with socially distanced seating for lunch.

We know that there will be families who might prefer one cohort over another, but for now we ask that you wait until we collect all results and look at class and building balances. If we can accommodate families wishing to switch, we will do our best. However, since we are busing by community, transportation may not be an option if a family's request is met. We will also need to leave space for families who elect remote learning first semester but request to attend in-person second semester. Therefore, switching will be case-by-case and rare. We appreciate your patience.

## **Hybrid Remote Learning**

As stated above, we learned a lot and gained valuable insight in the spring about how to improve remote learning. The hybrid Remote Learning option will include these improvements, along with sessions for parents to gain more efficient use from Google Classroom as well. Finally, professional development at the start of the year included lesson design that supports virtual and remote learning. [Click here for building schedule information.](#)

**\*Google Classroom and Meets lessons are strictly forbidden to be recorded and/or shared by students or others without permission of the teacher**

## **Full Remote Learning (DISTRICTWIDE)**

The Full Remote Learning model may be implemented due to an order from the state or county, being at red or purple (levels 3-4) on the Ohio Public Health Advisory System, impact on staff and/or student attendance or other logistical limitations related to COVID-19. The same delivery expectations for the above hybrid Remote Learning implementation still apply in this model. After the transition to our hybrid model, returning to Full Remote learning should not cause any more changes to the students' daily schedules other than substituting for impacted staff.