E-Learning Days

FAQs

What is E-Learning?

E-learning is the act of engaging in an educational course in an online setting.

The Madison County School System will provide students the opportunity to participate in classroom learning and interact with their teacher from home. Students will be presented with instructional videos of their teacher (some live and some pre-recorded), as well as interactive activities that will mirror the same standards that are being taught in the classroom.

Why is MCSS utilizing E-Learning Days?

Traditional school is the first and most desired way to educate students. However, the safety and well-being of our staff, students, and families is our district's highest priority during this health crisis. By offering well-designed E-Learning opportunities, we can provide a high quality classroom environment, safely accessible anywhere.

E-Learning is a learned skill for both teachers and students. In order to sharpen this skill, MCSS proposed E-Learning days that will allow:

- Students regular practice in accessing online lessons. Doing so will better prepare both them and those providing the lessons should we have to transition to a school closure due to COVID-19.
- Educators time to prepare, update, grade, and evaluate lessons for their students.

What will happen on E-Learning Days?

Technically, students will attend 'school' on E-Learning days. The difference is that instruction will be delivered through an online learning management system instead of face to face, in the classroom.

To facilitate this opportunity for every student, the Madison County School System will provide Chromebooks and mobile internet access points. We have also retrofitted 90 buses with Wi-Fi access.

During E-Learning days students will participate in guided and independent practice and this will allow them to take more ownership of their learning. ALL students will interact with their teacher(s) to show what they have learned.

What is important for parents to understand about E-Learning?

During E-Learning days teachers will be delivering materials that students will need and conducting regular instruction, just like a normal day in the classroom.

- E-Learning is educating students.
- Teachers will teach their students.
- Parents do not become teachers.

Some elements of E-Learning include:
- Engaging videos introducing and explaining the essential standard being taught
- Appropriate strategies to assist students in mastering the material
- Demonstrations of activities
- Examples for problem solving
- Methods for creating
- Prompts for writing on relevant topics
- Modeled thinking from teachers
- Online collaboration with peers
- Introduces students to independent learning, outside the classroom

The E-Learning days are a way for MCSS to prepare to best serve our children's learning needs regardless of what may be impacting our community. In addition, students will be exposed to an online format that high schools and colleges utilized regularly.

What is the teacher role during E-Learning Days?

Teachers will
- Teach students online lessons
- Provide individualized lesson support to students needing additional assistance
- Create future E-Learning and traditional classroom lessons
- Grade student work
- Evaluate the current lesson and update future online lessons
- Collaborate with other educators to create future lessons
- Participate in professional development to become better educators

Will E-Learning improve the quality of my child's education?

The purpose of education is to prepare students to be independent learners and to be productive members of society, contributing to the betterment of society as a whole. As education leaders, we must prepare them for many and diverse situations that they may encounter, and help them build the skills needed to successfully navigate those situations. E-Learning will help build confident and experienced learners, learners well versed in utilizing technology for future educational and career endeavors.

While we do believe that a traditional school environment is the best way to meet all the needs of our students, it is critical that we also prepare to provide the highest quality education for our students via online learning.

It is equally important that we provide time and opportunities for educators to prepare the necessary high quality lessons that will meet the needs of students.

What is the parent/guardian/caregiver role during E-Learning Days?

- Explain E-Learning and online learning
- Assist students with technology needs- logging in, cameras, internet access
- Encourage students
- Communicate with teachers