



# Eclectic Middle School

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**Mark L. McGhee**  
Principal

**La'Tresia M. Robinson, Ed.S.**  
Assistant Principal

July 10, 2020

Dear EMS Parents and Students:

I hope everyone is doing well and enjoying his/her summer. Our team at EMS is preparing for an exciting 2020-2021 school year! Throughout the summer, our faculty and staff have participated in various workshops, prepared classrooms, developed new lessons and took a little time to rest and renew for a new school year. As we continue to adjust to our new "Covid normal," you can expect school to look a little different this year. We stand ready and committed to provide our students with a quality educational experience in as safe and normal setting as possible. I hope some of the information below helps to ease your anxieties and answer your questions.

### **What are the best ways to stay up-to-date with all things EMS?**

- Join the EMS remind: Text @emsupdates to the number 81010
- Follow EMS on social media:
  - Facebook: /Eclectic Middle School
  - Instagram and Twitter: @EclecticMiddle
- Visit our website often: [www.elmoreco.com/ems](http://www.elmoreco.com/ems)
- Email questions to: [emsinfo@elmoreco.com](mailto:emsinfo@elmoreco.com)

### **My child is entering the 5<sup>th</sup> grade and we have not heard anything from the school.**

- Expect 5<sup>th</sup> grade specific information to be mailed by Wednesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Supply lists and other information can be found on our school's website.

### **Do we have to complete online registration?**

- Yes. Instructions can be found on our school's website. If you have questions, contact Mrs. Maynard at 334-541-2131 or email [emsinfo@elmoreco.com](mailto:emsinfo@elmoreco.com).

### **When is school starting?**

- School starts on Monday, August 10<sup>th</sup>. The full school year calendar can be found at [www.elmoreco.com](http://www.elmoreco.com).

### **What are student's options to return to school? (As of July 10<sup>th</sup>)**

- Normal/traditional school setting
- Virtual Option 1: Students who plan to temporarily participate virtually due to Covid concerns will stay enrolled at EMS.

- Virtual Option 2: Students who plan to permanently participate virtually will transfer to the Elmore County Virtual School (EDGE).

**How will the school know if we chose traditional or virtual?**

- We will pull this information from the parent survey that was distributed on July 6<sup>th</sup>. If you want to confirm we have the current information, email [emsinfo@elmoreco.com](mailto:emsinfo@elmoreco.com) or call the office.

**Will students be provided a Chromebook?**

- Yes. All students will be issued a Chromebook that will travel with them from home to school and class to class daily.

**Will students be required to wear masks?**

- As of the date of this letter, masks are optional not mandated. Masks will be recommended when social distancing cannot be done. Students are encouraged to have a mask for school. The school will have a small supply of disposable masks available as needed.

**Will students' temperatures be checked at entry points?**

- Yes. All students' temperatures will be checked upon entry.

**How will breakfast, break, and lunch be served?**

- Nothing will change with breakfast. It will continue to be served in the classroom.
- Break will be purchased and served in the classroom.
- Lunch will be delivered to the classroom. However, we will have options available for students to eat in locations other than the classroom. Students will order their meals online daily and will continue to have hot and/or cold meal options.

**Will the school have open house?**

- We are currently planning to have an in person open house for 5<sup>th</sup> grade only. We are working on virtual options for 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

**What is the plan for PE? Do students have to dress out?**

- We are still working on the details of what PE class will look like.
- At the start of school, students will not be required to dress out. We plan to have options for those who prefer to. Dress out requirements may change as the school year progresses.

**What is the new attendance policy? Will students still be able to be exempt from exams?**

- Our district leadership and school board are working on an attendance policy and procedure that takes into consideration traditional students who are absent due to sickness. Additional information to come later.

**Will the before and after school program continue?**

- Yes. As long as we have students in school, we plan to continue the before and after school program.

**Things to begin planning for:**

- *Childcare:* In the event that school has to be closed, have a plan for childcare.
- *Home Internet Access:* If the school is closed for any period of time, instruction will immediately transition online. Students will need internet access to complete required work. No paper packets will be provided.
- *Morning Routine Plan:* It is essential that parents check their child's temperature before they leave home. Under no circumstances should a child be sent to school with a fever or other Covid related symptoms. Parents who knowingly and intentionally send their sick child to school put the health and welfare of students and employees at risk.
- *Child pickup plan:* If your child gets sick at school, have a pickup plan. This is nonnegotiable. Parents that fail to pick their child up within a reasonable amount of time put the health and welfare of students and employees at risk. A sick student will not be put on a bus to be transported home.

**How can I help?** (Any of the following items can be dropped off at the office)

- Paper towels
- Kleenex/Tissue
- Disposable rags/Towels
- Disposable Masks
- Disposable gloves
- Hand sanitizer (60% alcohol or more)
- Antibacterial liquid Soap
- Disinfectant wipes
- Lysol/disinfectant spray
- Air freshener
- Band-Aids
- Ziploc bags

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at the school or email questions to [emsinfo@elmoreco.com](mailto:emsinfo@elmoreco.com).

Thank you,



Mark L. McGhee  
Principal