

## MISSISQUOI VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT

100 Robin Hood Drive, Suite 2 Swanton, VT 05488 Tel: (802) 868-4967 Fax: (802) 868-4265

9/30/20

## MVSD School Community:

As we shared last week our elementary school administrators have been working on a plan to increase the in-person learning of our younger students. The conditions we need to meet to bring Kindergarten-5th grade students back are:

- The level of COVID-19 virus in our community and Vermont Department of Health guidance and data supports an increase to full in-person instruction.
- Staffing in our schools is stable and allows us to operate reliably.
- New routines are effective and efficient and we are able to maintain compliance with the guidance from VDH/AOE.

Right now the Vermont Department of Health, the Agency of Education and pediatricians are clear that Vermont is in an excellent position with respect to the level of COVID -19 virus in our state and region. Information about Vermont's current level of activity can be found here. The CDC guidelines for reopening schools are also linked.

The staffing resources available and changes needed to bring all students back into K-5 classrooms varies from school to school. There are many logistical and physical classroom changes that will need to be addressed so that we can increase in-person instruction and ensure compliance with Vermont Strong and Healthy Start Guidelines. We believe that we can meet those requirements safely by planning with our teachers and staff over the next few weeks and by bringing students back in a phased approach. All students in Grades K-5 will be in school 5 days the week of November 16.

The Missisquoi Valley School District phased in-person transition is as follows:

Week of October 19th	Week of October 26th	Week of November 2nd	Week of November 9th
All Kindergarten and 1st grade students attend 4 days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Remote Wednesday	All K-3rd grade students attend 4 days: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Remote Wednesday	All K-5th grade students attend 4 days: For Franklin and Swanton students M,T,TH & F. Remote Wednesday	All Kindergarten-5th grade students attend school Monday-Thursday in-person Friday No School
Students in 2nd-5th grade stay in Hybrid Schedule	Students in 4th and 5th grades stay in a Hybrid Schedule	Due to the General Election on 11/3, Highgate Students will be in school Monday, Wednesday, Thursday & Friday with a virtual learning day on Tuesday/election day.	Friday 11/13 will be a parent teacher conference day for all students in grades PK-6.  MVU students will have no school.

Students in Grades 6-12 remain in Hybrid learning model

Students enrolled in The Missisquoi Valley Virtual Academy (VTVLC) will continue with that program

Julie Regimbal, Superintendent

Tania Hayes Kosha Patel Dir. Special Education Curriculum Director Lora McAllister

**Robert Gervais** Business Manager Technology Administrator Dir. Indian Education

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Our administrative team will be working together in the weeks ahead to implement this timeline and maintain a safe and healthy environment in our schools. Please understand that this timeline is subject to change should there be a change in health conditions or an inability to meet the requirements to operate reliably. We will need to continue to practice our physical distancing protocols, mask wearing and hand washing hygiene to be successful with this plan.

Although there is no plan to change the Hybrid model for 6-12th grade students at this time, please know that if conditions and Vermont guidelines for schools change, we will examine ways to provide more in-person learning for secondary students.

We feel confident that this phased in approach is the best way to increase the in-person learning for K-5th grade students while maintaining safe practices.

You can expect communication from your school's principal in the upcoming weeks with more specific information.

As always, thank you for your support and keep well.

Regards,

Julie Regimbal