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Frequently Asked Questions

- Why is Jackson Local transitioning to eLearning for two weeks in December?
- When will my student move to eLearning in December?
- When will in-person instruction return to Jackson Local School buildings?
- When will my child(ren)'s teacher(s) be available?
- Will there be live Google Meet sessions with teachers?
- Where can I find the Jackson Local School District's COVID-19 dashboard?
- Does my child have to log in to eLearning at a specific time?
- Can we order free meals?
- Are childcare options available?
- I fear COVID-19 is affecting my/my child's/my family's mental health, can the district help?
- Will OHSAA-sanctioned winter sports be conducted?
- What does this mean for career technical students?
- Can parents log in to POLARIS/eLearning 2.0?
- We don't have internet access at home, how can my child(ren) learn remotely?
- Will my K-2 child(ren) receive a Chromebook?
- Will band and choir concerts happen?
- Will the December 12 ACT still happen?
- Are Jackson Local School District buildings open during this December transition?
- How do we get technical issues with district issued equipment or platforms resolved?
- How can families help during this time?
- What if my child will be "absent" from eLearning?



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Q: Why is the Jackson Local School District transitioning to eLearning after Thanksgiving Break?

A: The District is experiencing staffing shortages related to the COVID-19 pandemic. There are not enough substitute teachers to meet the demand across the county currently.

Q: What is the timetable for transitioning?

A: Students in grades 9-12 will start learning remotely on December 2 and continue remote learning through December 18, when Winter Break begins. Students in grades K-8 will start learning remotely December 7 and continue through December 18, when Winter Break begins. ANY student in grades K-8 who wants to transition to remote learning before December 7 may do so. If that student is customarily an in-person learner, please communicate the change to your child's building.

Q: When will in-person learning return to the Jackson Local School District?

A: It is the District's intention to return to in-person instruction on January 4. The District made the decision to transition to remote learning because of staffing shortages. It is the District's hope we return to full staffing levels after Winter Break. We have learned, and communicated, all plans are subject to change based on evolving data and COVID-19 conditions.

Q: I have a child who will need childcare during the 10 school days (December 7-18) of eLearning, what are my options?

A: The District has coordinated with the Paul and Carol David YMCA of Jackson Township for childcare. Those who are already participating in the YMCA's before and/or after school care programs will have preference. The Paul and Carol David YMCA has partnered with the Aultman Health Foundation for children of essential health care workers. Please direct childcare questions by email to astiles@ymcastark.org.

Q: What are the expectations of eLearning?

A: Students must log in to POLARIS between 6 a.m.-9 a.m. and complete an attendance and integrity statement. This is a mandated attendance requirement. There are times



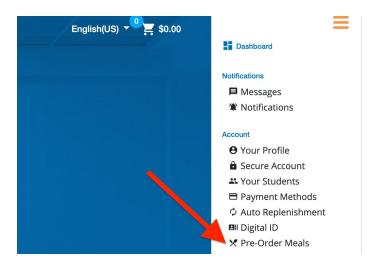
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when it can become difficult to log in between 8:30-9 because of the volume of students trying to get in before the deadline. Generally speaking, age-appropriate learning can take place during the normal school day. Of course there will be younger students (K-3) who might require more supervision while learning. We understand some parents will not be able to assist their children learning remotely during the school day. Please communicate with your child(ren)'s teacher(s) about assignment due dates and times. Teachers will have office hours during the December eLearning period. Please reach out to your child(ren)'s teacher(s) to schedule time if needed.

Q: Will my child be able to receive free breakfast and lunches?

A: Yes, the District will continue to serve breakfast and lunch **WHILE SCHOOL IS IN SESSION (December 2-18). Meals MUST BE ORDERED** through students' PaySchoolsCentral account. The process to order is: Log in to PaySchoolsCentral.com. On the right-hand side of the menu, go to pro-order meals. (See example below).



Meals MUST BE ORDERED BY THURSDAY of the previous. To receive meals the week of **December 7**, **ALL MEALS MUST BE ORDERED by December 3** and then picked up daily at your child's school building. **ALL MEALS ARE FREE**. For meals the week of **December 14**, **meals MUST BE ORDERED BY December 10**.

