

WCSD Reopening Plan ~ FAQs for Parents/Guardians

[Recorded Parent Meeting Videos](#)

[Schedule](#)
[Meals](#)
[Cleaning & Ventilation](#)

[Remote Learning](#)
[Transportation](#)
[Health & Safety](#)

[Special Education](#)
[Technology](#)
[Sports & Activities](#)

Q. Has our plan been officially submitted to NYS NYSED and NYS DOH?

A. Yes. The first day of school is September 10, 2020.

Q. What are the hybrid plan hours for elementary schools and secondary schools?

<p>A. Klem North and Plank North AM Session:</p> <p>7:40-7:45 buses arrive and unload upon arrival 7:50-8:00 parent drop off 8:00 (bell) announcements begin 10:00 buses pull out 10:05-10:15 parent pick up</p>	<p>Klem North and Plank North PM Session:</p> <p>11:35-11:40 buses arrive and unload upon arrival 11:45-11:55 parent drop off 11:55 (bell) announcements begin 1:55 buses pull out 2:00-2:10 parent pick up</p>
---	---

DeWitt, Klem South, Plank South, Schlegel and State AM Session:

7:50-7:55 buses arrive and unload upon arrival
 8:00-8:10 parent drop off
 8:10 (bell) announcements begin
 10:10 buses pull out
 10:15-10:25 parent pick up

DeWitt, Klem South, Plank South, Schlegel and State PM Session:

11:45-11:50 buses arrive and unload upon arrival
 11:55-12:05 parent drop off
 12:05 (bell) announcements begin
 2:05 buses pull out
 2:10-2:20 parent pick up

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday In-Person Schedule

Period	High School	
1	8:45 AM	9:32 AM
2	9:37 AM	10:21 AM
3	10:26 AM	11:10 AM
4	11:15 AM	11:59 AM
5	12:04 PM	12:48 PM
6	12:53 PM	1:37 PM
7	1:42 PM	2:26 PM
8	2:31 PM	3:15 PM

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday In-Person Schedule

Period	Middle School	
HR	8:45 AM	9:05 AM
1	9:09 AM	9:49 AM
2	9:53 AM	10:33 AM
3	10:37 AM	11:17 AM
4	11:21 AM	12:07 PM
5	12:11 PM	12:57 PM
6	1:01 PM	1:47 PM
7	1:51 PM	2:31 PM
8	2:35 PM	3:15 PM

Wednesday Remote Learning Schedule
Middle School and High School

<i>Period</i>	Start	End
1	11:00 AM	11:25 AM
2	11:30 AM	11:55 AM
3	12:00 PM	12:25 PM
4	12:30 PM	12:55 PM
5	1:00 PM	1:25 PM
6	1:30 PM	1:55 PM
7	2:00 PM	2:25 PM
8	2:30 PM	2:55 PM

Q. [Can parents decide to wait and send their child to kindergarten in 2021-2022?](#)

A. Students who turn six by December 1, 2021, need to be enrolled in a school or home school program for the 2021-2022 school year. Parents who would like to hold off on kindergarten for a year can do so.

Q. [What will the Hybrid Learning Model look like at the elementary level?](#)

A. Each student will come to school for approximately 2.5 hours (see schedule above). They will see their teacher each and every day. Families (including UPK families) will learn of their assignment next Wednesday evening, August 5. Elementary students will have ELA and math learning prioritized, but all subjects will be part of the program, including specials. The half of the day that students are remote will have assignments that are asynchronous, or those that can be accessed at any time. This will be assigned by the teacher, but may be an online reading/writing assignment, math problem solving practice, science learning, and typing practice. The remote half of the day will be designed to compliment the in-person learning.

Q. [What will the Hybrid Learning Model look like at the middle and high school levels?](#)

A. Students will come to school for in-person learning on either Monday/Thursday or Tuesday/Friday. Wednesdays will be a remote learning day (see chart above) where they will meet “live” with their teacher during a 25-minute mini-class. Families will be scheduled together on the same days, the split will **not** be alphabetical by last name. Students will be expected to work on assignments from the live classes on their remote learning days. Classes will not be live streamed on the remote learning days.

Q. [Why give elementary school students such a different schedule than the secondary students?](#)

A. We relied on feedback that we had gathered over the past month regarding priorities in an in-person model. Seeing students every day was a top priority. We also received feedback that remote learning for elementary students is difficult. This plan gives all elementary students access to their teacher and in-person instruction every day.

