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Subject: August 26, 2020 COVID-19 Update
Date: Wednesday, August 26, 2020 7:27:47 AM

Dear Principals,

Today's update contains a number of important items specific to protective orders, ESOL Accountability (updated from yesterday), Be Well Recovery lessons, professional development, and technology updates. Last night, you received notice that the MCPS Recovery of Education Virtual Plan for the Fall was approved by the Board of Education. As the next days and weeks unfold, collectively, we embark upon what we have never before been challenged to do. We are up to that challenge and as a learning organization, we will all learn together. As was stated many times in the Board of Education meeting – this is not a perfect plan. We know that the State Board will be weighing in on the idea of setting uniform expectations across districts and our plan may need to be adjusted in response to information intended to be made available on September 1, 2020. In the meantime, MCPS will continue to gather feedback from all stakeholders over the coming weeks and months with every intention of providing for continuous improvement to our virtual teaching and learning plan. It is with deepest gratitude, I express my thank you to the recipients of these updates, the design teams, and all of the stakeholders who have contributed their thoughts and ideas along the way. There is so much more to do and it is critically important that in all things related to the execution of this plan on behalf of our 166,000 students, their families and our school communities, we do so with the utmost care and compassion.

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Guidance to schools regarding parental/custodial protective orders

Schools should consult with the Office of the General Counsel and/or Student Welfare and Compliance regarding questions about parent/custodial requests for access to school and potential Zoom events (ie. Back-to-School Night, etc.) during these times of virtual school. Non-custodial parents who request Zoom login information should **not** be granted connection information. (This could result in parents logging in to classrooms/school events and “listening in” even though they do not have visitation or contact rights. Additionally, parents should not login to Zoom classrooms and observe class when the child is not with them. If teachers note a parent logging in separately from their student, they should notify their principal who can seek support from OGC or Compliance as needed.

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ESOL Accountability- Updated

This [link](#) is for the ESOL Accountability and Compliance Updates for the week of August, 24, 2020. These updates are for Administrators K-12, ESOL teachers K-12, Resource Teachers & Content Specialists grades 6-12, or anyone who is responsible for ESOL Accountability Tasks in your building. **The information for the Virtual EL Identification has been updated.** If you have questions about the information in this update, please email Leslie Chavis, ESOL Achievement Specialists, and copy Tamisha L. Sampson, K-12 ESOL Accountability Supervisor.

Be Well Recovery Student Psychoeducational Lessons and Student Well-Being Teams- ACTION

As we start the school year, all schools will continue to implement the student well-being teams that started this past spring. The teams will be there to support students and their families that are struggling with attendance and social-emotional concerns. To support students at the start of the year, all schools will be required to implement a student psychoeducational lesson during one of the school's mandatory Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) block before September 18, 2020. This lesson will provide students crisis facts about the dual pandemic (COVID-19 and systemic racism) that is occurring around the country and here in Montgomery County. It will also provide information on common crisis feelings/reactions, stress management strategies, and where to find help. Teachers will implement these lessons with coaching from the building counselors, psychologists, and other school-based mental health staff. There is also a referral form that building staff can complete if they have any concerns about student attendance and social-emotional well-being. The referral will go to the student well-being teams. Information about the student psychoeducational lessons, the referral form, and additional information can be found in this [one-pager](#). Additional information about the mandatory SEL lessons for each school will be sent in a separate message.

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Professional Development Opportunities Open to Staff:

As part of its recovery plan, MCPS has developed a [website for staff, students and families](#) that highlights ongoing professional learning opportunities for the virtual opening of schools.

For staff, training opportunities are focused around these key areas:

- Technology
- Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment
- Pedagogy
- Social-Emotional Well-Being and Coaching for Engagement/Success
- Accessibility Tools for Instruction and Home
- Equity
- Health and Safety
- Onboarding, Induction, Mentoring, Communication and Collaboration

The professional learning opportunities are grounded in equity and social-emotional learning to ensure that equitable environments are established in the virtual and traditional learning spaces. Professional learning opportunities will be updated throughout the year, so please check back frequently. If you are interested in Continuing Professional Development (CPD) courses for the fall semester (Fiscal Year 2021), register through the [Professional Development Online \(PDO\)](#) system. The fall semester runs from October 2020 through January 2021.

Office of Technology Innovation:

ParentVUE Support for Parents

- If families did not receive an email with ParentVUE activation information, they can call 240-740-7020 or email communitytechsupport@mcpsmd.org
- If parents can only see some children but not all, please complete this form and we will merge accounts: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSc3RJam5Fl3jdbxhmSstrSLB-ybJ3Gwp4sB8dPAwqj1VjnzNg/viewform>

Taking Attendance in Synergy TeacherVUE

Here is a quick screencast on how teachers can use Zoom reports to take attendance in Synergy TeacherVUE:

<https://youtu.be/J3KtI4UPlSk>

Principal Webinar Rooms

All secondary principals should have a webinar room assigned to them in Zoom. You should see it listed in your Zoom account. When setting up your meeting, if you want parents to join your webinar, be sure to uncheck “Authenticated Users Only” to allow non-MCPS participants. Elementary principals will have Zoom webinar rooms by the end of this week.

Directions for running a webinar:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1v8qUyK4TtbDxD305oL6RRkZT_WTkgmG82eDf4HV-H8/edit?usp=sharing

Password Reports

Both password reports are updated and can be used to provide logins and passwords to students. All families were sent a ConnectEd email early Monday morning with login information as well.

- Student Password (Students Assigned to School Location)

[Redacted]

- Student Password (Students Assigned to Homeroom):

[Redacted]

Verifying Parent Submissions for ParentVUE Annual Verification

Parents are starting to activate their ParentVUE accounts and submit updates to their information. This is a similar process to what they did in PowerSchool with updating emergency cards. Here are directions for how secretaries and other school staff can review these updates, make edits, and approve the updates:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cysoQXFYHDHlgiXwEgZgBG37CJQ7O5HcoZutNDyCTM/edit#heading=h.4noosnpaxqe>

Here is the link to the complete guide for parent submission of online registration and verification:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1cysoQXFYHDHlgiXwEgZgBG37CJQ7O5HcoZutNDyCTM/edit#heading=h.4noosnpaxqe>

Posting a Zoom Recording in myMCPS Classroom

Here are two short screencasts for how to post a Zoom recording in myMCPS Classroom:

- Posting Zoom Cloud Recording Links in Canvas Announcements: <https://youtu.be/zmx4xfTaFBQ>

- How to Download Zoom Recordings and Upload Into myMCPS Classroom on a Chromebook:

<https://youtu.be/z2tEmzTejKo>