

A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A DISTANCE LEARNING WMS STUDENT

DISTANCE LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND SCHEDULE:

Where does learning occur?

At home / off site.

When does my student attend?

Students "attend" during the regular school day (7:50am - 3:00pm).

What does "attend" mean?

Students are logged into Canvas and virtually present in their respective courses during the regularly scheduled time of that course listed on their schedule (synchronous instruction).

*Some elective courses that may have to use asynchronous instruction will use task / assessment completion / submission as a method to count daily attendance.

What classes can I expect my student to have in their daily schedule?

Students will have their four CORE classes (english, math, science, and social studies) everyday. They will also have two elective classes every other day for a total of four electives since WMS operates on a A / B day schedule. Therefore, students will have up to six courses per day.

*A traditional / In-Person WMS schedule has 7 classes per day because students have a Connect class, which serves as an intervention, extension, resource / study period. Distance Learning students may have a Connect period added to their schedule if an intervention is needed.

Will my student have a WMS teacher teaching their class?

Yes.

What does instruction look like?

The majority of learning will occur through synchronous engagement activities taught by a WMS teacher.

District designed curriculum utilizing our state standards will be used.

The learning activities that teachers may choose to utilize, but are not limited to are as follows:

- Live virtual class meetings
- Small group virtual work
- One-on-one feedback and formative assessment
- Online discussions
- Collaborative projects
- Formative / Summative assessments
- Offline Work

Again, the classes that your student will engage in are english, math, science, and social studies (daily) with two elective courses (every other day as noted in the A / B schedule).

*Elective classes may be limited due to schedule availability and staffing resources. Therefore, asynchronous instruction may need to occur for specific electives.

Will my child be engaged virtually for the entire class period?

Virtual interaction and engagement will vary based on the class and lessons being taught. Overall, teachers will utilize a variety of activities, which means students may not have to be present virtually for a period of time during the class as they would be doing work / activities offline / independently and checking back in at some point later in the lesson or the next class period.

FAMILY EXPECTATIONS:

What should families expect?

- Registration commitment for one semester
- Provide daily support at home for learning each day
- Support daily student attendance
- Provide constructive learning environment
- Work together with your student's teacher to monitor their progress

ATTENDANCE:

How will my student's attendance be monitored?

Attend and engage in all learning activities (synchronous or asynchronous) in all content areas. Daily attendance will be taken for each class Monday through Friday. Students will be marked absent if they are not present during a synchronous lesson and/or if no participation occurs with distance learning lessons for a class. Parents will need to call the school office to excuse an absence.

MONITORING STUDENT PROGRESS - ASSESSMENT AND GRADING:

Will my student receive grades and feedback about his/her learning?

Yes. All teachers in their respective classes will be regularly posting learning activity and assessment details / directions in Canvas along with feedback concerning student performance on assessments. Assessment grades will be regularly posted and updated in Infinite Campus.

Will I be provided an Infinite Campus and Canvas log-in to view my child's feedback / grades?

Yes.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

Will my student need school supplies?

[WMS School Supply List 2020-21](#)

Other than their district issued Chromebook and supply kits that could be provided by elective teachers for specific courses, students do not need specific school supplies. It can / should be expected that students will need access to paper, pen, pencil, and general art supplies you may have at home. You may choose to purchase the grade level school supplies listed on our website should your child return to in-person learning for the second semester.

If you choose to purchase the grade level school supplies please acquire the items listed to the best of your ability as we are aware that some of these items are difficult to find / purchase at the moment.

TECHNOLOGY ACCESS AND SUPPORT:

When will my student be issued a Chromebook?

If your student does not have a district issued Chromebook, they will receive one during the first week of our "soft start" on their designated day listed below. Each day will be run as a regular school day (starting at 7:50am and concluding at 3:00pm) where students will go to their regularly scheduled classes.

Date	Students Attending
Tuesday, September 1	Students with last names starting with A through E
Wednesday, September 2	Students with last names starting with F through K
Thursday, September 3	Students with last names starting with L through R
Friday, September 4	Students with last names starting with S through Z

How can my student access technology support?

Distance learning students and parents can contact the Whitnall Helpdesk at helpdesk@whitnall.com to request support.

SPECIAL EDUCATION:

Will students receiving special services continue to do so while engaged in Distance Learning?

Yes. Special education and students with plans (504, IEP, EL, BIP) will continue to receive support from their case manager and / or instructional aide per their plan.

ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES:

Will my student be allowed to participate in athletics?

Yes. Students will be allowed to participate in athletics. Daily attendance expectations are the same as in-person.

SCHOOL LUNCH:

Is school lunch still available for my student while in Distance Learning?

Families selecting the distance learning environment will be able to pick up school lunches. More details on this process will be made available soon.

DISTANCE LEARNING FOR THE 2020-21 SCHOOL YEAR:

How will distance learning be different this year?

While all Whitnall students participated in emergency remote instruction during the spring, this year, distance learning teachers will provide a more rigorous virtual learning experience aligned to best practices for virtual instruction using a more robust learning management system (LMS) in Canvas.

What is Canvas?

Canvas LMS is an open and reliable web-based software that allows institutions to manage digital learning, educators to create and present online learning materials and assess student learning, and students to engage in courses and receive feedback about skill development and learning achievement. Additionally, while Canvas is primarily a web-based software, any user can access Canvas on a mobile device from the Canvas Teacher, Canvas Student, and Canvas Parent apps.