



Minnesota Public Schools

Digital Learning Day

Updated November 2020

What is digital learning?

A digital learning day is used in place of a school day that has been canceled due to inclement weather. A digital learning day means that students will attend school virtually and in a synchronous fashion. It will resemble the Distance Learning format we used in the fall of 2020.

Attendance - Students are expected to attend each class, each digital learning day in a synchronous format. This means that classes are “LIVE” each hour. Students will follow a modified high school schedule and report for class digitally. Digital Learning is not optional, it’s as important as attending school in a traditional sense. Teachers will be taking daily/hourly attendance and the office will be calling parents (for unexcused absences, just like in a traditional sense). Students who are absent from class will be subject to disciplinary action per the student handbook. Students who are truant will be reported to the County, just like in a traditional sense. Per the direction of the Minnesota Department of Education, attendance must be taken each day.

- High school students will not have to report anywhere online during study hall.
- High school students who have online college classes will not have to report anywhere during those hours.
- Classes will be 30-minutes long. 5-minutes of transition time (from one Google Meet/Zoom meeting to another) will take place between each hour.
- All classes will take place on Digital Learning Days!



High School Hourly Schedule for Digital Learning Days:

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|--|---------------------|
| MHS Teacher Digital Learning Prep Time: | 7:45 AM - 9:55 AM |
| 1st Hour - | 9:55 AM-10:25 AM |
| 2nd Hour- | 10:30 AM - 11:00 AM |
| 3rd Hour- | 11:05 AM- 11:35 AM |
| LUNCH- | 11:35 AM- 12:05 PM |
| 4th Hour- | 12:05 PM- 12:35 PM |
| 5th Hour- | 12:40 PM- 1:10 PM |
| 6th Hour- | 1:15 PM- 1:45 PM |
| 7th Hour- | 1:50 PM- 2:20 PM |
| MHS Teacher Office Hours - | 2:20 PM - 3:20 PM |

MHS Teacher Office Hours-

Teachers are available to answer questions via e-mail or via chat in Google Classroom.

Why is the Minneota School District preparing for the use of digital learning days?-

Historically, winter weather in southwest Minnesota can be persistent and disruptive. Neighboring school districts have experienced a loss of an entire school week due to winter storms and their aftermath. Now, in the 2020-21 school year, it seems that with the resources available and if prepared for carefully, we can mitigate the disruptiveness our winter weather can have on student learning. Providing students and teachers more opportunities for learning and the ability to provide learning without disruption during snow days is consistent with our district's focus on student achievement. Additionally, a digital learning day reinforces 21st-century job and post-secondary educational opportunities for working and learning remotely.

The state allows us to have five Digital Learning Days. Digital Learning Days count as a day of instruction and don't have to be made up.



Parent Expectations

- Reinforce to your child that this is “school” and it’s not optional to attend school on a Digital Learning day.
- Make sure your child is attending every class, each Digital Learning Day.
- Check your e-mail on a regular basis; make sure you have a valid e-mail address on file.

Student Expectations

- Students need to self-advocate and reach out to teachers if they need help. One of the best life skills a student can learn is how to advocate for themselves! Teach your child how to reach out and ask questions or to request additional help!
- Students need to check their MPS e-mail on a regular basis.
- Students need to avoid procrastination and stay self-motivated.
- Students need to keep their cameras on and stay engaged in the “on-screen” lesson.

Anticipated Frequently Asked Questions

How will we be notified that a “snow day” is a digital learning day?

The school will communicate with all parents and staff through the SchoolMessenger System that is already utilized. In the message sent, it will read that this “snow day is a digital learning day.”

What about 2 hour late starts and when school closes early? Will those days also be a digital learning day?

No. In the event of a two-hour late start or early dismissal, a digital learning day will not be expected.

What if a student is on a pre-arranged absence?

The student would be expected to make up the learning activities and assignments just as if it were any other absence from school.

Will the school building be closed on a digital learning day to students as it is on a regular snow day?

Yes. The school district building will be closed to students and activities on digital learning days.