



Middleton–Cross Plains  
Area School District  
inclusive. innovative. inspiring.

Hello District families,

We know there is a lot of excitement and nervousness over the move to online instruction for students starting on Wednesday. We want to remind everyone to be patient. Learning is going to look different these next few weeks. We know that there will be kinks to work out. But we will get through it together.

We first need to share with you a virtual-online learning notification from Director of Student Services Barb Buffington. Please read carefully:

On March 13, 2020, the Governor of the State of Wisconsin ordered all public and private schools in the State of Wisconsin to close effective March 18, 2020. Per the Governor's Order, the schools shall remain closed for the duration of the public health emergency or until a subsequent order lifts the restriction. In light of the Governor's Order, the Middleton-Cross Plains Area School District will be communicating electronically with parents and using electronic means and virtual/online platforms to facilitate the provision of educational services.

To that end, your child's teacher may provide small group or one-on-one virtual lessons and/or discussions. Teachers will use Google Hangout, Google Meet, or Zoom to hold video conferences with students. This is a direct connection and no additional log-in is required if students are already logged into their accounts. The video classroom is for school-managed activities only. Students cannot invite other students or teachers to a video conference using Google Hangouts, Google Meet, or Zoom, nor can students use a virtual room once the teacher has closed it.

Teachers have the opportunity to screen share and record the instructional lesson. It will be the responsibility of the teacher to disconnect the video session once the lesson or check-in has been completed. Students should be located in a quiet environment that is free from distractions or items which may not conform to school rules and guidelines. Students must also wear clothing that conforms to the District's dress code, and comply with all other aspects of the District's Code of Conduct. To promote confidentiality of student information, if the video lesson or video meeting includes any other student, your student should not include other children or adults in your household in the lesson or meeting.

Should you NOT want your child to participate in video conferencing with their teacher (via Zoom, Google Hangout, or Google Meet), please notify the teacher and/or school principal via

email. Please note there will be no penalization for opting your child out of participating in video conferencing with staff.

Thank you for your continued cooperation as we navigate these unique and challenging times. If you have any questions about this notice and consent in regards to video conferencing with staff, please contact your child's classroom teacher or principal. For District-level concerns, please email Barb Buffington, Director of Student Services, at [bbuffington@mcpasd.k12.wi.us](mailto:bbuffington@mcpasd.k12.wi.us).

Here are some other items we wanted to cover in today's communication:

### **1. We are still having trouble with the online platforms. What do you suggest?**

The District is holding student support sessions the rest of the week for children in grades 5-12 who need more help as we transition to online instruction.

Sessions will be held Wednesday and Thursday from 10 to 11 a.m. Those sessions will be led by MHS business teacher Bill Boehm. Sessions will also be held Wednesday through Friday from 11 a.m. to noon. Those sessions will be led by middle school integration technology teacher Brian Miles.

The sessions will be held live in Zoom. Please go to this [Google document](#) to learn more and participate. There is a link for each session being held this week.

Students in 4K through 4th grade should contact their classroom teacher if they need more support with online instruction.

### **2. Is there somewhere I can go on the District website to access all online information?**

We have added a series of links for Learning from Home on the front page of the District website near the top of the page on the right-hand side. They include links to:

- Buzz Login Page
- Google Classroom Login Page
- Seesaw Login Page
- Zoom Login Page
- Elementary Learning Resources
- Secondary Learning Resources

We also expect to have a page with even more online instructional information available later this week. And to access all of the information the District has provided over the past three weeks, please visit the [COVID-19 Update page](#) on the District website.

### **3. I still am having trouble accessing the internet. What are my options?**

The District is getting another shipment of MiFi internet access devices today or Wednesday. Please contact the social worker at your child's school to see about getting one.

The attached map shows Charter's public hotspots around the area. Learn more at <https://www.spectrum.com/wifi-hotspots>. We also have created a hotspot in the Glacier Creek Middle School parking lot in Cross Plains where you can access the District network.

As we have mentioned previously, Charter is offering free access to Spectrum broadband and Wi-Fi for 60 days for families who currently don't have the service with the company. TDS is offering free internet to low-income families and college students.

You can contact Charter at 1-844-488-8395 to learn more. The hold time is approximately 15-20 minutes. You can contact TDS at 608-664-9459 from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. and leave a voice message. TDS covers much of our District, although not the Elver Park area.

The District is not endorsing either program but only wants to make families aware of these potential options.