



*News from Commissioner Jeffrey C. Riley & the
MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education*

On the Desktop - August 4, 2020

Remote Learning Partner Information

Dear Superintendents, Charter School Leaders, Assistant Superintendents, Collaborative Leaders, and Leaders of Approved Special Education Schools,

Following the release of DESE's [remote learning guidance](#) (*download*) on July 24, we are providing additional information about specific partners from which districts can purchase virtual courses or a learning management system, as described under options 4 and 5 of the remote learning guidance (pages 13 and 14):

- Option 4: Purchase courses provided through Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools (CMVS) with instructional services
- Option 5: Purchase student licenses for a learning management system with K–12 full course content included but without instructional services

The Department has identified specific partners that are able to provide these services and has included overviews of cost and other information to support school and district decision-making about remote learning resources. Districts are strongly encouraged to review all the information carefully and to contact each partner directly to determine what will best meet the needs of the district's students and families.

We will host a **virtual informational session** about these options **tomorrow, Wednesday, August 5 at 2:00 p.m.** Please register [here](#). Also, to support coordination and collaboration with these partners, please fill out this brief, non-binding [Remote Learning Partner Interest Survey](#) **by 5 p.m., Friday, August 7**. We are planning to sponsor state-level professional development sessions for these options depending on district interest and demand as indicated through the survey, so please provide us with the best information that you have at this time.

The Department is working with the Baker-Polito Administration to make additional resources available to expand access to online advanced coursework, including Advanced Placement, early college or dual enrollment courses. We are also working to make funding available to support districts in providing the remote learning opportunities that may be required for students who cannot physically attend school.

We will release additional information related to accessing this additional funding, as well as further details regarding remote learning options 1, 2 and 3 as they become available. We hope this information is helpful as you continue to plan for the variety of school reopening scenarios.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C. Riley
Commissioner