

HCSS Virtual School at MHS

2020-2021

Frequently Asked Questions*



1. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, will I be allowed to participate in sports and other extracurricular activities at MHS?** Yes.
2. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, will I be allowed to return to regular classes at MHS if Virtual School doesn't work well for me and/or my family?** From the date of enrollment in Virtual School, students have ten school days to change their placements.
3. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, will I have to remain in Virtual School for the entire school year?** No. Enrollment in Virtual School is for one semester. Students can re-enroll in Virtual School for the second semester or return to regular classes for the second semester.
4. **Will the devices be provided for students who enroll in HCSS Virtual School?** No
5. **If a family has multiple children enrolled in HCSS Virtual School, will all of the children be able to use one device?** Maybe. While schools will attempt to meet the scheduling needs of families, this may not be possible in all cases. Families with multiple children enrolled in Virtual School may want to have a device for each child.
6. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, will I be able to take the Honors classes and/or Dual Enrollment classes I signed up to take during 2020-2021?** Yes. All Honors classes scheduled for 2020-2021 will be available. All MHS students who signed up to take College English and/or College Psychology will take those classes online during 2020-2021. MHS students who signed up for IPCT classes will participate in those classes through a hybrid format (primarily online, occasional in-person assessment requirements).
7. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, will I have to report to MHS in person for any reason?** Yes. Virtual School students will be required to report to MHS in person for important tests/assessments such as the ACT (for Juniors and Seniors), Tennessee End-of-Course Exams, Mid-Term Exams, Final Exams, State Dual Credit Challenge Exams, SAILS Bridge Tests, etc. A complete list of these in-person requirements will be made available by the first week of school.

8. **I will be a Senior during 2020-2021. If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, will I be allowed to participate in the graduation ceremony in 2021?** Yes. However, all students, including those enrolled in Virtual School, will be required to attend graduation practice in person. (Date and time TBD.)
9. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, what will a typical day look like for me?** Classes will vary regarding instruction. Students may be required to read excerpts from a book and respond, participate in discussion boards, watch pre-recorded videos, participate in live lessons online, complete projects, complete quizzes and tests, and more. The instruction will vary by course and by day, but the student will be expected to participate daily in every course. All classes will be delivered online through the Google Classroom platform and will be taught by MHS teachers. All students will receive email addresses to use for Google Classroom. Virtual School students should plan to spend at least seven (7) hours daily on school activities, lessons, and assignments.
10. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, what materials will I need?** In addition to a device provided by the student's family (desktop computer, laptop, tablet, etc.), students will also need textbooks and other required materials. The school will schedule a drive-thru event for Virtual School students to pickup textbooks and other required materials provided by the school. (Date and time TBD.)
11. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, how will I remain connected to MHS and find out general information?** As always, MHS will regularly update the school website (mcewenhighschool.org), Facebook (@mcewenhighschool), and Instagram (@mcewenhighschool). MHS will also send out important information regularly through the Remind text alert system.
- Freshmen and Parents (Class of 2024) – Text @2024mcewen to 81010.
 - Sophomores and Parents (Class of 2023) – Text @2023mcewen to 81010.
 - Juniors and Parents (Class of 2022) – Text @2022mcewen to 81010.
 - Seniors and Parents (Class of 2021) – Text @2021mcewen to 81010.
 - Virtual School Students – Text @virtualmhs to 81010.
- MHS will also share information specific to Virtual School students through a special Google Classroom. MHS will hold virtual meetings every 4.5 weeks for Virtual School students (via Google Meet). More information available soon.
12. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, how will I stay connected to the MHS Counseling Office for things such as scheduling, college, scholarships, etc.?** Mrs. Sandefer will create a Google Classroom for each grade where she will relay important information. (More information available soon.) Mrs. Sandefer can also be reached by email (sandeferj@hcss.org) or by phone (931-582-3283 or 931-488-5505).
13. **I have an IEP and/or 504. Will I be able to receive the accommodations and modifications in my IEP and/or 504 if I sign up for HCSS Virtual School?** Yes. The child's case manager will contact the parents of students with IEPs and/or 504s to ensure the child's needs/plans are being met.

14. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, will the school track my attendance?** Yes. Daily attendance will be recorded for Virtual School students in Skyward just like attendance will be recorded for other students. Virtual students' attendance will be marked based on participation in a live class on Google Meet, and/or completion of a task or tasks such as discussion boards, watching videos, assignments, quizzes, tests, etc. Attendance will be recorded for each class every day.
15. **If I enroll in HCSS Virtual School and have to miss class and required daily task(s) due to a dentist appointment, doctor appointment, or other event, will I be required to makeup those tasks?** Yes. All students must complete all missed work. If the work is not completed within three days after the absence, the grade for the work will be a zero (0).
16. **If I enroll in HCSS Virtual School and have to miss class and required daily task(s) due to an appointment or some other important event/activity, will I have to provide documentation of the reason for my absence?** Yes. Absences from Virtual School are treated the same as absences from regular classes. Documentation such as doctor notes and parent notes should be emailed to the MHS Attendance Clerk, Mr. Wendell Monroe, as soon as possible following the absence. His email address is monroew@hcss.org. (HCSS Board Policy 6.200 states the reasons a Principal can excuse a student from school are as follows: Personal illness/injury, Illness of immediate family member, Death in the family, Extreme weather conditions, Religious observances, Pregnancy, School-endorsed activities, Summons, subpoena, or court order, or Emergencies at Principal Discretion. Absences other than those for these reasons will be listed as unexcused.)
17. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, what will I do if I have questions about a class and/or need help with something related to a class?** Contacting the teacher directly through email is a great way to stay in contact with teachers. All of the teachers' email addresses are posted on the MHS website (mcewenhighschool.org). Also, each teacher will have assigned "office hours" each week so that Virtual School students can have virtual meetings with teachers via Google Meet. (More information available soon.)
18. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School, what do I do if I want to change my class schedule?** The Counseling Office is available to discuss schedules at any time during the first ten days of school. HCSS Board Policy does not allow a student to be less than full time. So, students will be required to take a full load of courses.
19. **If I sign up for HCSS Virtual School and need to talk to a counselor for personal issues, who do I contact?** If you would like to talk to a counselor on a regular basis (every week or so), contact Mrs. Shelley Wood (Shelley.wood@centerstone.org or 931-265-5789). If you would like to speak to our School Counselor, Mrs. Sandefer, please contact her at sandeferj@hcss.org or 931-488-5505 (call or text). If you have a mental health crisis, call the Tennessee Crisis Line (855-274-7471). If you have thoughts about suicide, call the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255. Or, you can text TN to 741741 to connect to the Crisis Text Line.

*** All information is subject to change based on guidance from the Tennessee Department of Education, Humphreys County Board of Education, and McEwen High School administration.**