1. What is the plan for ventilation?

Non-air-conditioned spaces will be ventilated with natural, fresh air. Windows and doors will be kept open during the school day to promote airflow. Windows and doors will be kept open outside of school hours, and throughout the night, to reset our buildings and to prepare for the next school day.

Preventative maintenance has been performed on our air-conditioned spaces, both on air conditioning units themselves and on all ductwork.

In all buildings, including air-conditioned areas, windows will be left open at night to bring in fresh air. Unlike many modern schools, having windows that open is now a true benefit.

2. If someone chooses remote or hybrid or full, can they change to any of the other choices?

The school’s goal is to bring as many students back to in-person instruction as possible. We encourage students to rejoin in-person instruction from the hybrid or remote model. Parents who would like to change their instructional model should communicate the designated assistant director (Mrs. Mullen, Mr. Shahan, Mr. Stone). **There will be an orientation program requirement to rejoin the in-person learning model.**

Those who choose remote will only be put back on buses if they can be accommodated for space once the schedule is set. There are strict limits imposed by the state in passengers and limited buses available from our busing provider.

3. How will attendance be tracked with each choice?

In-person attendance will be tracked through standard protocols.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) requires schools to maintain accurate attendance records for remote learners. Remote attendance will be tracked using a Microsoft form. Students and/or parents must submit this form daily, to confirm that the student is engaged and ready to commence remote learning for the day. You can access this form here: [https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=XYl7mAJPm0i5TUkXBGnu90WQw_c63PZOtGrFhAgXFNUNFZMkxJT0FBR1MxTVpMVTBDUU1LWDZCUy4u](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=XYl7mAJPm0i5TUkXBGnu90WQw_c63PZOtGrFhAgXFNUNFZMkxJT0FBR1MxTVpMVTBDUU1LWDZCUy4u)
4. How many students will be in each classroom?

Our classrooms are set up to accommodate all students for in-person instruction (a maximum of 32 students per class). However, the actual number of students in attendance will be under 32, as some of our students will opt for remote instruction. We estimate, based on surveys, that actual classrooms will have 24-26 students daily (K-8) if commitment trends for remote learning hold.

All non-essential furniture and school supplies have been removed from our classroom spaces to accommodate student and teacher workspaces. Each of our classrooms follows DESE distancing standards, which specifies that desks must be 3 feet apart.

5. If we choose remote, will we have access to textbooks?

Yes, the school will communicate plans for textbook/materials pick-up at the beginning of the school year.

6. What does the remote schedule look like?

The schedule for remote learning is designed to be flexible based upon your needs but should involve a time commitment similar to the number of hours your child would be in school.

Please keep in mind that students will be required to participate in live assessments via Microsoft Teams.

Below is a sample schedule.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Commitment</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 30 minutes       | • Submit attendance form  
|                   | • Log into Microsoft Teams  
|                   | • Check email (for appropriate grade levels) |
| 20 minutes       | • Recite Pledge of Allegiance  
|                   | • View Character Education/Civics instructional video, complete any related classwork |
| 90 minutes       | • View 1-2 instructional videos, complete any related classwork  
|                   | • Communicate via email with teachers and/or grade-level facilitators as necessary |
| 30 minutes       | Snack/break |
| 90 minutes       | • View 1-2 instructional videos, complete any related classwork  
|                   | • Communicate via email with teachers and/or grade-level facilitators as necessary |
| 60 minutes       | Lunch / physical activity |
| 60 minutes       | • View 1-2 instructional videos, complete any related classwork |
7. Temperature checks will be taken prior to a child being let in. If that fails, will they be expected to remain outside until a parent can be contacted?

Based on the weather, students will either be escorted to an outdoor waiting area or a designated indoor medical isolation area until a parent/guardian arrives for pick-up.

8. What is considered a temperature?

As per CDC and state guidance, a fever is defined as 100.4° or above. We will use 100° as a flag to perform further screenings and monitor to ensure there is no uptrend.

