



CHINOOK TRAIL

MIDDLE SCHOOL

Frequently Asked Questions

We compiled the following questions from our School Accountability (CTAC) and Parent, Teacher Student Association (PTAC) meetings as well as from the Town Hall meeting, which took place August 17. You may still access the Town Hall Meeting by going to <https://bit.ly/CTMSTownHall>.

Synchronous Learning

Are students mandated to attend the synchronous learning for 6 hours daily and then expected to do homework afterwards for an additional 3-4 hours?

What is different between this year's remote learning and last spring's e-learning is that students will check in with their teachers following their set schedule, but that does not mean students will spend all day in front of a screen. Our teachers have been learning a variety of tools and strategies in order to maximize face to face screen time while limiting the time students will be staring at their computers. Once the instruction portion is complete, students will be free to complete their assigned work and collaborate with peers. We are most excited about this collaboration. By building a community of learners by using tech tools such as the Microsoft Teams chat feature, Peardeck, and NearPod, we feel students will be more engaged in their learning and excited to come back each day. We will be encouraging students to use the time during the class period to complete their work for that class. Because of our project-based learning model, we also are planning time to allow students to complete passion projects where they can utilize the skills and dispositions critical to becoming a CTMS Ultimate Learner.

When we do synchronous learning once some students are also at school, how will the in-person class work with the online kids?

Although this is very new to us, here are some thoughts we have had. Students who are in-person will be in class. Students at home will join the class virtually through a Microsoft Teams meeting. They may use the chat to do the warm-up or share their thoughts with the class by unmuting their microphone as directed by the teacher. As a class, everyone will receive some direct instruction for the day. Teachers have special speakers in their rooms so their voice will be better projected to those students at home. Students will be referred to materials in their Schoology folders and then will begin their task for the day. During part of a class, students may be collaboratively grouped. For instance, two students who are at school might join two students who are at home by taking part in a "channel," a virtual space for collaboration. We know we will need to continue to ideate, prototype, and evaluate our plan daily in order to best meet the needs of all students.

Exploratories:

Can I change my student's exploratory classes?

Please remember that due to current health guidelines and keeping student and staff safety as our primary focus, we must cohort student learning groups to limit exposure and cross-contamination to help prevent a possible outbreak infecting our entire learning community. This will remain in effect for as long as restrictions are in place.

In a true middle school model, "exploratory" courses are just that; assigned with the intent of exposing students to a content and curriculum they may not have natural interest in to "expand their horizons." Our original vision and model that was employed last year allowed for students to rank order their desired programs; however, there was no guarantee of getting their top choice, but we did our best to honor their personal interests.

*In the face of challenge comes opportunity. Should your child not be thrilled with their current assignments, we ask that you encourage them to remain open minded and find the lesson in how to deal with perceived adversity. Please know it is not that we will not change schedules, but that we **cannot** change them. How can we leverage this experience to help our students grow in their grit*

and resilience? Remember, over the course of the year, students will be in 8 different exploratories. How great that they will be able to try so many things.

Schedules

When will schedules be ready, cohorts established and what will the schedule look like?

Schedules are available to view in Infinite Campus. Please note A/B Cohorts have not been assigned. There has been a delay in this process at the district and the cohorts will be added to schedules during the week of the 24th. Please know because of the remote start this will not impact the first day and week of school.

Changing from Journey to Hybrid to Synchronous

What is the process we need to take to return our child back to CTMS from Journey at the 1st quarter or semester? If we want to switch him to synchronized learning, can that be done at the quarters?

Please contact Journey K-8 if you would like to return to CTMS at the quarter. Please contact our registrar at 234-5836 if you would like to switch from hybrid to synchronous or vice versa.

