



Welcome back, Mustangs!

Summer has flown by, and we are excited to have all of our Mustangs back in the building beginning on August 24th. Our staff has been busy planning and working throughout the summer in preparation for the first day of school. We have done our best to anticipate questions and concerns you may have as we begin the school year unlike any other year in the past. Our staff continues to be committed to partnering with each of you to support your child through these uncertain times as we navigate the changes.

We can't thank you enough for your grace and patience as we navigate the new "normal" at MMS!

Class Schedules

Class schedules for first semester are done and able to be viewed on Infinite Campus. When reviewing your child's class schedule, you will notice some changes from years past.

1. In the activity portion of the schedule, your child will have a cohort number and letter listed. The **cohort number indicates which grade level door they will enter the building.** Each grade level and cohort has been assigned a [specific entrance](#) to expedite entering into the building. Please use this [link](#) to view entrances for your child's cohort. The cohort letter (A/B) indicates which days they will attend in-person learning at MMS. **The cohort letter (A/B) indicates which days they will attend in-person learning at MMS.** Students in Cohort A will attend on Monday/Wednesday. Students in Cohort B will attend on Tuesday/Thursday. If your child has both cohorts listed, they have been approved for full time in-person learning.
2. Students have been placed into grade level cohorts based on the elective options they registered for in the spring. We did our best to honor requests, but we were unable to in some circumstances due to the need to maintain safe cohort sizes. This fall we will not be offering band, choir, or orchestra due to concerns. Our hope is that we will be able to provide these offerings in the spring.
3. Every student's first period class is "Enrichment." The purpose of this course is to build skills in math and English. While the class name is similar to what we used in the spring, the content is different and will be academically challenging.

Cohorts

Your child has been placed into a specific cohort of students based on their elective options. With Phase 3, your child will be in a classroom with approximately 12-15 other students. These numbers are small so children can safely maintain social distancing protocols throughout the day. Your child will remain with this group of students from the beginning of school until the end



of school. Their content teachers will rotate in and out of their cohort classroom throughout the day while their elective teachers will pick them up and take them to their classrooms. Rooms will be sanitized several times throughout the day to avoid the spreading of germs.

We will be able to make very limited cohort switches at this time due to the impact it may have on our other students. Again, we ask for your patience if we have made errors as they were not intentional.

Phase 3 Learning Model

In Phase 3, our in person students will be in the building two days a week (Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday) with an online component three days a week. Your child may join their classes synchronously (in real time) or asynchronously (at a later time). More detailed information about how this model will look will be sent out early next week.

A Day in the Life of a Mustang

When entering school grounds, it is our expectation that your child wears his/her mask on their face and student id around their neck. We encourage you to send an additional mask in their backpack in the event it breaks or they lose it. Student ids allow staff to identify students and are used for breakfast/lunch. Our food service program is contactless, so they will swipe their id to receive meals. If they lose their id, please notify the front office immediately. A \$5.00 replacement cost will be issued, and the id will be replaced once the fine is paid.

Prior to entering their grade level cohort door, our staff will check their temperature. If your child has a temperature of 100.4 or higher, we will ask the parent/guardian to return to school to pick him/her up. Our staff will be ready to receive students at each door promptly at 7:10 a.m. Please do not drop your child off prior to this time as there will be no supervision. Once your child enters the building, they will go directly to their first period class.

Throughout the day, your child will be in their cohort classroom wearing their mask. Our teachers will be providing students mask and brain breaks throughout the day in each class period. While weather permits, we will be utilizing outdoor spaces as learning spaces.

Breakfast and Lunch

Breakfast and lunch will be provided in “grab and go” bags. If your child is getting breakfast, please make sure they enter through the “breakfast” door on the east side of the building (right outside the cafeteria). Students MUST have their student ids in order to receive a meal. Touchpads will no longer be used since the new system is now contactless. If your child loses their id, please notify the front office immediately. A \$5.00 replacement cost will be issued, and the id will be replaced once the fine is paid.



School Supplies and Student Handbook

Our updated school supply list and 2020-21 Student Handbook are available on the school website (<https://www.weldre5j.k12.co.us/milliken-mid>).

6th Grade Orientation

6th Grade Orientation will be held on Friday, August 21st. If your child is in Cohort A, their orientation is from 7:30-10:30 a.m. If your child is in Cohort B, their orientation is from 12:00-3:00 p.m. More information about 6th Grade Orientation will be sent to 6th grade families on Monday, August 17th.

We understand this is a lot of information to process and sift through prior to school starting on August 24th. I'd like to invite you to attend our Zoom Community Meeting on Monday, August 17th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. During this meeting, we will answer any questions you may have. If you are unable to attend, please do not hesitate to reach out to me via email (aspen.sanders@weldre5j.org) or phone with any questions or concerns you may have. Our staff is here to support your child and you, so please let us know how we can help! We can't say it enough, thank you for the outpouring of support and kindness you've given all of us. Your patience with us as we work through all of this is greatly appreciated.

We are looking forward to seeing all of our Mustangs soon!

Aspen Sanders
Principal