



February 1, 2021

Dear Remote Learners and Families,

Back in August of 2020, our MCI teachers and administrators chose to go above and beyond and create an option for families who had serious health and safety concerns about COVID-19 in schools. Thus, a fully remote option was put into place for that reason and that reason only. We certainly have committed and dedicated teachers!

As time progressed and we learned more about the virus and its transmission, your thoughts may have changed about the health and safety of your daughter/son on campus. We have separated into two groups alphabetically, and we have adopted a hybrid version of learning and have many transmission mitigation measures and best practices in place. At Maine Central Institute, students are expected to attend classes in-person. There are many emotional and social aspects of learning and community that are at the very core of MCI values and its mission to educate the whole student. Students learn essential organizational and executive functioning skills with the structure and interactions of in-person schooling.

We are not an on-line school. If you feel it safe enough to participate in activities such as winter carnival, school athletics, and any other events with other MCI students here on campus, then your daughter/son is expected to attend in-person learning. The on-line option was designed exclusively for safety and health concerns for families.

We will extend the time period to elect the hybrid learning model (right now, that is two days a week on campus) until Friday, February 5. This would be cohort A or B, and you would remain in that cohort until the end of the third quarter, at which point you can re-evaluate. Please let the academic office know right away if you are making this choice so that we can inform teachers and transportation providers if necessary.

Finally, there have been some questions regarding graduation and how that will look this year. At this time, it will most likely be the same as last year with students/families electing in-person, on-line, or drive through.

Thank you for your continued support of MCI in these challenging and unprecedented times. Working together, we will get through this stronger. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly.

Respectfully,

Christopher M. McDonald