9. Will remote be more subjects than math and ELA?

Yes, the school will offer video-based instruction in the following subject areas:
- Character Education/Civics
- Reading/English Language Arts
- Mathematics
- Science
- History
- Spanish (Grades 7-12)
- Latin (Grades 8-12)
- Visual Art (Grades 11-12 International Baccalaureate)
- Economics (Grades 11-12 International Baccalaureate)
- Theory of Knowledge (Grades 11-12 International Baccalaureate)

All subjects are critical; however, particularly in K-6 for those who are home for remote or even sick (there will be more absences due to simple colds), parents/guardians should try desperately to ensure reading, language arts, and math lessons are completed. Falling behind in these subjects will almost assuredly end up in the student being retained and will require the student to repeat the grade next year.

10. How will recess be handled (K-8)?

Initially, as per DESE guidelines, students must maintain social distancing parameters throughout the day, even at recess. Recess will be a designated mask break. As such, students must maintain distancing of six feet when outside. Students will be assigned to marked areas in the recess yard where they will be able converse with a friend – while maintaining at least
6 feet of distance – or participate in a teacher led program. The school will design strategies to implement this recommendation.

We are looking into further options to promote movement.

11. What is the meal break plans for the high school?

In Grades 10-12, students will be seated in the cafeteria, with distancing standards of six feet. Off-campus lunch privileges will be extended to students in Grade 10 this year (typically only available to juniors and seniors).

- Grade 9 students will eat in classrooms following the same protocol for K-8 students.
- Students in Grades 10-12 will have the option to leave campus for lunch.
  - Students who choose to eat off campus have a variety of local restaurants and parks within walking distance of the school.
  - Parents/guardians must first give permission for the student to eat off campus.
  - Students will sign-up for off campus as part of their home room period each day.
  - A teacher will monitor the students leaving and returning lunch to ensure safety and social distancing protocols are followed.

Students will be on their honor when off campus to ensure social distancing and mask wearing when 6 feet apart. If we see noncompliant behavior, we reserve the right to take off-campus lunch privileges away.

12. Will juniors and seniors continue to be allowed off site during lunch?

Yes. In addition, the school will allow sophomores to leave campus for lunch (see above).

13. Will there be opportunities for face to face interaction with teachers for students at home?

There will be limited opportunities for face-to-face interactions, and all instruction is based on pre-recorded videos (as in the spring).

Extra help and some assessments will be live.

14. What will the pick-up process look like?

The school will communicate its dismissal plan in the next week. The plan will maintain distancing standards for both students and parents/guardians, and only one parent/guardian will be permitted on school property for pick-up.
15. Will extra help be offered?

Yes. Like last spring, extra help for remote learning will be offered through Microsoft Teams. We will continue to offer extra help for our in-person learners, but extra help will not be offered immediately.

16. How will busing be handled?

On July 22, 2020, DESE issued transportation guidance to supplement DESE’s Initial Fall School Reopening Memo. The initial memo put forth the goal of the safe return of as many students as possible to in-person school settings. The safe and reliable transportation of students to and from school is our goal. MVRCS plans to meet or exceed all of the guidance that has been provided by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Education.

The DESE transportation guidance focuses on supporting districts to develop a transportation strategy that provides safe conditions for all students and staff traveling by bus, while also maximizing in-person learning:

- Follow the medically-advised health and safety requirements for school bus transportation. Students and bus drivers will wear masks and adhere to distancing standards.
- Address bus capacity challenges created by the physical distancing requirements. In addition to social distancing guidelines, bus companies are indicating a shortage of bus drivers (both locally and nationally). Bus capacity and availability will be extremely challenging this year. MVRCS has surveyed its parents/guardians to determine bus participation rates and is considering a number of modifications to its bus transportation system to accommodate the additional distancing requirements.
  - Creating Multiple routes to and from school based on zones determined by proximity to school that can accommodate all those who apply for and qualify for bus transportation.
  - Per guidance from DESE, the school will be providing MBTA bus passes to those students who find the multiple route options we expect to roll out as challenging to their family and situation.
- Take proactive steps to promote safe alternative transportation options for students, including family-provided transportation, walking, and biking when possible.

Several core practices will support safe school bus operations this fall:

- **Screening:** Parents/guardians must screen their children for symptoms prior to boarding a bus.
- **Masks:** All staff and students on the bus, regardless of age, are required to wear masks at all times.
- **Distance:** Students will be seated at no more than one student per bench, alternating sides for each row, which allows them to maintain approximately 3 feet of physical distance. Children from the same household may sit together and in closer proximity (e.g., two students per bench).
• **Ventilation**: Windows will be kept open at all times during operation unless it is not possible due to extreme weather conditions.

