

Questions and Answers from parent meeting on online learning:

1. *Is this part of a bigger online system?*

Yes, we are a member of the Wisconsin E-School Network (www.wisconsineschool.com) and are working with these other Wisconsin schools to provide quality online courses to our students. The district has also announced the opening of the 21st Century eSchool (www.21eschool.com) beginning in the 2010-11 school year.

2. *Are there going to be extra fees for online course?*

Generally no, but there may be some individual courses with supply fees.

3. *Will online courses receive the same credit as face to face classes?*

Yes

4. *How does this work? How do students interact with teachers and learning activities?*

The students will access the curriculum through a website and a learning management system called Brain Honey. All of the course content will be at this site. Students in asynchronous classes will work at their own pace to complete assignments and submit them electronically to the teacher. In synchronous classes, a student will have specific deadlines to meet and may also have required discussions. Students and teachers will interact with each other through discussion boards, e-mail, video conferencing, and phone.

Students will be scheduled into a study hall during their day to work on the online class or they may choose to use this time for other work and work on the online class outside of the school day.

5. *Is it a video lesson that shows up on a screen?*

Content is delivered in a variety of way including videos, text, lectures, discussions on discussion boards, activities and other experiences.

6. *What portion of the assessment will be auto graded by the computer and what part will be more open-ended?*

For the courses offered by Wisconsin E-School network, less than 25% of the assessments are auto graded.

7. *How will students be able to access computers at MHS?*

Students will be able to check into computer labs to work as they are able to now. We will also likely be adopting a policy which allows students to bring their own laptops to school for their own use.

8. *How many students will a teacher have in a section?*

Class sizes will be equivalent to current MHS classes averaging 25-30 students per section per teacher.

9. Do the courses have workbooks or textbooks?

Course may have workbooks or textbooks, but all assignments are submitted online.

10. Are the tests time restricted?

Generally, no.

11. Will we be offering online courses over the summer?

This summer we will continue to offer only credit recovery courses. This may change in the future.

12. Are there tutors or support for students who fall behind?

Students can still access the support in the content area resource centers at MHS, but there are no tutors provided to support students in non-credit recovery courses. The online teacher should be monitoring a student to keep them from getting to far behind.

13. Are tests proctored?

Generally, only the final exam.

14. Does this mean the final exam is weighted heavier in online courses?

In some cases this is true.

15. Why do we have both asynchronous and synchronous options?

The Wisconsin E-school network has determined that an asynchronous model best meets the needs of the students in the member districts. All of the courses they have purchased from Florida Virtual High School are delivered asynchronously. However, they do not own the rights to all courses of interest. They have chosen to supplement these courses with courses from Virtual High School (VHS). VHS courses are based on a synchronous, cohort model.

16. For synchronous classes, will a student need to be in a certain place at a certain time?

Yes, there will likely be scheduled class meetings. It is unlikely that these would happen more than weekly and they are likely to be in the evening.

17. What is the timeline for dropping an online class?

First, students will have to complete an orientation course. Students may choose to drop after the orientation course with no penalty.

Once the course has started, students will be able to drop for up to 3 weeks without penalty. However, students will not be able to pick up another class at this time.

18. Where would we find course descriptions for the VHS courses?

Wisconsin E-school Network classes at www.wisconsineschool.com under courses
Virtual High School course at www.govhs.org under course catalogue

19. *Would students have access to online classes from other providers beyond the Wisconsin E-School Network and VHS?*

Possibly. If you have a course you would really like to take and don't see it on the list, please go ahead and list it on your sheet. We will try to find a provider.

20. *Which school within the Wisconsin E-School Network has been offering online classes for the longest period of time? And for how long?*

Appleton began offering online courses in the 2002-03 school year.

21. *Will the online courses be the same as MHS courses?*

At this time, we cannot guarantee that the content will be the same for an online course and a face to face course at MHS. Just as there are differences in courses between schools, differences in the courses will exist. However, credit from an equivalent online course will be counted the same as a face to face class.

Questions we are working on:

1. Can a student audit an online class?
2. Can a student take an online summer school class, pay for it personally and transfer the credits back to MHS?