Meals can be picked up at: Jackson High School (Door 57E), Jackson Memorial Middle School (Door 7W), Amherst (Door 6W), Lake Cable (Door 6E), Sauder (Door 11W), and Strausser (Door 9s). **Pick-up times are 10 a.m.-11:30 a.m. for all meals**.



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Q: What about career technical students?

A: Career technical in-person labs will continue either at Jackson High School or another school part of the Compact. Jackson Local will continue to provide transportation to those students.

Q: What does this mean for band and choir?

A: Information will be coming from the directors through typical communication avenues. All December concerts are canceled, however high school bands are recording music to be released during the holiday season.

Q: Will district-sponsored winter sports take place?

A: Currently there is no change to the district's OHSAA-sanctioned sports. However, the COVID-19 pandemic creates unique challenges to indoor sports, and we must be flexible in our planning for any changes.

Q: My child is in (either kindergarten, first, or second grade) and does not have a Chromebook at home. How will he/she eLearning in December?

A: The District is working to mobilize our K-2 Chromebooks, and those students will be able to bring those home before December 7. All students will be provided with a Chromebook during this transition.

Q: We do not have internet access at home, what should we do?

A: The Jackson Local School District has a limited number of mobile devices that provide wireless internet access. To check out such a device, please file a support ticket with our Help Desk. That can be done by going here.

Q: We are having technical issues with a district-issued device or platform, what should we do?

A: You must file a Help Desk support ticket by going to this website.

Q: Can parents log in to POLARIS to track student progress?

A: All parents were sent POLARIS login information earlier this year with instructions. Please refer to those instructions.



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Q: What does this mean for MAP and ACT testing?

A: MAP testing will be moved to January. More information will be communicated at that time from your child(ren)'s school. The December 12 ACT still will happen as scheduled at Jackson High School. This is a national testing date, administered by ACT.

Q: What should I do if I or my child is in need of mental health help?

A: Jackson Local's CARE Team is designed to help families overcome challenges and improve student success. Jackson Local has Family Support Specialists, a parent liaison, available to help connect parents with resources. The first contact for mental health questions should be directed to your child's school counselor.

Q: Will teachers conduct live (synchronous) learning sessions?

A: Yes. Teachers will have scheduled Google Meet sessions. Please check each teacher's WAAG for when these sessions are offered. However, it is not the expectation that teachers will conduct live sessions for the entire school day. That is not practical. Each teacher has the flexibility to deliver instruction in the manner that is most appropriate. Teachers will have hours during the typical school day when they can answer questions or schedule meetings with students.

Q: What if my child(ren) will be absent from eLearning for the day due to sickness or another reason?

A: You MUST call your child's building and report them off as you would a typical absence.

Q: Will Jackson Local School buildings be open during the eLearning transition?

A: Yes, normal main office hours will be maintained. At <u>Jackson High School</u> (330-837-3501) 7 a.m.-3:30 p.m., at <u>Jackson Memorial Middle School</u> 7 a.m.-3 p.m. (330-830-8034), at <u>Amherst Elementary</u> 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. (330-830-8024), at <u>Lake Cable Elementary</u> 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. (330-834-4673), at <u>Sauder Elementary</u> 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. (330-830-8028), and at Strausser Elementary 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m. (330-830-8056). COVID-19 visitation protocols remain in place at each building. Please call the building before arriving.



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Q: When are teachers available?

A: Our teachers are incredibly accommodating and many respond on their off hours to email, etc. As a general rule, teachers in our elementary schools are available 8:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m.; teachers at Jackson Memorial Middle School are available 7:35 a.m.-3:05 p.m.; teachers at Jackson High School are available 7:15 a.m.-2:45 p.m.

Q: What can I do to help?

A: Please continue to wear a mask when in public, and encourage your child(ren) to social distance when around others. Limit personal gatherings and keep your "social bubble" small; limited to people in your household. If that isn't possible, maintain at least 6 feet of space from others. The Jackson Local School District COVID-19 dashboard and resource center is located here. Additional RestartJackson information can be found on our website here. Our December eLearning transition calendar can be found here.