



Marathon ISD
“Home of the Mustangs”
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Marathon ISD 2020-21 School Year Information

The Marathon ISD administrators, teachers and staff are looking forward to the 2020-21 school year! We are excited to partner with our families and communities to best serve our students. The first day of instruction is planned for August 24, 2020.

As we all know, the COVID-19 (coronavirus) pandemic led to the closure of schools this past spring. As we open this fall, we are providing options to our families to best meet their needs. On Wednesday, July 22, 2020 our Board of Trustees approved the opening of school both in person and online. Throughout our discussions of reopening school, we wanted to be sure to prioritize student, staff, and family **safety**, as well as meaningful educational opportunities.

Therefore, on the first day of school parents have the option to:

- send their children to school
- or**
- keep their children home to participate in remote online lessons and return to school when they are comfortable doing so

In order for us to offer in person learning at school, it will take a team effort. Our employees will be working very hard to keep everyone safe at school, but parents will be playing a critical role at home as well. The expectations are detailed below.

Thank you to our Board of Trustees, parents, staff, and community members, for their guidance and input regarding this coming school year. We appreciate everyone’s patience and understanding as we have crafted this plan to meet the unique needs of our district.

Below is the current plan for the reopening of Marathon ISD for the 2020-21 school year. **Please note that the details of this plan are subject to change based on recommendations or requirements from local, state, and federal authorities, as well as the Center for Disease Control (CDC).**

Pete Price, Superintendent

SCHOOL CALENDAR, SCHOOL HOURS, and BELL SCHEDULE

- [Marathon ISD 2020-21 school calendar](#)
- School hours will be as follows:
 - Marathon Elementary First Bell: 7:55am Last Bell: 3:30pm
 - Marathon Jr/Sr High School First Bell: 7:55am Last Bell: 3:30pm
- The 2020-21 Bell Schedule has been altered. Please see below and be sure to note the times for the lunch period and dismissal.

Breakfast 7:45-7:55
Pledges, Moment of Silence, Announcements 7:55 - 8:00
1 st Period 8:00-8:50
2 nd Period 8:52-9:42
3 rd Period 9:44-10:34
4 th Period 10:36-11:26
Lunch 11:26-12:09
Flex Period 12:09-12:54 (used for tutoring, study hall, independent research, enrichment, student activities, service projects, assemblies/guest speakers, etc.)
5 th Period 12:56-1:46
6 th Period 1:48-2:38
7 th Period 2:40-3:30
3:30 Dismissal

SUPPLIES

The Marathon Public Library has generously donated many supplies for the students. We will let the students know the first week of school what other supplies they need to bring.

LEARNING OPTIONS

- Option 1: Full-time in-person on campus
- Option 2: Full-time remote online (synchronous and asynchronous learning)
 - Synchronous learning (student will be engaged in the lesson in real time) will be offered for as many classes as possible. A laptop will be set up in most classes so that students can fully engage in the lessons via Zoom.
 - Asynchronous learning (student will not be engaged in the lesson in real time) will be offered if synchronous learning is unavailable or students are enrolled in an online course through our Early College High School or TXVSN (Jr HS/HS only).
 - Students who choose Option 2 will learn at the same pace and with the same rigor as the students in-person on campus.

The district will provide laptops for all students. Families should notify the district if there is any difficulty accessing the internet.

ATTENDANCE AND GRADING PROCEDURES

- Option 1: Full-time in-person on campus
 - Attendance—students must report to each class at the required time in order to be counted present for the day (Elementary) or for the period (Jr/Sr High)
 - Grading—teacher, campus, and district grading policies will be followed
- Option 2: Full-time online learning
 - Attendance—students must log in daily and complete assignments for each class, as determined by the teacher
 - Grading—teacher, campus, and district grading policies will be followed

EXTRACURRICULAR CONSIDERATIONS

Students who are involved in UIL activities (i.e., athletics) may have to abide by additional policies and procedures. Students who opt for remote online learning are eligible to participate in UIL activities. The teacher/coach will provide this information to students and families, as the information changes frequently.

FOOD/DRINK

Breakfast will be offered to all students. Students may bring their own lunch or go home for lunch. Social distancing will be enforced during lunch time.

Water fountains will only be used to fill water bottles. Please provide a re-usable water bottle for your child.

Cupcakes and special class treats will not be allowed until the district determines it is safe to do so.

HEALTH/SAFETY PLAN

General guidance:

- The Marathon ISD administrative team and Board of Trustees will regularly assess the potential impact of COVID-19 on our school district based on reports from local, state, and federal authorities, as well as the CDC.
- It is important to remember that COVID-19 can be spread by infected persons who have little or no symptoms but are still contagious. The person they infect may become seriously or fatally ill. Especially vulnerable are persons 65 years of age or older with pre-existing health conditions, placing them at higher risk. Because of this threat's hidden nature, Marathon ISD expects all employees, students, and families to follow the following district procedures with fidelity.

