

JSE Weekly Newsletter

August 24 - August 28

Changes to Instructional Choice

Hello JSE Families!

If you are considering changing your student's method of instruction (from digital to in person or from in person to digital), you will need to contact the JSE Main Office (865-983-8551). The last day to make a change is September 2, 2020, and the change to your student's instruction will go in to effect on September 8th.

Please abide by the deadline to allow us time to place students in appropriate classes, make changes to schedules, and allow teachers to prepare.

For a better understanding and to allow families to make the most informed choice, we suggest that families read the JSE Newsletter and the Guidelines for MCS Digital Instruction. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please follow the link below to the Maryville City Schools Digital Learning Guidelines.

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1594223159/maryvilleschoolsorg/xo9zv3e3kc7jrzaftzpcj/MCSDigitalLearningGuidelines-Student-8July2020.pdf>

Kindergarten Information Arrival and Dismissal

Hello Kindergarten Parents,

Thank you so much for a wonderful two weeks of Kindergarten! We were pleased and happy as we watched our new kindergarten students become more comfortable with the school and our daily classroom schedules. We look forward to watching our Kindergarten students grow their independence, and we thank you in advance for your cooperation.

We look forward to the coming weeks with excitement!

Below is the updated arrival and dismissal information:

Kindergarten Arrival:

Beginning Monday, August 24th, the Kindergarten gate will be closed. You will have two options for dropping off your students in the morning.

Option 1: Drive through the Dropoff Line.

- Your student will remain in the vehicle until it comes to a complete stop.
- Exit the vehicle and walk to the entrance of the school building.
- Be greeted, temperature checked, and receive hand sanitizer from a JSE Staff member.
- Staff members will be available to ensure students get to the classrooms or to the cafeteria for breakfast, if applicable.

Option 2: Walk up to the Cross Walk

- Enter the parking lot through the appropriate entrance.
- Do not park on the grass or drive across the front lawn.

Kindergarten Dismissal:

Beginning on August 24th, you have three options for pickup after school each day. You may pick up your student at the exterior classroom door, wait in the parent 'holding' area in front of the kinder fence, or drive-through the parent pick up line.

Option 1: Pick up at the exterior classroom door:

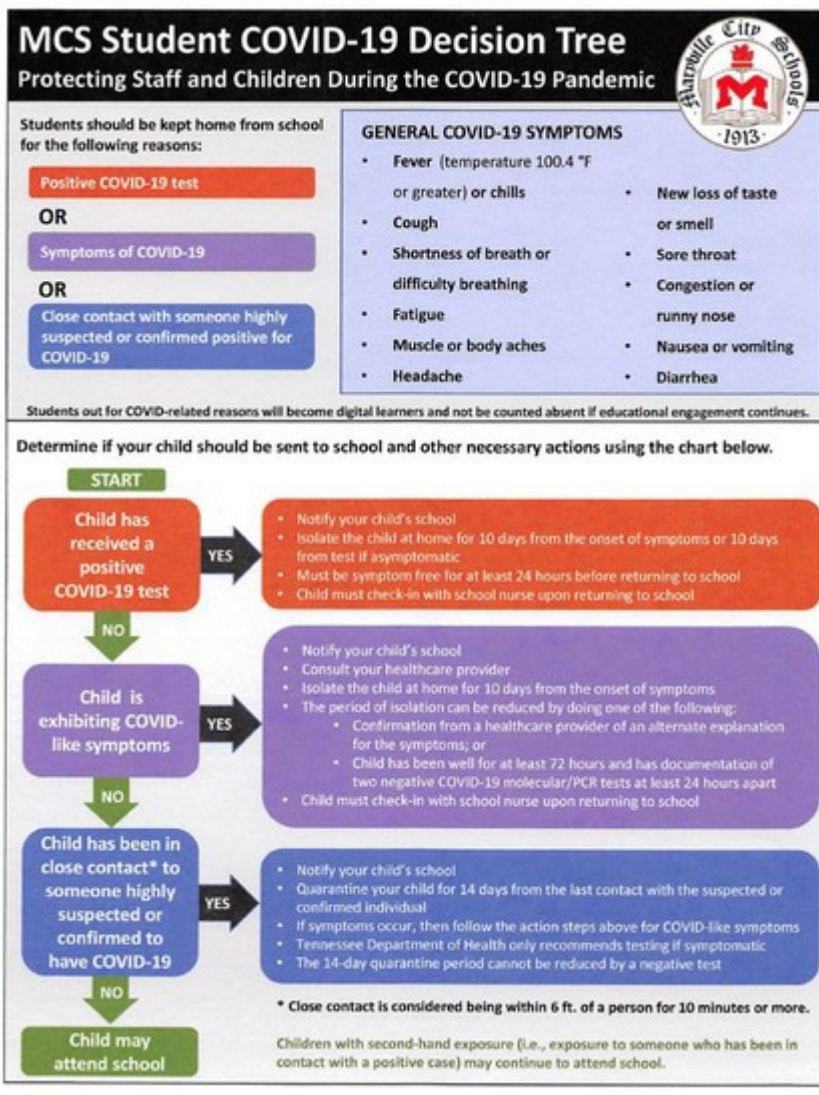
- Kindergarten students will be dismissed from their classroom at 2:35 pm.
- Walk up to your student's classroom door.
- Please do not come to the classroom door before 2:35 pm.
- Do not attempt to open the classroom door. Your student's teacher will open the door when dismissal begins.
- Please have either the orange pickup tag provided to you by the classroom teacher, or identification.
- Exit through the gate on the Kindergarten playground.
- Adults are not permitted in the classroom.
- Please be respectful of others and maintain social distancing while waiting.

Option 2: Walk up to Pick up

- Kindergarten students will arrive at the awning between 2:40-2:45 pm each day.
- Please have either the orange pickup tag provided to you by the classroom teacher, or identification.
- All family members must remain behind the blue roped area in the family waiting area.
- No students will be released to parents standing in the tree line.

Option 3: Drive through the pick-up line

- Kindergarten students will be seated under the awning from 2:45 - 3:05 each day.
- Please display the orange pickup tag on your dash or hang it from your rearview mirror.
- Once you have your student in the vehicle, please remove or lower the orange tag.
- If you are running late for any reason, please call the JSE Main Office at 865-983-8551.
- If we have not heard from you at 3:05 you will be contacted by a member of our office staff, and Mrs. Easterly or Mr. Tinker will remain with your student until you arrive.



COVID-19 Notifications and Management Plan

Per the MCS COVID-19 Management Plan, the JSE community will be notified when a student or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, has been in direct contact with a COVID positive person, or developed an accumulation of symptoms.

We request that you keep your child home from school if they have any of the following symptoms:

- fever,
- cough,
- fatigue,
- muscle or body aches,
- headache,
- sore throat,
- nausea or vomiting,
- loss of their sense of taste or smell
- diarrhea
- congestion or runny nose
- shortness of breath

We also request that you keep your child home:

- If they have been tested for COVID, and you have not yet received the results.
- If they have been in direct close contact with a COVID positive person.

Students that are quarantined based on a close contact exposure will not be required to fulfill the re-entry conditions of students who are sent home and quarantined for a combination of symptoms. Students with symptoms or a positive COVID-19 test result will need to follow the re-entry plan before returning to school.

