



**MASON CITY SCHOOLS  
REMOTE LEARNING PLAN 2020-2021  
FOR SUBMISSION TO THE OHIO DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION**

District Name:	Mason City Schools
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The goal of remote learning is to ensure learning continues even though school buildings are closed. Remote learning engages students through a variety of learning opportunities, which can be delivered online and/or offline. Remote learning does not just mean online learning. Technology certainly is a supportive tool for remote learning, but powerful remote learning can occur through thoughtful offline lessons that encourage students to explore the natural world and engage in interdisciplinary and artistic hands-on learning.

Remote learning in Mason City Schools will take place through a mixture of the following: teacher-student interaction through online learning platforms and learning management systems, synchronous teacher-led online learning, and asynchronous learning (including both online and offline lessons and learning activities for students to work on at home). Some families will opt in to remote learning on a semester-by-semester basis. Other families will opt for an in-person instructional model but may have students engage in remote learning if the school district is required to shift to a hybrid or remote learning model based on local health data or other factors.

HB 164 (June 2020) indicates that *“Each qualifying public school governing body may adopt a plan to provide instruction using a remote learning model for the 2020-2021 school year. An adopted plan shall not be subject to approval by the Department. Each plan shall include all of the following: (1) A description of how student instructional needs will be determined and documented; (2) The method to be used for determining competency, granting credit, and promoting students to a higher grade level; (3) The school's attendance requirements, including how the school will document participation in learning opportunities; (4) A statement describing how student progress will be monitored; (5) A description as to how equitable access to quality instruction will be ensured; (6) A description of the professional development activities that will be offered to teachers...The Department shall make each plan it receives under division (B) of Section 16 publicly available on its website.”*

Below is a summary of Mason City Schools’ Remote Learning Plan, reflecting each item outlined in HB 164 (June 2020).



**1. How will student instructional needs be determined and documented?**

Mason City Schools has instructional calendars that are appropriately sequenced and aligned to Ohio's Learning Standards. We recognize that students may have gaps in their learning due to last year's school closures and, therefore, we plan to assess students in a variety of ways at the beginning of the school year to determine instructional needs (including, but not limited to, local assessments, MAP, Fastbridge). Teachers will document learning needs in an online gradebook and/or within our SIS. In addition, we will have individual plans for students with disabilities (IEPs and 504s), students identified as gifted (WEPs), students in grades K-3 with reading support needs (RIMPs), and English language learners (ELPs). Each plan is shared with all connected staff members and parents.

**2. What method(s) will be used to determine competency, grant credit, and promote students to a higher grade level?**

Teachers will continue to use existing systems of formative and summative assessments to determine competency, grant credit, and promote students to a higher grade level. Standards-based grades will be used in grades K-5. Letter-based grades will be used in grades 6-12. Decisions regarding credit and promotion will be the same as in non-remote settings.

**3. What are the school district's attendance requirements for remote learning and how will the school district document participation in remote learning opportunities?**

Consistent attendance will be expected and monitored through our Student Information System, with teacher oversight. Each student will have at least one dedicated staff member to monitor attendance. Participation in asynchronous learning opportunities will be documented through our learning management system. Teachers will document students' participation in synchronous learning opportunities. Teachers will be responsible for documenting attendance and participation and will be responsible for contacting families should students show signs of non-participation.

**4. How will student progress be monitored?**

Student progress will be monitored through a variety of means. In all grade levels, students will continue to take a variety of formative and summative assessments to help to identify areas of student learning growth and needs. In grades K-6, students will have daily interactions with their teacher, providing opportunities for small group instruction and progress monitoring. In grades 7-12, students will interact with each teacher every other day, providing opportunities for small group instruction and progress monitoring. In grades



7-12, teachers will continue to enter grades, providing an additional tool for families to monitor students' progress.

**5. How will the school district ensure equitable access to quality instruction through remote learning?**

Equitable access is a foundation of our learning models. All students in grades K-12 are provided with a district-owned device so that they are able to access learning resources from home. In addition, we have surveyed families to identify families who have no or limited internet access so that we can provide additional resources, where needed. Additionally, our ESL Supervisor works proactively to ensure that families have access to critical information in a language in which they understand. Our Special Services Team also works with individual families to ensure that students with disabilities have access to quality instruction. Finally, our Mental Wellness team works closely with families to ensure other community-based supports are accessible.

**6. What professional development activities will be offered to the school district's teachers?**

All Mason City Schools teachers will engage in intensive professional development activities from August 12 - August 19, 2020, followed by ongoing professional development opportunities throughout the school year. Professional development activities are designed to prepare teachers to seamlessly shift from in-person instruction to a hybrid instructional approach to full-time remote learning and/or to engage students in full-time online learning. Professional development topics will include a focus on relationships and community building, pedagogical best practices, technology tools for remote learning, formative and summative during remote learning, and tools and techniques for providing meaningful feedback during remote learning. Professional development will include a mix of synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities that mirror the best practices that teachers are expected to adopt. Resources will be housed on an internal website for future reference and use.