First Week

Fall 2020

September 2, 2020
Coming Back Together….

LPES
@lpes_smcps
Our Front Office Team is here to help Panda Nation in anyway they can! Happy Tuesday Panda Nation! #PandaPride

EMS
@ems_smcps
Day 2 is going great!! We love seeing our students over Google Meet!

GKES
@gkes_smcps
GK staff and students did an amazing job greeting and meeting new classmates/students!! Great to see so many little smiles😊

LES
@les_smcps
Teachers connecting with their students this morning. Great to see everyone back:) We missed you!

TCES
@TCES_SMCPs
Our teachers are thrilled to be connecting with our students!

PHES
@phes_smcps
Park Hall has the best kindergarten team ever!!! It was such a coincidence that they all wore the same shirt on the same day.
Topics

- COVID Guidance for Maryland Schools
  - Governor’s Press Conference August 27, 2020
  - Local COVID data - Navigating Dashboards
  - Timeline for Transition to In-Person Hybrid Instruction
- Getting Connected with Technology Resources
  - One to One in SMCPS
  - Getting Connected in Schoology
- Special Education Update and Overview
- Food Services Update
Governor Hogan and Superintendent Salmon

Press Conference on Thursday, August 27 @ 4pm

Watch today's press conference live on YouTube: youtu.be/GdWXWL11RNs

As a result of dramatically improved #COVID19 health metrics across the state, today I announced that every county school system in Maryland is now fully authorized to begin safely reopening.

Details: governor.maryland.gov/2020/08/27/gov...

The authority to reopen continues to rest with county school systems, but nearly everyone agrees that there is no substitute for in-person instruction. It is essential that we all work together on flexible hybrid plans to safely get some of our kids back into classrooms.
What does Stage 3 mean for schools?
COVID-19 Guidance for Maryland Schools

START
Testing Positivity Rate

< 5.00%

New Case Rate

≤5 per 100,000
- Expanded in-person programs
- Hybrid or partially in-person programs

> 15 per 100,000
- Limited in-person programs

> 5.00%

New Case Rate

≤5 per 100,000
- Hybrid or partially in-person programs

> 15 per 100,000
- Limited or no in-person programs

Reassess if new case rate +2.00/100,000 OR positivity rate >1.5% within 2 weeks
Testing Positivity Rate

Source: https://governor.maryland.gov/recovery-schools/
New Case Rate (per 100,000)

Source: https://governor.maryland.gov/recovery-schools/
COVID-19 Guidance for Maryland Schools

St. Mary’s County
Positivity Rate
1.4% (9/1/20)

St. Mary’s County
New Case Rate
4.4 (9/1/20)
State Superintendent Salmon

“... in light of those improving numbers and with these specific metrics provided by the Department of Health, I am strongly encouraging local school systems to reevaluate their mode of instruction by the end of the first quarter.”

St. Mary’s County Public Schools was one of the 16 districts in MD recognized for meeting this first quarter return target.

- The SMCPS Safe Return Plan provides a process for reviewing data, changing public health conditions, and implementation experience.
- Throughout the first quarter, this information will be reviewed to phase in students for returning starting with a hybrid learning model.
## SMCPS Fall Instruction

Dates and progress of phases will be reviewed before each step to determine next steps moving forward.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>September</th>
<th>Oct / Nov</th>
<th>Nov / Dec</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>All Virtual/Online Learning</strong></td>
<td><strong>Phase-In Groups To Hybrid Model</strong></td>
<td><strong>Hybrid Instruction Other Grades</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Students <em>with specialized services</em> offered in-person instruction</td>
<td>Students <em>by grade cohort</em> offered in-person hybrid instruction</td>
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September

All Virtual/Online Learning

Students with specialized services offered in-person instruction

September 21-October 2, 2020

Specialized programs return
- Head Start
- Pre-K
- SAIL
- COMPASS

These students will return to regular schedule with in-person instruction being delivered each school day (Monday-Thursday)
October 5-16, 2020

- Elementary Level
  - Kindergarten
  - Grade 1
- Middle School
  - Grade 6
- High School
  - Grade 9
  - Grade 12

Students will begin hybrid model with in-person instruction 2 days per week and online instruction 3 days per week.

