



The Return-to-Campus FAQ Guide for Students and Families

We are very excited to have all our kids back to campus full time! As you can imagine, this is a very challenging endeavor with many potential issues that need to be identified, evaluated, and resolved. This will require full cooperation from all of our stakeholders as we work together to ensure that the campus is safe and conducive to the high quality of learning for which our community is so well known. Below you will find a living document that will be updated as we work our way from where we are now to a point where everything looks familiar. It will be updated and re-posted as necessary as new developments occur. You will also see that there are several direct links to outside resources. These links are currently active at the time. However, if you find an inactive link, please let the school know, and we will make appropriate adjustments. As we move forward, please know that the Administration, Faculty, and Staff want to extend our sincerest gratitude to all of you for your support throughout the pandemic, and we look forward to seeing you all again!

The Basics

When is MLWGS re-opening to students to attend classes on campus?

All students will begin their school year on campus beginning Tuesday September 7th. To maintain CDC recommendations, masks will be worn while inside the building by all personnel and students regardless of vaccination status. As conditions and recommendations change, we will make appropriate adjustments.

What are the hours of operation?

The school will follow the current schedule with classes beginning at 8:40 AM and ending at 3:10 PM. Students not participating in after-school activities will need to leave the building by 6:00 PM.

Will transportation be provided for the students to attend classes on campus?

Yes. Each district will provide transportation to and from campus for their students. Each district is responsible for communicating any specific transportation rules to their students.

8/23/21

Can my student drive to school?

The student parking lot will be open to Seniors. Registration and fee payment for a parking permit can be done online.

Screening and Covid-19 Mitigation Procedures

How will students and staff be screened prior to entering the building?

Safety begins at home! Prior to leaving the house, all students and staff should view the CDC self-screening document found at the link below. If the answer to any of the questions is “Yes”, the person must remain at home. The CDC lists next steps on the form to ensure the safety of the individual. All students and staff will be asked to give a “thumbs up” upon arrival, affirming that they reviewed the questions at home and were able to answer “no” to all.

<https://www.cdc.gov/screening/paper-version.pdf>

What other mitigation methods are going to be employed?

Everyone entering the building will be required to properly wear a face mask at all times when in the building with the exception of when they are in a designated eating area or in their offices.

Signage will be posted at all points of entry & on all bulletin boards regarding social distancing & mask usage.

Signage will be posted in all student restrooms regarding proper hand washing.

All classrooms and common spaces have been reconfigured for 3 feet of social distancing.

Disposable masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, wipes, disinfectant, and paper towels have been placed in all classrooms.

A full time Registered Nurse has been hired to help coordinate contact tracing, communication, and our Covid-19 response plan.

Hand sanitizer stations have been placed in all classrooms, and 12 additional wall mounted units & six free standing units have been installed throughout the school.

Water fountains have been disabled but the bottle fill stations still operate.

An Airphyx system has been installed for common areas, with miniature units installed in offices. Additionally, the HVAC system has been re-configured to allow for the building to be fully vented twice daily with an air turnover rate increased to 6-10 times per hour. All air filters have been upgraded from MERV 7 to MERV 11.

Plexiglas for all public facing stations in school: reception, security, attendance, and technology.

When and where are masks allowed to be removed for eating/drinking?

Lunch block: cafeteria (reduced capacity), commons (reduced capacity), other designated areas

Transition (hallways): water bottles between classes

Outdoor lunch and on athletic field (faculty/staff/students)

What happens if someone at school becomes sick during the day?

In the event that a student becomes sick during the day, they will go to the clinic and be screened by the school nurse. If they are showing symptoms consistent with Covid-19, they will be placed in a separate room designated as an “isolation area.” A parent or guardian must come and pick up the student. The school is currently able to offer Covid-19 testing if requested by parents when a student is exhibiting symptoms.

What if a student or teacher has a positive Covid-19 test result and has recently been at school?

If a student or teacher reports that they have tested positive for Covid-19, the contact tracing and quarantine procedures set forth by the CDC will be followed. The full text can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

Contact tracing will begin upon our notification of a positive test result. All students and staff that had “close contact” with the infected person will be specifically notified. “Close contact” is defined by the CDC as being within 6 feet for a cumulative period of 15 minutes or more in a 24 hour period.

In addition to those students and staff identified through contact tracing, the entire school community will be notified that a positive test was reported. In this case, all members of our community will need to be vigilant and monitor their own health for any potential symptoms. Again, using the guide below to determine if they should remain at home. If they can answer “No” to all questions, they may continue to attend school.

<https://www.cdc.gov/screening/paper-version.pdf>

I have been exposed to someone through close contact outside of school who may have Covid-19. What do I do?

Follow the guidelines from the CDC. If you exhibit symptoms, remain at home and quarantine for 14 days or until you have met the requirements to return to school listed below.

I tested positive for Covid-19. When can I return to school?

