

# Munro Academy's 2020/21 Education Delivery Plan



Munro Academy - Northside Campus Middle/High School & Early Learning Centre 2 School Street | Sydney Mines, Nova Scotia B1V 1R3 CANADA Munro Academy - Balls Creek Campus Elementary School 167 Campbell Road | Balls Creek, Nova Scotia B2A 4L6 CANADA

# Munro Academy's 2020/21 Education Delivery Plan

In the face of pandemic uncertainties, Munro Academy's team has developed a robust delivery plan allowing delivery of consistent, quality education to every student, every day, all year, irrespective of the changing COVID context. MA families can expect high quality teaching, unrivaled support, relational connection, ongoing assessments and consistent outcomes completion throughout the 2020/21 school year.

## CONVENTIONAL CLASSES

We anticipate returning to in class delivery for all grade levels (pre-primary to grade twelve) starting with the first day of classes on Thursday, September 10. MA will continue to provide conventional in-person classes as long as allowed by public health directives. Munro Academy's small class sizes and ample facility space further enhance student safety.

Conventional school-based Includes the following series of enhanced safety measures:

### Environmental Measures Masks

All Grade 3-12 students wear masks while inside schools except when they are seated at their desks while two metres apart and facing in the same direction. Masks are worn in hallways and other common areas if a two-metre distance cannot be maintained. For Grade PP-2 student, mask wearing in school is welcome but not required. While on the MA bus, every person (including the driver) is required to wear a mask at all times. Students wear parent supplied masks. Staff and other adults wear masks at all times while in the school except if appropriate social distancing is maintained.

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#### **Enhanced Cleaning**

Frequent touch surfaces (door handles, light switches, bathroom surfaces, etc.) are disinfected as per a schedule throughout the day.

Additional cleaning protocols are engaged with each end of day cleaning.

#### Distancing

Classroom activities seek to maintain age appropriate individual distancing.

Teachers educate and support students in following age appropriate personal space boundaries, including avoiding close greetings (e.g. hugs, handshakes) and reminding students to keep "my hands to myself".

Teachers support students in not sharing items (pencils, books, etc.)

#### Traffic Flow

In hallways, as much as possible students and staff keep to the right side of the hallway supported by arrow floor stickers.

#### Lockers

As much as possible, locker assignments will be spaced to allow for appropriate physical distancing guidelines. If it is not possible to safely distance the lockers, student access will be staggered to avoid crowding. MS and HS lockers are located in separate wings of the NS Campus.

#### Libraries

Students will still have access to library resources, with usage limited to appropriately small groups of students at one time. Library resources may be delivered to classrooms for use.

#### Age Level Cohorts

**Elementary:** students spend most of the school day in their homeroom with their homeroom teacher. When non-homeroom teachers teach a given cohort, as much as possible they will do so in the cohort's homeroom.

MS/HS: MS/HS students are taught in grade level cohorts. MS dedicated classrooms and hangars are located in the south wing of the building and HS dedicated classrooms and cubbies are located in the west wing of the building.

#### Bathrooms

Cohorts will use separately assigned bathrooms at both Elementary and MS/HS campuses.

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#### Student-Teacher Ratio

MA's small class sizes, 10:1 student-teacher ratio and ample facilities enhance safety for students.

#### Recess

As much as possible, recesses are held outdoors. When this is not possible, students follow age appropriate individual space boundaries.

#### Outdoor Learning

Teachers seek opportunities to move students outside for learning activities.

#### Lunch

**Elementary -** Lunches are eaten in each cohort's homeroom.

MS/HS - Lunches are eaten in the student centre with staggered schedule (MS 12:35-12:55; HS 12:55-1:15) and use of the gym or outdoor play area in the alternate time slot.

#### Assemblies/Large Groups

Joint Elementary - MS/HS assemblies will be discontinued until deemed appropriate by public health directives.

Separate assemblies at the Elementary and MS/HS level will continue with decreased (1x/week) frequency. Assemblies will be livestreamed and broadcasted to each classroom so each cohort can watch from their own classroom.

When possible, assemblies will be held outside, using appropriate spacing via marked areas and maintaining cohort separation.

#### Singing

Group singing activities will be limited to outdoors with appropriate distancing.

#### Before/After School Care

MA's before and after school care program continues to operate with appropriate distancing, augmented outdoor time when possible, usage of masks while indoors for Grades 3-12 students and usage of individually packaged snacks.

