



DHS/DMS Return to School

FAQs

Please remember all questions and answers are subject to change.

Traditional School Model Questions:

Q - Is my student allowed to watch the live classroom instruction if they are out one day for an appointment or because of a sickness?

A - Yes, they are allowed if they miss periodically. A parent or a doctor's note will need to be sent in upon return from an absence. Check with your teacher to see if this is an option. Once a student misses 10 or more days a doctor's note is required. Missing every Monday or Friday for example, without an excuse, will result in absences being unlawful. Once a student approaches 10 days the building principal will work with you to discuss if the Hybrid Model or Ironmen Cyber Model is a better fit.

Q - May my student transfer to a different model during the school year?

A - At this time we are not allowing a transition from one model to another unless it is at the marking period, or semester break. The only exception is if a student is out for an extended absence due to a health condition or a positive COVID test. Exceptions may occur at the discretion of the building administration.

Q: What if I want my student to return to the Traditional School Model but I don't want him/her to wear a mask?

A - On July 1, 2020, the Secretary of Health issued an Order requiring all individuals to wear a face covering when they leave their homes. This order applies to all students, staff, and visitors age two and older while in school entities, including public K-12 schools. For the safety of students, staff and families and to avoid community spread of COVID-19, students and staff are considered to be members of the public who are congregating in indoor locations. As such, they are required to adhere to this Order.

MASK BREAKS: Schools should provide face covering breaks throughout the day. Maintain a distance of at least 6 feet during these face covering breaks. Schools may allow students to remove face coverings when students are:

- Eating or drinking when spaced at least 6 feet apart

- Seated at desks or assigned workspaces at least 6 feet apart
- Engaged in any activity at least 6 feet apart (recess, etc.)
- When wearing a face covering creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.

Q: Will student desks be separated by 6 feet?

A: The school district is going to try to meet this recommendation to the greatest extent possible. When students cannot be at least 6 feet apart, they must wear their masks.

Q: If a student travels to a state that is on the quarantine list, will they need to quarantine for 14 days?

A - Educational travel is strongly discouraged and will be carefully considered before approving. At the current time no out of state travel will be approved. Any student who travels to a state listed as a COVID-19 hotspot, as designated by the PA Department of Health (DOH), will require a 14 day quarantine upon return.

Hybrid/Bridge School Model Questions:

Q - How will the classes be broadcasted in real time for the Hybrid/Bridge Model?

A - In the Hybrid/Bridge model, lessons the teachers present will be broadcast live and uploaded to Google Classroom. Depending on the lesson and teacher, the teacher may not remain live for the duration of the class period. Students in the bridge/hybrid model would be expected to remain online and visible to the teacher for the duration of the live streaming portion of the lesson. Students may be counted as absent if the camera is turned off and there is no communication between the student and teacher.

Q - Will my child have to use Google Meets?

A - The students will be using Google Meet and Google Classroom.

Q - Will students on the Hybrid/Bridge Model be able to answer questions like the other students that are in-person?

A - Teachers will handle Q/A differently in each class. Some may open live chats, others may ask students to email them questions that will be answered later in the school day. Students will have the lessons and material for that day within the Google Classroom.

Q - How will attendance work, specifically for Hybrid/Bridge students?

A - Attendance is to be taken daily in each class to ensure that the student is participating and up to date on assignments. Attendance for students in the Hybrid/Bridge model will be through the teacher visibly seeing the student on the computer screen during the live streaming portion of instruction, or another form of accountability determined by the teacher.

Q - What happens if a student's internet goes out?

A - If there are internet connectivity issues, students should contact the main office of their building immediately.

Q - Will students on the Hybrid/Bridge Model get a participation grade?

A - Participation will be addressed by each teacher. Students may participate via Google Chats, or other methods set forth by the teacher.

Q - Are we allowing Hybrid/Bridge to watch the instruction on a recorded version at alternate times?

A - Recorded versions will be available. Only participation in live sessions will count for attendance that day. Students should participate in all live scheduled classes.

Q - Will in-person students and hybrid students be graded the same?

A - Yes.

Q - Are in-person and Hybrid/Model students both being monitored during tests or not? If so, how will hybrid students be monitored?

