

HIGH SCHOOL SURVEY CHOOSING REMOTE/IN PERSON

In an effort to help you better understand what we anticipate Masconomet High School will look like in May and June, and thus aiding in your decision making relative to whether or not your high school student would choose the REMOTE or IN PERSON option, please note the following:

- **SCHEDULE:** (for the remainder of the 2020/21 School Year): Based on our conversations with the Teachers Association, Department Heads, Students and Parents, the overwhelming consensus of all constituents would be to remain in the current 7 period schedule with the cascading WIN Block through the end of this school year to maintain consistency.
- **ATTENDANCE:** Students who have chosen in-person classes and are not in school will be marked “absent.” Students who are “absent” may not participate in sports or after school activities.
- **MCAS TESTING:** MCAS will ONLY be administered IN PERSON this May, per DESE guidelines. Students who choose not to take the test in May will need to do so in the Fall in order to graduate. Sophomores and Juniors will be testing in May, while Freshmen will be testing in June. Students who choose the Remote Option will be allowed to come in the building to take MCAS tests should they choose. Please note that DESE is not offering a remote MCAS testing option.
- **AP TESTING:** This year, the school’s administration, counselors, AP teachers and AP Coordinator collaborated very closely to create a schedule that will meet the needs of Masconomet students in a time with COVID restrictions and District wide MCAS testing in May and June. With this in mind, we created a schedule that does not conflict with MCAS testing, Senior Workshops, Senior Week activities, and Graduation.

With the return to in-person learning on May 3, 2021, the **AP schedule will remain the same. All exams, except for AP French and AP Spanish, will be offered in a digital format only.** The only change that will occur will be for **test location**. For the 12:00pm EST exams during Administration #2 12:00pm, students who have committed to return to in-person learning will be testing in-school using a digital test whereas those that have selected to remain remote will be taking their exam at-home digitally.. Exams at 4:00pm will still occur at-home digitally. Select exams for Administration #3 (i.e. Chemistry) will follow the Administration #2 process explained above. More information will be forthcoming to students about AP exam locations after April vacation.

- **SENIOR WORKSHOPS:** Five of the Senior Workshops will take place in April, and thus won’t be affected by the next transition. One of the workshops occurs during Senior Week (6/1) and will occur remotely for all seniors. The other four Senior Workshops which are scheduled in May, can be accessed by students either in person or remotely,

allowing students who choose the In Person Option to stay home and attend the Senior Workshop virtually if they so choose. Seniors are required to attend three of the six workshops offered each day.

- **SENIOR PRIVILEGES:** When we pivot to the next phase of IN PERSON/REMOTE in May, we will be reinstating Senior Privileges allowing Seniors who have WIN Block the 1st Period of the day or the last period of the day to come in late/leave early.
- **FINAL EXAMS:** Due to the disjointed nature of this school year, we will not have Semester 2 Final Exams, just as we didn't have Semester 1 Final Exams. Classes will meet right up until the final day of school on Monday, June 21st.
- **GRADING:** 3rd and 4th Quarter grades will each count for 50% of the semester grade. 4th Qtr Senior Grading will be Pass/Fail.
- **LUNCHEES:** As the weather gets nicer students will be provided the option to eat outside so long as 6 foot social distancing is maintained.
- **TEACHERS:** All of our teachers have been working, either from the building or from home under an accommodation since the beginning of September. Those teachers who have been provided an accommodation to work from home either have a personal health condition that puts them at greater risk for complications if they contract COVID, have an immediate family member who is at greater risk, or need to care for children who are at home because their school or childcare provider is closed due to COVID. Over the past weeks, we have been re-evaluating these accommodation requests on a case-by-case basis and making determinations as to whether they are still warranted.
- **MODE OF INSTRUCTION:** We have never returned to in-person learning during a pandemic before, so any discussion of what classes will look like is going to be speculative. Given what we do know about how learning has looked during our hybrid phase, instruction in classes will vary from class to class and depend on a number of factors including the teacher's planned lesson and the number of students who opt to return to in-person learning in a particular section. Per DESE's regulations, we are required to offer a remote learning option through the end of the school year to all students who want one. We will continue to use Blackboard to allow students who have chosen this remote learning option to participate in the classes they've been in since September. If the number of students who choose to participate remotely is small, then it is very likely that teachers will plan their instruction for the students who are physically present in the room. If the number of students who choose to learn remotely is large, then it is likely that teachers will primarily direct their instruction through Blackboard. No matter what the composition of in-person vs. remote learners is, there may still be some use of Blackboard's conferencing software in every classroom. Since physical distancing is still necessary in the classroom, teachers may decide to use the video conferencing features of Blackboard to allow students to meet in small groups for discussions or cooperative learning activities, rather than have them move closer than 3'. This will also allow students who are remote to participate in their current classes to the fullest extent possible. As always, individual teachers will make professional decisions regarding the methods that will be used in their classes to maximize the learning of their students.