#### MA Early Learning Centre

MAELC uses an entirely separate entrance.

Architectural changes, including moving a separation wall/door to allow for separate functioning and traffic flow, effectively separates MAELC from the MA MS/HS.

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MAELC students do not enter the MA day school area and MA students do not enter the MAELC area.

## PERSONAL SAFETY MEASURES

#### Monitoring

Parents commit to monitor students each day before their arrival at school; upon presentation of any of the following symptoms, parents keep a student at home and advise the administration:

Fever (38 C+) or cough (new or worsening)

#### Or

Two or more of the following: symptoms (new or worsening)

- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Headache
- Shortness of breath

Students presenting at school with any of these symptoms are kept out of contact with other students in a designated room and provided with a mask until parents pick them up. Symptomatic students are advised to pursue COVID testing as per Public Health guidelines.

# Classwork for Symptomatic Students at Home

Symptomatic students receive ongoing classwork and support, allowing their educational process to continue. Teachers provide classwork content to

students on a same day basis (no later than 4 PM each day) allowing students to continue with their classwork as their health allows.

#### **Temperature Screen**

Each student and staff member is screened with a non-touch thermometer at the first point of contact (either upon entering the school bus or upon entering the school building). Students presenting with elevated temperatures at school wait in a designated room until they are taken home.

#### COVID CASE FOLLOW-UP

Any students and staff who are tested for COVID stay home until they are no longer symptomatic and have received a negative test result. In the case of a positive COVID test, the segment of the school involved will pivot to home delivery until return to in person classes is deemed safe. MA will actively participate in all public health

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responses, including timely communication, contact tracing, and appropriate quarantine support.

#### Visitors

All essential visitors are required to sign in/sign out in MA's visitor log and to wear masks upon entry into the school building.

#### Hand Cleaning

Hand sanitizer units are available in multiple locations in both buildings. Staff educate and monitor to support frequent hand washing, including hand washing upon entering the school, before and after lunch and as appropriate throughout the day.

#### Personal Transportation

Parents are asked to consider providing transportation for their children to and from school as much as possible.

Pick up and drop offs take place outside the school.

Non-essential visitors are excluded from the school at this time. Families are asked not to gather outside of the school building as per Public Health guidelines.

#### Bus

MA continues to offer its standard bussing services as long as deemed appropriate by public health officials.

**Masks:** every person (including the driver) is required to wear a mask at all times while on the bus. Students wear parent supplied masks.

**Distancing:** student seating is spaced out as much as possible; family groups sit together in the same seat or (for larger family groups) in adjoining seats. This may involve students moving at different stops as the bus fills. The bus driver will continue to guide students in this process.

**Sanitization:** all high touch surfaces on the bus will be sanitized between uses.

### HOME/ONLINE EDUCATION DELIVERY

If COVID parameters (such as a second wave) require a return to at home delivery at any point in the school year, MA's staff will pivot seamlessly to a robust education delivery model for students at home. MA's home delivery plan is designed to best meet

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#### MS/HS (Grades 6-12)

All MS/HS students engage in online synchronous classes from home following the conventional school day schedule from 9 AM - 3:25 PM each day. Each MS/HS student will need home access to a laptop, a designated learning space and internet. Students will receive training on online delivery prior to engaging online.

At the start of each class period teachers connect with students in a virtual classroom to provide instruction, answer questions and connect relationally with the students; teachers may then release students for the remainder of each period to complete learning activities from home or may continue in the virtual classroom through the remainder of the class period for additional educational content.

#### Elementary (Grades PP-5)

All elementary students engage in a mix of online synchronous meetings (which are scheduled at a specific time) and asynchronous classes (videos you are able to watch at your own pace) from home. Frequency of synchronous classroom work will be developmentally appropriate, with levels of frequency and content expectations increasing with grade levels.

Each elementary student will need parent supported home access to a laptop (a Chromebook works well with all of our platforms, but is not necessary), a designated learning space and appropriately supervised internet access. Students and parents will receive training on online delivery platforms prior to engaging online.

Students submit classwork and communicate with their teachers via Class Dojo (grades PP-4) and Google Classroom (grade 5).

### LOOKING AHEAD

Throughout the school year we will maintain close communication with our families on any needed changes in our delivery plans. MA is committed to continuing to provide our students with an education distinguished by quality, care and consistency in the face of evolving pandemic realities.

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