Cleaning the Building

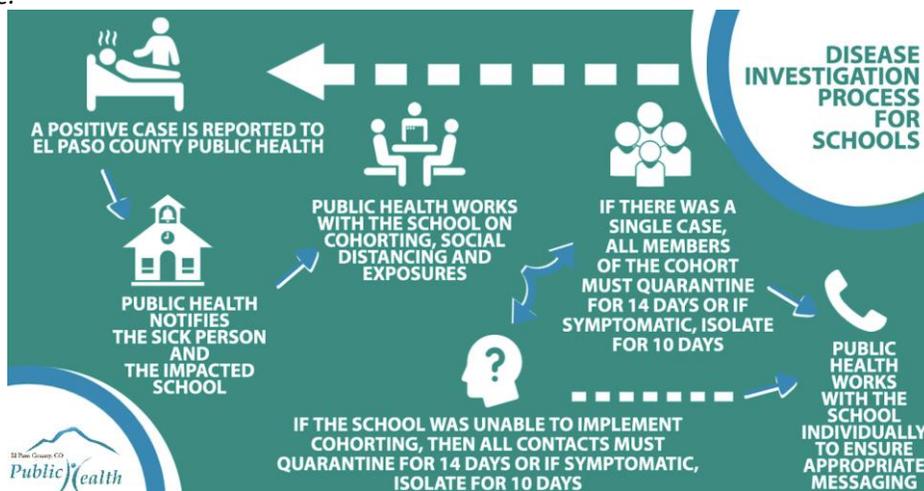
When students go back to hybrid or in-person learning how will desks be sanitized as students rotate to each core class?

Teachers will have soapy water and cloths in their classrooms for cleaning between classes. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands regularly.

COVID

What happens if any kids at CTMS get COVID? What are the procedures if a cohort has to quarantine? Will an entire cohort quarantine?

If a student becomes sick or has any COVID symptoms at school we will notify parents or guardians and send the student home. If a student is diagnosed with COVID, we will notify the Health Department and they will direct us through the contact tracing and quarantining procedure.



Social Distancing and Masks

Are the classrooms separated enough that students can remove masks in the classrooms?

We will have scheduled mask breaks outside during the day.

Important safety protocols for students, teachers, and staff will be in place to limit the exposure and transmission of COVID-19. These protocols may change depending on the impact of COVID-19 and resulting health orders and guidance from our local and state agencies.

At this time, our safety protocols include a variety of measures centered around social distancing, wearing of face coverings, developing student cohorts, handwashing, and health screening.

Social Distancing

Social distancing will be observed and practiced to the fullest extent possible. Classrooms will be arranged to maximize the space between students.

Face Coverings

*Governor Polis proclaimed face coverings are mandatory for Coloradans ages 10 and older. Therefore, all students, teachers, and staff **are required** to wear facial coverings, with limited exceptions, when entering and traversing the building or when social distancing cannot be maintained. Even if individuals are socially distanced, facial coverings are still encouraged. Face coverings must be provided and cared for by each student and family.*

Attendance

How do we check kids in/out for appointments, etc. when they are Synchronous learners?

Please call our attendance office at 234-5800 just like on a normal school day if your child will be unable to attend synchronous learning due to an appointment or illness. Empower your student to let their teachers know via email or Schoology if this is a scheduled absence.

Touring the School

When hybrid or full time in-seat school resumes, will there be a chance for new families to tour the school?

We can't wait to have families in the building. At this time only approved visitors may be on school grounds.

Health screening

How often will teachers and students be health screened?

Staff, students, and families are expected to self-screen before entering the building each day. Screening should include a check for new onset of cough or shortness of breath, or at least two of the following symptoms: fever (100.4 or higher), chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of sense of smell or taste, gastrointestinal symptoms of diarrhea, vomiting or nausea.

Students, teachers, and staff who feel ill and/or are experiencing the above symptoms are required to stay home.

Students, teachers, and staff who reside with a person who is experiencing symptoms or is confirmed with COVID-19 are also required to stay home.

Devices:

Would you please define "device." What capabilities are needed to access this through a "device?"

Please see our website at <https://chinooktrailms.asd20.org/Pages/BYOD-Information.aspx> for device information. Devices should have a camera so students can "see" their teacher through Microsoft Teams meetings. The district has ordered devices, Dell laptops, for all of our CTMS students; however, due to the massive amount of devices needed nationwide they won't be distributed to families until January.

Will computers be issued to kids who do not have one and some type of hotspot for families that have slow or no internet.

We have set up computer check-out days, listed in the 8-18 communication. There are only 100 hotspots available in the district and they are prioritized by family need.

Special education and ESL

How is special education going to work?

Our case managers have reached out to all of their families in order to support them with this transition.

Meetings with teachers

Will we still be having 504 plan meetings?

Conferences with academic or exploratory teachers, IEP meetings and 504 meetings will be held via a Teams meeting until further notice.

Our most recent communication to our community about computer check-outs, schedules, and an opportunity for some real face time was sent out on August 18. If you did not receive that communication, please be sure to update your contact information in the Extended Parent Portal of Infinite Campus. If you have other questions, please feel free to call 234-5800.