Data and CDC guidelines will be reviewed regularly to evaluate next steps.
October 19-30, 2020

Elementary Level
- Pre K - 5

Middle School
- Grade 6 - 8

High School
- Grade 9 - 12

All Students in hybrid model with in-person instruction 2 days per week and online instruction 3 days per week.

Data and CDC guidelines will be reviewed regularly to evaluate next steps.
Phasing into a Hybrid Schedule

Step 1
Begin with online learning with consideration for students receiving specialized services

Step 2
Sequence bringing in grade-level groups starting with Pre K/Kindergarten, 6, 9, 12 grade

Step 3
Monitor and add additional grades until all levels are back pre K-12
Fall Instruction for All Students

Schools will be contacting parents of students in Head Start, Pre-K, and Regional Programs next week to determine if they wish their children to return to school or continue with online learning.
CONNECTING ONLINE

- Do you have access to a device?
- Can you login to your student email?
- Can you login with Clever?
- Can you access Schoology?
Need Technology?

Contact Your School

They can help provide information and help you get what you need.

- Do you need a device?
- Do you need a connection?
- Does every student have a device?
- Siblings should have their own device
# Overall Schoology Access Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Accessed</th>
<th>Total Students</th>
<th>Percent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Elementary</td>
<td>7034</td>
<td>8277</td>
<td>85.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Middle</td>
<td>3759</td>
<td>4045</td>
<td>92.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High</td>
<td>4930</td>
<td>5364</td>
<td>91.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Totals</td>
<td>15723</td>
<td>17686</td>
<td>88.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
85.0% of all enrolled elementary students have logged into Schoology and are engaging with their teachers and peers.
92.9% of all enrolled middle school students have logged into Schoology and are engaging with their teachers and peers.

91.9% of all enrolled high school students have logged into Schoology and are engaging with their teachers and peers.
Access to Email & Internet Resources

Each year, students are required to change their SMCPS email password.
One to One and Connectivity

- Significant progress has been made throughout the summer
- New Devices working toward 1:1

**SMCPS purchased over 9,000 devices in the past 4 months**
  - Many of those devices have arrived—others on the way!
  - Some are slightly delayed due to high demand for mobile technology across the country and world.

- First phase of technology distribution targeted to students without a device

  - As of 8/28/2020, **6,013 devices had been delivered to schools for distribution to students**
  - Of the devices issued to students, about 4,487 (75%) were successfully set up **by noon on the first day** of school (August 31)
Internet Connectivity

Broadband Grant

- **Hotspots**: SMCPS staff will be in touch with families to distribute hotspots
  - For those provided by the grant for families without broadband connectivity as defined at: [http://www.stmarysmd.com/Broadband](http://www.stmarysmd.com/Broadband)

Comcast/Atlantic Broadband (essential services/low cost plans)

- **Atlantic Broadband** ([Internet Assist](http://www.stmarysmd.com/Broadband))
  - Offering basic internet speed tier to those who live in their serviceable area, do not currently have Atlantic Broadband internet service in their home, and meet specific need-based qualifications.

- **Comcast** ([Internet Essentials](http://www.stmarysmd.com/Broadband))
  - Need-based qualifications to be eligible for the Internet Essentials program.
  - New Internet Essentials customers will receive two free months of Internet service if they enroll in the program by December 31, 2020.
Atlantic BB Internet Assist

**ATLANTIC BROADBAND INTERNET ASSIST PROGRAM**

- **What is the Atlantic Broadband Internet Assist program?**
  
  In direct response to the COVID-19 situation and the increased need to connect to work and/or school from home, Atlantic Broadband is offering a 15 Mbps downstream / 1 Mbps upstream internet speed tier to those who live in Atlantic Broadband's serviceable area, do not currently have Atlantic Broadband internet service in their home, and meet specific need-based qualifications.