A - Tests will be given at the teachers discretion. Monitoring of tests in this model will be explored in further professional training the teachers will be receiving prior to the start of school.

Q - If a student chooses to do the Hybrid Model, will that be shown on a student's transcript. For example, will college admission counselors be able to see if a student chooses to do in person vs hybrid?

A - If a student chooses any of the options that the Danville Area Board of Directors approved, they will receive a Danville Area School District diploma like everyone else. There are NO indicators on the diploma that specify what platform they were using. However, on the official transcript, The Danville E-Learning Academy courses are different. The transcript is still officially a Danville Area School District transcript. The hybrid/bridge model provides NO indicators of being different on the transcript because students will be given a high school schedule that will be carried out in the hybrid/bridge platform.

Q - How are courses that require labs or in-person instruction going to occur? (i.e. Ceramics, Welding, or AP Chemistry)

A - Some courses will not work within this model and students should consider taking these courses in another year of high school if you are an underclassmen. Otherwise, we would highly recommend your student attend school in the Traditional Model. This would be a discussion for the guidance counselor and principal at your building.

Q- If a student enrolled in homeschool or outside Cyber are they still eligible for Vo-Tech next year?

A- Yes, as long as they are still a resident. They will have to contact Vo-Tech directly.

Q- How are the students getting assignments provided by the teacher in this model?

A- Assignments will be posted as the teacher would typically do for their class in the Traditional Model. Some teachers may give students their assignments for the week with specific due dates and others may post assignments daily. The purpose of the Bridge Model is to replicate In Person or Traditional schooling as closely as possible. Students will be expected to "attend" classes daily.

Q- If students don't understand how often are the teachers going to be available?

A- Teachers will set office hours and will provide lessons via LIVE or Synchronous instruction. This is why attendance is critical. Students will view lessons as they are happening in class on any given day. Some teachers may set up chats where students can Q/A during the live lesson, others may ask that students ask questions via email and they will respond as quickly as possible.

Q- What are the hours the students need to be logged in?

A- In this model students will follow their assigned school schedule. They will be expected to attend each class and work as if they were in school. For example, in High School, 1st period may be Algebra. At 8:00am your student should be ready to view the live lesson. Teachers will take attendance and your student will be marked in attendance or not. This will continue throughout the school day. Middle School students would be expected to be logged in at 8:13 (7th and 8th) or 8:25 (6th).

Q- In the event that one of my children enroll in a model that is not right for them, will they be allowed to switch models after a trial period?

A- They may transfer at the marking period end. However, if there is an issue, a meeting with the principal would be recommended.

Q- If we decide to send our children to school in the second semester will they have the same teacher(s) they've had in the first semester?

A- The Bridge Model allows students to stay connected with their teachers and classmates. It also allows students to continue to receive quality instruction from DASD teachers with the curriculum set forth by the district. Your child will have a middle school or high school schedule and they will be on class rosters, therefore their teacher should remain over the course of the semesters. In some cases, the teacher delivering the live, online instruction may be different than the teacher on the students schedule, however the lessons and content in the Google Classroom will align.

Ironmen eLearning Model Questions:

Q - Does this model allow students to move back and forth between models?

A - We will allow students to enroll up to September 18, 2020 and then move in/out of this option at the semester break only. The 2nd semester enrollment period will end on January 29, 2021.

Q - What service provider will provide course content and who will be the teacher?

A - Students in grades K-6 will utilize Accelerate Education. Students in grades 7-12 will utilize Pearson GradPoint. In certain instances, there may be circumstances where secondary students use Accelerate Education. Course catalogs are available on the district website. Courses will be supported by Danville Area School District teachers who have specific certifications allowing them to serve as "teacher-of-record".

Q- If students “will primarily work from home,” when is the lab available and what exactly is it for?

A- The lab associated with eLearning has been used for students who are not completing assignments, students who need additional assistance, or students who require special services. Students in grades K-6 will not have a lab option at this time. Students in grades 7-12 may utilize lab hours by appointment and will need to make specific accommodations with Mr. Sample. The eLearning lab is located in the Danville Middle School building.

Q- Will students be allowed to take the face mask down if students are 6 ft apart?

A- All face covering requirements will be set forth by the state and local governments. The DASD will adhere to these guidelines. Students may be given breaks from mask wearing as appropriate.