



Marshfield Public Schools

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Dear MPSD Parents, Guardians & Staff,

I hope this finds you healthy and well. I write to inform you that, based on the hard work of our Teaching & Learning Task Force, we have made revisions to our current hybrid mode of learning and those changes were approved last night by the Marshfield School Committee.

As you are aware, we originally developed a hybrid educational delivery system that focused on flexible learning and engagement for students encompassing both synchronous and asynchronous components. We did this to try and meet the wide variety of ages, needs and circumstances of our students. Our current model and instructional practices were approved by DESE prior to the start of the school year. Back in November, in an effort to use the lessons we have learned and feedback we received from our students, parents/guardians and staff, we began the process of making revisions to our current hybrid instructional model.

As these revisions were taking shape, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) adjusted how Student Learning Time (SLT) was to be calculated in hybrid and remote instructional models. In mid-December, DESE's board voted to create a minimum number of live hours of instruction (35) that had to be built into a district's hybrid model. While we were already working on modifications to our plan, these changes from DESE created another layer of scheduling that had to be figured into our plans.

As such, on Tuesday, January 19, 2021, per the DESE timeline, changes to our hybrid instructional model will be put in place for grades 1-12 which will meet the needs we identified. Additionally, they will adhere to DESE's new requirements. The most significant change you will notice will be for students who are on their REMOTE instructional days. Students working remotely from home will have a more specific schedule to follow on these remote days. There will also be more scheduled concurrent instruction with their teachers and the peers in the other cohorts and attendance expectations will be in place. This will be done through increased use of live/Zoom or Google Meet connections provided by their teachers.

This will be another new instructional approach for our students, faculty and staff in a year that has been like no other. In order to comply with the timeline of the new DESE regulations, faculty and staff have been given very little time to shift. While I am confident in the great work our staff will be able to accomplish with their students in this new hybrid model, please be patient with the challenges that will inevitably occur.

We believe this shift will provide the opportunity for students to better connect and engage with their learning. In addition, both cohorts of students will be able to interact with each other for a far greater period of time. During our current remote model, we have seen this to be a huge positive for students and their teachers.

Attached you will find information shared with the School Committee last night that also provides you with the model schedules for each level that reflect the increased amount of live/concurrent instruction. Please note that the elementary schedule is a sample, and that actual times for meetings to occur will be based on classroom schedules provided by your teachers. There may be additional communication and descriptions forthcoming from each building. I will also continue to keep you updated as soon and as often as I can.

Thank you and have a great day.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey W. Granatino

File attachments:

[Next steps T&L presentation 1.11.21 PDF.pdf](#)