- **How much does the Atlantic Broadband Internet Assist program cost?**
  
  The program offer is for $9.99 per month plus tax.

- **What do I need to do to qualify for the Atlantic Broadband Internet Assist program?**
  
  The Atlantic Broadband Internet Assist program has been designed to provide internet access to in-need households that meet all of the following qualifications: Those who 1) do not currently subscribe to an Atlantic Broadband Internet Service and who have not subscribed to Atlantic Broadband Internet Service in the last one hundred and twenty (120) days; 2) do not have any past due balances with Atlantic Broadband; 3) have not been disconnected from any Atlantic Broadband service within the last twelve (12) months due to non-payment; and 4) are eligible for any of the following public assistance programs: National School Lunch Program (NSLP), Housing Assistance, Medicaid, Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), and/or Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC). Customers will be required to provide proof of eligibility subject to the review and discretion of Atlantic Broadband.

Comcast Internet Essentials

**When you're connected, you're ready for anything.**

You may qualify if you are eligible for public assistance programs such as the National School Lunch Program, Housing Assistance, Medicaid, SNAP, SSI, and others. Learn how to get connected today!

**Looking to Apply?**

It's easy to get affordable high-speed internet at home with Internet Essentials. New customers will receive two months of free service in response to the Coronavirus emergency. Pricing & other info.

Apply Now

**WiFi hotspots**

In addition to in-home WiFi, access to Xfinity WiFi hotspots is included with Internet Essentials.

Learn more about Xfinity WiFi Hotspots and how to connect outside your home.

Get Help
Need Help?

TECHNOLOGY ASSISTANCE

SMCPS is here to support your online learning process.

What do you need help with today?

Getting Started
- Setting up your computer or device
- Connecting to the Internet

If you have not already provided information to your school: Complete the Technology Survey

Logging in
- Logging into my computer
- Logging into Schoology

Tech Support
- I need help with my computer.
- My computer is broken.

Acquiring a computer.
- What are the technology requirements for student computers?
- Where do I get a computer for online schooling?

Specific guidance is provided based on the issue you are experiencing.

Users can also work through their teacher, media specialist, or administrator.
If online resources don’t resolve the issue

Need Tech Help?

- Includes hardware and device support such as:
  - turning on the machine
  - initial login
  - password issues including account lockouts,
  - hardware malfunction
  - Technical issues typically do NOT include software or application support

In addition, you can email:

helpdesk@smcps.org if you need help with logging in or connecting

Phone: (301) 475-2138 Option 1

Technical support hours:
Mon - Thur 7a - 7p; Fri 7a - 4p

Or

schoology@smcps.org if you need help accessing online instructional resources
Device exchange process

- If you are experiencing issues with an SMCPS issued device, please contact our Helpdesk at 301-475-2138 or helpdesk@smcps.org for support.
- If an SMCPS issued device is unable to be repaired remotely, a replacement will be made available in coordination with your school.
- Once a machine is ready and delivered to your school, you will be contacted to pick up the replacement and drop off the faulty device.
Special Education

- Updates and Frequently Asked Questions
How will IEP services be incorporated into the daily schedule?

- Special education teachers will collaborate with general education teachers to establish a schedule that provides all students access to the general education curriculum. An intervention schedule will then be established to provide services written in the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP).

How will students get the materials needed for interventions that are being held virtually?

- All materials will be provided and can be picked up at the school. Schools will have scheduled times for this to occur.
Food Services

• updates
Food Services Update

As a result of waiver extensions from USDA, beginning September 9, 2020, breakfast and lunch pick-up service will be offered to all children 18 years of age and under free of charge.

- Meals will be offered at all locations (except FLA II) for pick-up during the hours of 11:00AM - 1:00PM.
- Two day’s worth of meals (breakfast and lunch) can be picked up on Monday and Wednesday and one day of meals on Friday.
- Online pre-orders for meals is encouraged but same day pick-up will be available.
Visit Meal Services on SMCPS.org