

CME Frequently Asked Questions for the 20-21 School Year

Safety is our number one priority. We have made decisions based on the requirements and recommendations given in the **MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap**. Central Montcalm has also been gaining guidance from the **Mid-Michigan Health Department**. We are currently in **Phase 4**. All this is possible to change if the status of our phase changes. Here are some answers to some frequently asked questions:

1. *What will school look like in the fall?*

Masks will be required for students at the CME when in commonplace areas like the bathroom, hallway, and bus. In the classroom, students may take their mask off unless working in close proximity to staff or students in small group instruction. Staff will be wearing masks at all times unless eating. If a student or staff member is unable to medically tolerate a mask, they will not be required to wear one. However, a note and explanation must be provided by a doctor. Students will remain in their classrooms for the majority of the day.

2. *What will Physical Education, Music, and Library classes look like?*

The PE and music teachers will be going into your child's classroom. At this time, singing is not recommended by our Mid-Michigan Health Department. We will hold PE class outside as much as possible. **Teachers will be getting books from the library for students to take home. Please return after a week.**

3. *What will recess look like?*

Students will have two 15 minute recesses. They will be able to take their masks off but will need to continue to be mindful of social distancing. Each classroom will have a section of the playground to use and this will be rotated daily. Paraprofessionals will supervise on the playground and will be wearing masks whenever they are within 6 feet of the students.

4. *Will there be an Open House? Will I be able to be in the building?*

At this time, we are not allowed to have anyone beyond the office area except students and staff. There will not be an Open House but staff will be reaching out to families.

5. *How do I drop off my student in the morning?*

Students can be dropped off at the **drop off loop**. Vehicles will not be allowed to be parked or unattended in the loop. Parents must stay in the vehicles. If walking your child to the door, you must park in the Visitor Parking Lot and take your child to the Kindergarten or First Grade door. Students will not be allowed to be dropped off early. Students will need masks when walking in the hallways.

6. *What will end of day pick up look like?*

End of day pick up will change quite a bit from what it has looked like in the past. Parent(s) must park in the Visitor Parking lot and sign student out at the Kindergarten or First Grade East Door.

7. *What supplies does my child need?*

Students will need **masks**. Disposable masks will be made available if needed. Teachers often send home a suggested supply list. This may happen for some of you. We will be changing some of our drinking fountains to bottle filling stations. If your child has a **water bottle** that they would like to use at school, they are welcome to do so. Bottles will be provided to those in need. Students may not drink directly from any drinking fountain.

8. *Will my child be required to pass a health screener every day? Will the staff?*

We will be sending home screener information to each family. We need everyone to screen their children before attending school. No formal screening information is required to be turned in. Staff will be filling out a screen every day. If your child is sick, please have them stay home for the safety of others.

9. *If I change my mind, can my student switch to the Hornets at Home Virtual learning option?*

Changes in the instruction delivery method can only be made at the semester. If a student signs up for the Hornets at Home Virtual option and wishes to switch to in-person instruction, they can only do so at semester. The same is true for any student who starts the year with in-person instruction.

10. *What will happen if our district is moved to a different phase?*

If Central Montcalm is in Phases 1-3, in-person instruction will no longer be allowed. We will be using a blended learning plan that will have online learning, instruction provided by the teacher, and learning packets. If Central Montcalm is in Phases 4-6, learning will be in person.

11. *How will my child know when or where to wear a mask?*

Teachers will help students learn the procedures about when and where to wear a mask. We will also be posting signs teaching good handwashing, a proper way to wear a mask and how to cough safely. Our teachers will also be teaching all of the new expectations at the beginning of the year and acknowledging the following of the expectations.

12. *What if a child refuses to wear a mask?*

Without a medical reason provided, the act of not wearing a mask will be considered an act of defiance. We will continue to educate the child on the importance of the mask and contact parents to work together to solve the problem. If we cannot come to a solution, a student may be placed in a virtual learning program.

13. *Where will my child eat breakfast and/or lunch?*

Breakfast and Lunch will be provided free of charge during the 2020-2021 school year. Students will be eating in their classrooms and supervised by paraprofessionals.

14. *What will happen if my child is diagnosed with COVID-19, someone in their class is diagnosed or a staff member is diagnosed?*

Central Montcalm Public Schools will be getting guidance from Mid-Michigan Health Department on how to handle any COVID-19 exposure or diagnosis.

15. *How can new students enroll?*

Starting August 10, 2020, enrollment will be done online at central-montcalm.org.

16. *How will I know about bussing?*

The Transportation Department will be getting ahold of families if there is a change in bussing. Please send a note if your child usually rides the bus and you plan on picking them up. Students need to wear a mask on the bus, sanitize their hands, and sit with family members in assigned seats.

17. *Do I still have to fill out a Household Information Report since all students are getting free lunch and breakfast?*

Yes, please return by September 1, 2020.

18. *When are CME's start and end times?*

Times are still being worked on so information will be posted on this page and on Central-Montcalm Elementary Facebook Page. Last year, our start time was 7:30 and the end time was 2:45.