The link to the MCS COVID-19 Management plan is below:

https://maryvilleschools-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/g/personal/brandee_easterly_maryville-schools_org/EY6FyxvPa4dJthqr2PxuBSQB_6Ookn1WL0fSCAiLtIG5Q?e=JRXzBn

MCS Digital Learning

Maryville City Schools' goal is to provide a virtual learning program that matches the rigor of the traditional classroom. Case in point, our virtual learning program will look a lot different than what students received in the spring. We are proud of the instruction that students received last spring, but our aim is to push virtual learners even further in their virtual studies this year. Our goal is to ensure that the quality of the virtual learning education mirrors that of what is occurring in the traditional classroom. We hope that it mirrors so closely, that when virtual learners return to traditional learning, they find that they haven't skipped a beat with their peers. Here are some important things to highlight about the Virtual Learning Program:

- The state requires us to provide 7 hours of instructional time to our 1st, 2nd, and 3rd-grade learners and 4.5 hours of instructional time to our Kindergarteners.
- Synchronous or asynchronous learning time both count as instructional time. Synchronous learning is online or distance education that happens in real-time, whereas asynchronous learning occurs without real-time interaction. Zoom is a great example of synchronous learning. A teacher providing a student with an activity to work on without live teacher support is an example of asynchronous learning.
- Maryville's Virtual Learning model will incorporate a blend of synchronous and asynchronous learning. Virtual learners will not be Zooming all day long. Virtual learners may Zoom with their teacher for a little while and then be asked to go work on an assignment on their own or with their guardian.
- Each Digital teacher will be creating their very own Digital Classroom schedule. Their schedules will require students to be on Zoom at specifically scheduled times throughout the day. Each virtual learner needs to be present for these scheduled times in order to be marked present on their attendance.
- MCS takes engagement in Virtual learning very seriously. If a student is not on pace in their virtual learning – they are not participating in online sessions, not completing or attempting assignments, a week behind in work completion, not responding to teacher communications – then the following steps will be initiated.
 1. Parent/Teacher/Student Conference – digitally or on the phone – to determine areas of need.
 2. Should dis-engagement continue, then the Parent and Teacher will develop a two-week action plan for the student identifying the services necessary for the student to be successful. This plan will include weekly face to face sessions in the Digital Learning Lab for the specified course(s).
 3. Should a student continue to be off track in the course even with an action plan, withdrawal from Digital Learning will be initiated, and the student will return to face to face instruction at school or secure a different school option outside MCS.

Please follow the link below to the Maryville City Schools Digital Learning Guidelines.

**Have you been affected
by COVID-19?**



Call (855) 661-9191

Are you **worried, overwhelmed**
or need assistance navigating
community resources for COVID-19?

Do you need help **reducing stress** or
finding **emotional support** to cope with
uncertainties as a result of the pandemic?

The COVID-19 helpline provides free
resource assistance and emotional
support for individuals affected by
the pandemic in East Tennessee.

*The helpline is answered 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.,
Monday through Friday.*



This material is supported by a federal grant response to FEMA DR 4514 - TN.