• **Seat assignments**: Students will be assigned to a single bus and a particular seat.

**We expect to provide more detailed information about bus transportation prior to school reopening.**

17. What are the communication procedures if someone in class or in the building is diagnosed?

The school will follow DESE/CDC guidance in responding to students/staff members diagnosed with Covid-19. DESE has clearly outlined necessary protocols for schools in its [Protocols for Responding to Covid-19 Scenarios document](#).

18. If student returning to school after diagnosis, what evidence will be required to return to class?

As per DESE standards, “If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, then self-isolation is for a minimum of 10 days and until at least three days have passed with no fever and improvement in other symptoms as noted. If the test is negative, the student/staff can return to school if asymptomatic and wearing a mask.”

“Repeat testing prior to return is not recommended. Return to school should be based on time and symptom resolution.”

19. Will “live” extra help be available to all in-person, hybrid and remote?

Yes, the school plans to offer live extra help to all students. This will not be implemented at the beginning of the school year.

20. How will the school handle a teacher/staff member becoming sick?

As per DESE standards, the school will handle faculty/staff illnesses in the same manner as student illnesses.

21. What metrics are being used to keep doing remote or in person?

As per Governor Baker, the key metric in making reopening decisions is the average number of daily Covid-19 cases per 100,000 people. **At this time, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has not released guidance in how regional schools are to interpret this data. Ultimately, this may have an impact on the model of instruction the school selects.**

22. Where can I go with nursing/medical requests?

*All parents/guardians of children with pre-existing conditions should be in touch as soon as possible with a member of the leadership team.* Please direct all general
nursing/medical requests to your child’s assistant director (Mrs. Mullen for Grades K-3 and 8, Mr. Shahan for Grades 4-7, and Mr. Stone for Grades 9-12).

23. Can students switch between instructional models?

Yes. The school will make modifications monthly, on the first (school day) Monday of each month. There will be a mandatory orientation process for students who are moving from the Remote to the Hybrid or In-Person models.

24. What are the school’s bathroom cleaning protocols?

At each campus location (Kindergarten, Lower School, High School), a member of the school’s facilities team will be assigned the duty of sanitizing bathrooms continually, rotating through all bathrooms within the campus location.

25. Will windows always be open, even during fall/winter months?

Yes, windows will always be open to promote fresh air circulation.

26. Will the school perform temperature checks on faculty/staff members?

Yes, daily temperature checks are mandatory for all school staff members.

27. What will happen to students who are symptomatic in school?

If a student demonstrates symptoms associated with Covid-19 at school, he/she will be screened by a member of the school’s nursing staff. If symptoms are confirmed, the student will be transported to a medical isolation area and the student’s parent/guardian will be contacted for dismissal. Please see our School Reopening Plan for more information regarding medical isolation areas.

28. If my child is in the Hybrid or Remote model, what will be the schedule for turning in work?

Remote learners will need to turn in assigned classwork daily. The deadline for daily classwork will be 11:59 pm. Homework will be due the next day by 9:00 am.

Hybrid learners in Grades K-8 will turn in all classwork/homework the following day, when they are in school (Tuesday or Thursday for students who are in school on Monday/Wednesday/Friday). Hybrid students who are in school on Tuesday/Thursday will turn in classwork/homework on Tuesday (for Monday instruction) and Thursday (for Wednesday instruction). Because they are not in school on Monday or Friday, Tuesday/Thursday hybrid students will need to turn in classwork for Friday instruction via Microsoft Teams by Friday at 11:59 pm. Homework will need to be submitted by Monday at 9:00 am via Microsoft Teams.
29. Will Hybrid students join the five-day in-person students or will they become their own cohort?

Hybrid students will join the already-established cohort of in-person learners. They will not be kept in isolation.

30. How will the school regulate social distancing and mask use?

As with any school expectation, the school will teach and reinforce, with very explicit instruction, all revised safety protocols at the beginning of the school year. The school will adhere to standard redirection protocols for students who are noncompliant with the safety requirements of in-person learning (please see our Parent/Student Handbook for more information).

31. Do I need to send in all supplies on the summer list?

Please see Mr. Finn’s August 18 email for more information.

32. If my child travels out of state for a vacation, how does that impact a return to school?

All students are subject to Massachusetts travel orders. More information on current travel restrictions can be accessed here.