Following the guidelines set forth by the CDC, if a student receives a **positive** Covid-19 test result they should not attend school and should isolate:

8/23/21

- At least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND
- 24 hours with no fever without fever reducing medication AND
- Other symptoms of Covid-19 are improving (see [Isolate If You Are Sick](#) for more information)

For more detailed information, here is the link to the CDC guidelines on returning to school:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/symptom-screening.html#:~:text=If%20the%20student%20receives%20a,without%20fever%20reducing%20medication%20AND>

Lunch

Will the cafeteria be open for lunch?

Yes. The cafeteria will be open, and lunch will be available. The vending machines will also be stocked, and the microwave ovens will be available for students to use.

Where can I eat?

There will be seats spaced three feet apart in the cafeteria, the commons area, and a few other places that will be designated as eating areas. There will also be areas set up outside for use at lunch.

Instruction and Academics

What will instruction look like in the classroom?

Instruction will continue to be delivered physically in the classroom by your teacher. Teachers and students will be wearing masks if they are in class together. You will be able to interact with your classmates as well as your teacher in a socially distanced fashion (three feet).

How will attendance be taken?

It will be taken the same way as it was prior to March 2020.

I have a study hall. Where do I go?

There will be designated areas where you can go to study during your study hall. You will need to sign in at the Attendance Office for contact tracing purposes and remain in the area that you indicated. These may include the Commons, the Cafeteria, the library, and the Forum. Regardless, you will be able to maintain three feet of distance in these areas.

8/23/21

I have a study hall during 1st, 2nd, 7th or 8th period. If I have a ride, can I come to school late or leave early?

Yes! We encourage you to arrive late or leave early if you have transportation and have a study hall 1st, 2nd, 7th, or 8th. You must sign in or out as the case may be at the attendance office.

Will the Counseling Office be open to students?

Yes. The Counseling Office will operate as normal.

Will lockers be assigned to students?

Yes. The information can be found in PowerSchool.

How will labs be handled in science classes?

Maggie Walker science teachers are excited to welcome students back into the lab this fall! While safety always comes first in the science lab, we will be taking additional precautions to keep students safe this year. High touch surfaces, glassware, and equipment will be sanitized between classes, personal hygiene will be emphasized, and social distancing will be prioritized as much as possible during lab activities. Additionally, we encourage all students to provide their own eye protection for labs. Any commercially available safety goggles or safety glasses will be appropriate, as long as they provide full coverage protection from projectiles and chemical splashes. Shared safety goggles, which are sanitized between classes, will be available from the instructor, but all students are encouraged to provide and store their own eye protection out of an abundance of caution.

Will the library be open to students?

Yes, the library will be open from 8:30 AM to 3:15 PM but there will be no eating in the library. Face coverings are required. Sign-in/sign-out will be on a Google form to facilitate contact tracing while reducing transmissions. Students will sign in and out on their own devices. Seating will be socially distanced, and students must be seated in a chair rather than on the floor. Chairs and tables will be wiped down between uses.

Is Ms. DeGroat available for research consultations?

Yes. These can be scheduled via Zoom or in-person at a mutually agreeable time. To request a consult, submit the following form: <http://bit.ly/researchconsultrequest>

May students use library computers?

Students should use their own computers. However, if a student needs to log on to a computer to print a document (not create or edit it), one or two library computers will be available for printing only.

May students borrow library books?

8/23/21

Yes. However, returned library books may not be checked out by another student until 72 hours after they are returned. When browsing the library shelves, students should not reshelve books they decide not to check out. There will be a cart or box for these books. Students learning from home may continue to make requests for library books using the current protocol; these books will be placed on a cart in the Bluestone lobby for pickup.

Technology Department

Device Charging:

Classrooms have an abundance of outlets for charging devices, allowing good spacing for students to be maintained. Additional device charging areas will be available throughout the building, including common areas, the cafeteria, and the library.

Static/Desktop and Cart/Mobile Computer Labs:

Students currently using loaned school devices will continue to do so; students needing use of a loaned school device should be coordinating with MW Tech to secure a device for their use each day. The device will be picked up/returned to a mobile charging station location by room 113 every morning/afternoon.

Printing:

Limited printing will be available in the library.

MW Tech Help Desk:

Emailing Deborah Snagg at dsnagg@gsgis.k12.va.us is the proper action to take or call her at (804) 354-6800 x 1141. She is in room 113, and can provide support via email, phone, Zoom or in person (by appointment).

Sports, Activities, and Social Events

Will we have sports?

Yes. We are fully participating in the VHSL sports seasons.

Can clubs meet?

Yes.

Will there be a Freshman lock-in?

8/23/21

Yes.

Are the class commons going to be open?

Yes. People will need to maintain the three-foot social distance.

Moving Forward

What happens next?

As conditions and guidelines change, we will continually evaluate where we are with the ultimate goal of maintaining all of our students and staff on campus for full-time, in person instruction. It is important to remember that MLWGS is a regional school that pulls from a very large geographic area. Conditions can vary from one partner district to the next, and we need to be sure that we operate in a consistent and safe manner.