



Learning Options for Houghton Elementary School Fall 2020

This plan was developed with guidance from teachers, paraprofessionals, parents and health professionals. It also follows the latest Executive Order pertaining to schools, the Michigan Return to School Roadmap, the Michigan Elementary Principal's Association and the American Academy of Pediatrics and the Western UP Health Department Covid-19 Return to School Toolkit.

<https://services.aap.org/en/pages/2019-novel-coronavirus-covid-19-infections/clinical-guidance/covid-19-planning-considerations-return-to-in-person-education-in-schools/>

[EO 2020-142 PDF](#)

[MI's Return to School Roadmap](#)

This plan gives families two options – online or in person learning. Students will need to stay with their learning choice for at least the first semester and can change learning options at the semester or stay with their first choice for the entire year. We will consider making a change at the 9 week marking period if a specific need arises in a family. The plan is based on our region staying in Phase 4 or 5. If we move to Phase 3 HPTS buildings will be closed to students and all students will receive all instruction virtually or with instructional packets and students who chose the virtual option would stay with this mode of instruction.

Online Option-

Students will use [Accelerate Education](#) as the framework curriculum and online lessons. A Houghton Elementary school teacher will be the teacher of record and give guidance, remediation and help answer questions. They will also work to make connections virtually with students. Families choosing this option need to make sure they are able to support their student with technology needs.

We want to emphasize that this is comparable to the education students would receive in school and will be more rigorous and have more expectations for time and effort than the emergency learning provided last spring. Students enrolling virtually will be expected to stay with this option for at least the first semester. Grades will be assigned and there will be some weekly attendance and participation guidelines.

Traditional In Person Option-

We understand that many families are concerned about changes that will be made to our school. We are committed to making this school year and your child's return to our building safe and also happy. We want

students to continue to be excited about school and teachers and staff want to build strong and happy relationships. This will be a challenge, but one we are committed to achieving. We will continue to refine this plan as we keep in mind hygiene, limiting student exposure in cohorts and best practice for personal protective equipment. Below is a summary.

- **Personal Protective Equipment**

1. Staff will wear face coverings throughout the day as able (doctor's note required to not wear one if they cannot be tolerated). We've ordered clear face coverings for staff to make sure students see staff smiling and we communicate facial expressions.
2. Students in all grades will wear face coverings when entering and exiting the building as able (doctor's note required to not wear one if they cannot be tolerated).
3. Students in grades 3rd – 5th will wear face coverings when in classrooms. Students in Y5's, Kindergarten, 1st and 2nd grades will wear face coverings when entering and exiting the buildings and remove them when seated in classrooms
4. Students would not wear face coverings when exercising in PE class.
5. Students will not be required to wear face coverings during outside recess or when learning activities are moved outside and students distanced.

- **Hygiene**

1. We will add to our TEAM rubric to incorporate hand washing, coughing, social distancing, and proper mask wearing (we will need to teach students what we expect to see).
2. Add in specific times in the day when classrooms will wash hands as a group- (recommendation is every 2 -3 hours)

- **Spacing Movement & Access**

- **Before School**

- Parents can drop off students as early as 7:45 am (we opened at 7:30 am last year). Students will go directly to their classrooms and have inside recess until the bell rings at 8:15 am. Breakfast in the classroom will be available to all students.
- Y5's and K will have recess from 9:25 am – 9:55 am
- 1st and 2nd grade will have recess from 10 am – 10:30 am
- 3rd grade will have recess from 1:40 pm – 2:10 pm
- 4th and 5th grade will have recess from 2:15 pm – 2:45 pm
- Students in all grades will be able to remove masks when outside. They will be reminded and taught to stay 6 feet apart as much as possible.
- We will use a "Continuous Line" to enter the building and walk in single file and not line up as classes

- **Lunch**

- Y5's, K, 1st and 2nd will eat lunch in the classroom - 25 minutes to eat and 20 minutes of outside recess.
- 3rd, 4th and 5th will eat one grade level at a time in the cafeteria spread out throughout with extra tables being brought in as salad bars will be removed. Students would have assigned seats with their classes. Tables disinfected between groups.

- Food service is working with the health department on all food service guidelines as they are updated.
- Schedule:

Grade	Lunch	Recess
K/ Y5's	11:05 – 11:30 am (Class)	10:45 – 11:05 am
1 st	11:10 – 11:35 am (Class)	11:35 – 11:55 am
2 nd	12:00 – 12:25 pm (Class)	12:25 – 12:45 pm
3 rd	10:50 – 11:15am (Cafeteria)	11:15 am – 11:35 am
4 th	11:35 – 12:00 pm (Cafeteria)	12:00 pm -12:20 pm
5 th	12:25 pm – 12:50 pm (Cafeteria)	12:50 pm – 1:10 pm

- **Essential Classes**
 - Essentials would meet in the classroom & Physical Education will meet outside with a dedicated portion of the playground fenced off to make a gym. We will consider meeting with the same class for a period of time, which will allow for project based learning and limit exposures.
- **End of Day Pick-up**
 - Parents would not be able to enter the building. K and Y5's would not enter the building after recess, but would move to pick area and to bus along the outside of the building
 - K/ 1 Pickup – 3:05, 2 Grade 3:10, 4th Grade 3:15, 5th and 3rd @ 3:20 (3rd Grade must exit through their hall to bus or 2nd grade doors for parent pick-up, 5th grade through bus lane doors to bus or end of hallway for parent pick-up.)
- **Movement in Hallways**
 - Lines taped down for direction- movement is greatly limited from our past routine. All classrooms will need to use classroom bathrooms as much as possible.
- **Classroom**
 - Desks all facing in the same direction (recommended where possible)
 - Spacing of students to 6 feet apart to the best of our ability to do so.
 - Individual supplies for students
 - We will still use small group work and best practices for education, being mindful of keeping students spaced out as possible.
- **Screening of Students and Staff**
 - All staff will conduct a health safety self-assessment prior to coming to work. Staff displaying Covid-19 symptoms must alert the school.
 - Parents will be asked to screen student's temperature each day before they come to school. Students should be kept home if they have a temperature of over 100 or show signs associated with Covid-19

- **Cleaning**

- All staff will help with disinfecting shared items and touch points throughout the day.
- Extra attention will be given to cleaning and disinfecting classrooms, high touch points and common areas, playground equipment will go through routine cleaning.
- With shared items- (ex- Chromebooks) will be disinfected prior to use and when done using.