



*Morris-Union
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Board of Education*

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Dear DLC Parents:

Re: Q&A No. 1 on Return to School in September

Every two weeks we will provide a Q&A which addresses our current return to school plans. As always, if you have any questions that are not addressed by these Q&As, please email your child's principal or me.

1. What is the return date for my child to attend DLC?

According to Governor Murphy's return to school document entitled, "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Educators," which was sent to you on June 29, all public schools in New Jersey must have students return to school onsite in some capacity in September. The first day of school at DLC is September 2, and all parents will be informed of the specific date of the return to school for their child based on our anticipated hybrid program.

2. Will my child be in school every day at DLC?

At the present time, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) is strongly recommending that there is 6 feet for social distancing of students. Although this may change in the future, the MUJC is currently following this recommendation which means that only half of our DLC students would be in school at the same time. The administration is presently working on a model of instruction where half of the students would receive their instruction onsite at DLC each week. If this model is implemented, students would be divided into Groups A and B and, while Group A students would be onsite at the DLC for one week of instruction, students in Group B would be receiving remote instruction at home with the ability to log in during specified time periods to have some classes and therapies

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livestreamed synchronously so that the remote students could interact with their classmates and classroom staff. Please note that this is not definitive yet and that there are many variables that may affect the implementation of this program option. According to “The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Educators,” all districts must provide their plan of return to school to parents 30 days before school starts. It is our intent that our plan for return to school will be sent to parents on July 31.

3. Will my child have to wear a mask at school?

At the present time, the best medical advice is that students wear masks when they are in the school environment. However, in “The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Educators,” it is recognized that some students may not be able to wear masks for most or any part of the school day due to their medical conditions or other specialized needs. Therefore, we are strongly encouraging the wearing of masks by our students but recognize that this may not always be possible. Parents will be asked to supply a washable cloth mask or disposable masks that are clearly labeled with their child’s name.

4. Will staff members wear PPEs during the school day?

All staff members are required to wear masks unless there is a medical reason which contraindicates the wearing of a mask. The MUJC has ordered an array of PPEs for our staff which will be worn as needed.

5. How will my child’s health be surveyed on a daily basis?

At the present time we anticipate that each parent will be asked to complete a daily health survey consistent with CDC guidelines. Parents will submit it electronically prior to placing their child on the bus. If there are particular circumstances that preclude parents from submitting the information electronically, they will be asked to make other arrangements for its submission with the principal. Your child may not come to the DLC if they experience any symptoms of COVID-19, if they feel ill, or if they have recently been exposed to COVID-19.

6. What happens if my child becomes ill at school?

Our DLC school nurses will observe all children who appear to be ill to determine if they could possibly have symptoms related to COVID-19. If the nurse determines that the student may present with such symptoms, the child will be separated from other students and staff in our “quarantine room” and the parent will be asked to pick up the child and take the child home, until there is medical clearance to return to school. The administration will also immediately inform the County Department of Health and the Department of Health will then advise the DLC about the parents and staff members who need to be notified of a potential exposure to COVID-19.

7. What if I do not want to send my child back to DLC due to my concerns over COVID-19?

The MUJC has electronically sent and posted a return to school survey for all DLC parents. We strongly encourage all DLC parents to complete the survey so that we have accurate information regarding parents who may not wish their child to return to DLC due to COVID-19. Please complete this survey today. It must be submitted no later than July 20 and may be submitted either electronically or by emailing it to studentsurvey@mujc.org, faxing it to 908-464-1244, or mailing it to Student Survey, Morris-Union Jointure Commission, 340 Central Avenue, New Providence, NJ 07974. Parents will receive a reminder through Instant Alert on July 14 to complete their surveys. Parents who do not send their children back to DLC due to their concern about COVID-19 will be offered a complete educational program remotely if that is consistent with the decision of your child's IEP team.

8. How can I remain up-to-date on the return to school process at the DLCs?

Please join other parents and the administration at our biweekly virtual parent meetings, which are hosted through Zoom. These meetings provide all parents with districtwide information regarding the return to school. Parents receive invitations approximately two weeks before each meeting and reminder invitations the day before. Please join us at these meetings, they are very instructive. Also, principals are hosting weekly meetings for all parents. You will receive Zoom invitations for those meetings. Please join those meetings to receive updated information particular to the specific DLC your child attends. Additionally, there are parent representatives on the MUJC's Restart Committee, which collaborates with a variety of individuals in different positions regarding the major issues involved in the return to school as well as the Pandemic Response Teams, which include individuals with a diversity of interests and which discuss the details specific to each DLC regarding the return to school. Minutes of both the Restart Committee and the Pandemic Response Team meetings are posted on the MUJC website, Facebook, and Twitter after each meeting.

Thank you, as always, for your support during these difficult times. We are providing you with the most accurate information that we have to date. Please know that the return to school is an evolving situation and the CDC, Governor, and Commissioner of Education may provide additional updates about the reopening of school with which we would then be required to comply and which could change our current plans.

If you have any questions you would like to have answered for the next Q&A No. 2, please feel free to email them to Kathy Galvin at kgalvin@mujc.org. Thank you.

Sincerely,



Janet L. Fike