JSE Cafe menu for 8/24 - 8/28

AUGUST | 2020

John Sevier Elementary



MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
3 Muffins & Yogurt Chicken Patty, Bun Fries, Broccoli, Let/Tom/Pickle OR Ham & Cheese Sandwich	4 Sausage & Biscuit Hot Dog, Bun, Chili, Coleslaw, Tater Tots OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	5 Cereal Bar & Yogurt Chicken Nuggets, Roll, Mashed Potatoes, Peas OR Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	6 Pancakes Mini Corn Dogs, Broccoli, Chips & Cheese OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	7 Chicken Biscuit Cheese Pizza, Corn, Carrots, OR Ham & Cheese Sandwich	News Menu subject to change This Institution is an Equal Opportunity Provider Offered Daily with all Meals: Mayfield Milk 1% low fat milk Low fat Chocolate Fruit Cereal offered daily at breakfast
10 Muffin & Yogurt Chicken Nuggets, Roll Rice, Broccoli OR Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	11 Sausage & Biscuit BBQ Pork, Bun, Baked Beans, Chips, Coleslaw OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	12 Poptart & Yogurt Chicken Patty, Bun, Season Potato Wedges, Broccoli, Let/Tom/Pickle OR Ham & Cheese Sandwich	13 Donuts Meatball Sub, Chips, Carrots OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	14 Chicken Biscuit Baked Cheese Sticks, Marinara Sauce, Green Beans OR Chicken Salad Croissant Chips, Carrots	
17 Muffin & Yogurt Hot Dog, Bun, Chili, Coleslaw, Tater Tots OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	18 Sausage & Biscuit Chicken Nuggets, Roll, Broccoli, Mac & Cheese OR Ham & Cheese Sandwich	19 Cinni Minis & Yogurt Beef Tacos, Soft Wrap, Refried Beans, Rice, Salsa, Shredded Cheese, Let/Tom OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	20 Cereal Kit CornDog, Fries, Baked Beans OR Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	21 Chicken Biscuit Cheese Pizza, Corn, Carrots OR Cheese Quesadilla	
24 Muffin & Yogurt Chicken Nuggets, Roll, Fries, Mixed Vegetables OR Ham & Cheese S	25 Sausage & Biscuit Steak & Gravy, Roll Mashed Potatoes, Peas OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	26 Chicken Patty, Bun, Fries, Let/Tom/Pickle OR Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	27 French toast Sticks & Sausage Link Mini Corn Dogs, Broccoli, Scalloped Potatoes OR PB & Jelly Uncrustable	28 Chicken Biscuit Baked Cheese Sticks, Marinara Sauce, Green Beans OR Ham & Cheese Sandwich	
31 Muffin & Yogurt Cheese Burger, Bun, Fries, California Blend Vegetable, Let/Tom/Pickle OR Turkey & Cheese Sandwich	1	2	3	4	

Enter Text Here

Helping Children Learn

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School



ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

September 2020

Family Resource Center
Maryville City Schools

Encourage reading by modeling the many reasons to read

It's a fundamental truth of parenting: Children learn by example. Whether you want your child to tell the truth or eat her vegetables, modeling the behavior is the best way to get her to follow suit.

This is also the case with reading. To help your child form helpful reading habits, show her how you read often too:

- **Learn things.** Say, "I'm trying to learn about a new strategy we might use at work. This article explains how other businesses use it."
- **Find information.** Do you need to fix an appliance at home? Show your child how you read a manual to learn how. When you want to find a new recipe, show her how you search online or in a cookbook index.
- **Have a good time.** When your child sees you reading for pleasure or to relax, she will realize that reading isn't just for school or work.
- **Pass time when waiting.** Bring something to read everywhere you go. Ignore TV screens in waiting rooms and pull out a book. Play audiobooks in the car on long drives.
- **Connect with others.** When you read something interesting, read a little out loud. Print or cut out an article you think your child would enjoy and leave it on her bed. Show her that reading is something fun to share.



Take a balanced approach

Parents have taken on more teaching this year than ever before, and your support of your child's learning is essential. Turning everything you do with your child into a lesson, however, can backfire.

Kids love to do activities with their parents, but not if they feel like they're always in class. So do some things together just for fun. Let your child try out her own ideas and learn from the results. Enjoying your time together is also an important way to support your child.



Relieve stress about school

This year's unprecedented events may have your child feeling anxious about school. To ease his mind:

- **Reassure him** that he is up to the challenge of new situations and new work.
- **Put grades in perspective.** Is he doing his best? Is he learning? Let him know that's what counts.

Find time for family fitness

A recent study shows that as early as age seven, children's physical activity levels start to decline. This is a problem. Not only does exercise reduce stress and risks of serious health problems, research shows it also aids learning. Compared to inactive peers, children who get regular exercise:

- **Are better listeners.**
- **Have better handwriting.**
- **Have better hand-eye coordination.**

To keep your child fit and learning well for years to come, help her set—and stick with—a healthy exercise routine now.