District Procedures:

- **Staff, students, and families should not enter school buildings if any of the following apply:**
 - Temperature of 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit or higher
 - Loss of taste or smell

- Unusual aches/pains or sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty breathing (or, for students with a chronic allergic/asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Nausea, diarrhea, vomiting, or abdominal pain
- New onset of severe headache
- Has a confirmed case of COVID-19 or has been in close contact with a person with a confirmed case of COVID-19
- Has a household member who is awaiting COVID-19 test results, or who is awaiting their own test results

If a student or staff member exhibits any of these symptoms during the school day, the individual will be isolated and sent home as soon as possible.

- Students and staff will have their temperatures checked as they arrive on campus every morning. Temperatures may be checked at other times of the day if deemed necessary.
- Staff and students (ten years or older) will wear face coverings while entering and exiting the building, during passing periods, and whenever social distancing is difficult to accomplish. Face coverings should cover the nose and mouth.
- Social distancing (six feet or greater) will be maximized throughout the district.
- Hand washing and/or hand sanitizing will be taught and required frequently throughout the day.
- Classroom windows will be opened as much as possible during the school day to increase the amount of fresh air in the building.
- Classrooms and other areas will be regularly disinfected, especially at the end of each school day.

Positive Cases of COVID-19 on Campus:

- If a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the following will occur:
 - The district will notify the health authorities and all families of a confirmed COVID-19 case. **Note: it is a violation of the law to provide the specific name of any student or staff member who contracts COVID-19 to the public.**
 - Contact tracing to determine which students and staff were in “close contact” (which is defined as within six feet for over 15 minutes) with the infected person. Students and/or staff who have been in close contact with the infected individual will be expected to stay home for 14 days or may return to school after providing written documentation of a negative COVID-19 test.
 - Deep cleaning/disinfecting in the areas where the student or staff member were located throughout the school day.
- The student or staff member diagnosed with COVID-19 may return to school when **all three** of the following criteria are met:

- At least one day (24 hours) has passed since recovery (resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications)
- The individual has improvement in symptoms (i.e., no cough nor shortness of breath)
- At least ten days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

Possible Cases of COVID-19:

- A student or staff member who has symptoms associated with COVID-19 who wants to return to campus before completing the stay at home period (14 days) may either:
 - Obtain a medical professional’s note clearing them for return based on an alternate diagnosis, or
 - Obtain an acute infection test at an approved testing location (<https://tdem.texas.gov/covid19/>) that comes back negative for COVID-19

PARENT/VISITOR EXPECTATIONS

A parent or guardian is required to screen their child for COVID-19 symptoms each day, prior to sending them to school. Students should stay home if they have COVID-19 symptoms and see a physician as quickly as possible. Parents should also contact the school to set up remote online learning if the child needs to stay at home.

When visiting the school, parents/guardians are expected to wear a face covering and social distance.

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT COVID-19

Know how it spreads

- There is currently no vaccine to prevent coronavirus (COVID-19).
- The best way to prevent illness is to avoid being exposed to this virus.
- The virus is thought to spread mainly from person-to-person.
 - Between people who are in close contact with one another (within six feet).
 - Through respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs, sneezes or talks.
 - These droplets can land in the mouths, noses, or eyes of people who are nearby or possibly be inhaled into the lungs.
 - Some recent studies have suggested that COVID-19 may be spread by people who are not showing symptoms.

Everyone should:

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place, or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing.
- If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Avoid close contact

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick, even inside your home. If possible, maintain 6 feet between the person who is sick and other household members.
- Put distance between yourself and other people outside of your home.
 - Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus.
 - Stay at least six feet from other people.
 - Keeping distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Cover your mouth and nose around others

- You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick.
- Face coverings should be worn according to CDC and local/state guidelines.
- Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, or is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance.
- Continue to keep about six feet between yourself and others. The cloth face cover is not a substitute for social distancing.

Cover coughs and sneezes

- If you are around others and do not have on your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow and do not spit.
- Throw used tissues in the trash.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Clean and disinfect

- Clean AND disinfect frequently touched surfaces daily. This includes tables, doorknobs, light switches, countertops, handles, desks, phones, keyboards, toilets, faucets, and sinks.
- If surfaces are dirty, clean them. Use detergent or soap and water prior to disinfection.
- Then, use a household disinfectant. Most common EPA-registered household disinfectants will work.

Monitor Your Health

- Be alert for symptoms. Watch for fever, cough, shortness of breath, or other symptoms of COVID-19.
 - Especially important if you are running essential errands, going into the office or workplace, and in settings where it may be difficult to keep a physical distance of six feet.
- Take your temperature if symptoms develop.
 - Don't take your temperature within 30 minutes of exercising or after taking medications that could lower your temperature, like acetaminophen.
- Follow CDC guidance if symptoms develop.