Source: "Decline in physical activity often starts as early as age 7," ScienceDaily, www.sciencedaily.com



Help your child be an active learner

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought many changes to learning in 2020, and it is likely that will continue. But one thing has not changed: Students who take active responsibility for their own learning get more out of it. To foster this responsibility in your elementary schooler, encourage him to:

- **Get ready to learn.** That means getting enough sleep, eating a healthy breakfast and being prepared with necessities like pencils, paper and a positive attitude.
- **Discuss what he's learning.** Asking questions, offering opinions and exchanging ideas with others strengthens your child's understanding of the material.
- **Stay organized.** Help your child create a system for organizing assignments, returned work and other materials.
- **Keep trying.** Support your child as he faces challenges with learning, assignments and tests. Tell him that persistence pays off, and help him think of different strategies he can try to tackle problems.

Helping Children Learn

Five Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

September 2020

Q&A How can I be involved if I can't help during the day?

Q: I work during school hours, and I can't just take time off to participate in a school activity. What else can I do to stay involved and support my child's education?

A: Research shows that parent involvement improves children's educational outcomes. But taking part in a school class or activity is only one of many ways to make a difference. Many things you can do at home can have a big impact on your child's learning.

First and most importantly, let your child know that school is a top priority. You can do that several ways:

- **Set high expectations.** Tell your child that you know he can do well in school, and you expect him to work hard. Offer praise when he does.
- **Talk about school subjects** with your child. Ask him to tell you about what he's learning. Offering positive comments, like "That sounds really interesting, I hope you'll tell me more," can motivate him.
- **Review your child's work,** and schedule enough time each day for him to do assignments. Stay nearby, if possible, while he works.
- **Work with other school parents.** Join the parent-teacher organization. You'll learn about what's going on and what families can do to help.



Parent Quiz

Are you shifting into school routines?

Establishing routines at home can ease your child's adjustment from a more relaxed summer schedule to the busier school year. Are you creating patterns that help your child make the shift? Answer yes or no to the questions below:

1. **Have you set a bedtime** for your child that lets her get nine to 12 hours of sleep?
2. **Have you set aside** at least 20 minutes a day for family reading time?
3. **Have you made evening** checklists of the preparations your child should make for the next morning?
4. **Have you designated** a spot where your child should keep supplies and items needed for school so there is no time wasted looking for them?
5. **Have you posted a family** calendar where she can record assignments and activities?

How well are you doing?

More yes answers mean you are establishing a structure to smooth the return to school. For each no, try that idea.

"Write it on your heart that every day is the best day in the year."
—John's Wilds America

Focus on study skills

Helping your child develop his study skills is a key way to make sure he has a productive school year. For a start:

- **Set a regular study time** and place. Choose a time when your child is alert, and a spot that is comfortable and free of distractions.
- **Teach your child** to make a daily to-do list. As he crosses completed assignments off, he'll feel a sense of accomplishment.
- **Encourage him** to restate the main ideas of assignments in his own words.

Brains need downtime

Studies show that even when kids' brains are in a "resting" state they are still active. What's more, a little mental downtime can help consolidate learning. To give your child's brain a chance to recharge:

- **Have her take** a short break after every 15 to 20 minutes of homework or study.
- **Let her be bored** sometimes. Challenge her to figure out how to fill her time without relying on screens.

Source: L. Watson, Ph.D., "How Cuddling Off Helps Kids Learn," *The Atlantic*, www.theatlantic.com/education.

Set the stage for teamwork

You and your child's teacher are partners. By staying in touch and working together, you can keep small issues from becoming big problems. Make it a point to:

1. **Share information** about your child and about changes at home.
2. **Read all notes** that come from school. Fill out and return forms and questionnaires promptly.
3. **Ask questions!** If you are confused about anything school-related, ask the teacher to explain.



Helping Children Learn®

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Brandee Easterly, Principal
Brian Tinker, Assistant Principal
School Start Time: 7:50 a.m.
School Dismissal: 2:50 p.m.

Ways to Help Your School:



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