Q. [Why Monday/Thursday and Tuesday/Friday? Wouldn't it have made more sense for the same kids there two days in a row, deep clean the school on Wednesday, and then the other half of the students come Thursday/Friday?](#)

A. We considered a model where students attend school on either Monday and Tuesday, or Thursday and Friday but decided against it because doing so would have meant some students were away from the classroom for five consecutive days. Our selected model allows students in both Group 1 and Group 2

to be out of the classroom for a maximum of only three days. We feel this type of schedule is better for student learning as it makes it easier for students to remain engaged.

Q. [Is this a temporary plan or does the district foresee using this for an extended period of time?](#)

A. We will reevaluate week by week, and month by month. This model does allow us to transition from in-person to remote learning easily. We do expect to maintain this type of schedule for the foreseeable future.

Q. [Will secondary students have PE, art, music and other electives?](#)

A. Yes. PE and music may look different due to the increased physical distancing requirements. We are planning to run as many classes as possible. Classes always are based on enrollment, so if a class ends up having many students choose 100% remote instruction, we may need to reevaluate.

Q. [What will the GOAL schedule look like?](#)

A. The GOAL program will meet in person on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. Wednesday will be a remote learning day for students in GOAL.

Q. [Will families have students in secondary assigned to the same in-person learning days?](#)

A. Yes. There will be a staggered arrival at all buildings. If you have children in middle and high school, and the schools start at the same time, it is still okay to drive both to school.

Q. [Will 8th grade students taking Living Environment students be ready for the June Regents?](#)

A. Yes. We will be able to schedule students once out of every four days for labs, as usual.

Q. [Will secondary students use lockers this year?](#)

A. At MS, students will only drop off coats and lunch in the morning, get lunch at lunchtime, and get coats at the end of the day. At HS, students are assigned a locker for all four years of school, and they will continue to be able to use that locker. Many students at HS do not use their lockers.

Q. [Will elementary school students be eating in the cafeteria at school?](#)

A. No, they will not be, but grab-and-go meals will be available to eat in the classroom or to take home for breakfast or lunch. All students will be able to buy meals. Currently, as of September 15, 2020, elementary students will have a free breakfast and lunch to take home daily.

Q. [Will secondary school students be eating in the cafeteria at school?](#)

A. Yes, MS and HS students will be able to eat in the cafeteria. Physical distancing will be enforced. Meals will be available to purchase.

Q. [How well can you disinfect every elementary classroom in between the two sessions at elementary, assuming that each classroom is needed for both morning and afternoon?](#)

A. Our entire staff will be trained on updated cleaning protocols. We will be sure that classroom surfaces are cleaned before the afternoon students attend. We will also be using regular hand washing many times during school to prevent the spread of germs.

Q. [What will the 100% Remote Learning Model look like at the elementary level?](#)

A. At the elementary level, staff would provide approximately 2.5 hours per day of direct, synchronous instruction (whole group, small group, and individual). Teachers will also provide specialized instruction, as needed, such as ENL or special education services. The amount of special education service will be determined by a student's IEP. Consideration will be given to individualized student needs. Elementary students will have opportunities to participate in activities each day to practice skills and extend their

learning away from a computer screen. The time of synchronous learning will be designed to be age-appropriate; a kindergarten student may not be able to hold their attention for a thirty minute period using video learning, but a fifth grader may. Students in this model will be grouped by grade level, with the possibility of multi-grade grouping for some instruction. This depends on the number of students who opt for 100% remote learning. Students in the 100% remote model may have a teacher from any one of our elementary schools.

Q. [What will the 100% Remote Learning Model look for middle school and high school?](#)

A. This model will run on an odd/even format using the actual calendar date as the guide (ex: October 1 would be odd, October 2 would be even). On odd days, students would attend odd periods (1, 3, 5, 7) by logging into their remote class using Google Meet. On even days, students would attend even periods (2, 4, 6, 8) by logging into their remote class. Teachers would be available via Google Meet for the opposite periods. On a typical day, students would have a blend of live classes, independent work, checking in with teachers, lunch and breaks. Teachers will provide specialized instruction, as needed, such as ENL or special education services. The amount of special education service will be determined by a student's IEP.

Q. [Who will be administering the remote option? Will it be Webster CSD teachers?](#)

A. Yes, it'll be our teachers, although there may be a course or two at the secondary level that we could rely on BOCES to offer some help.

Q. [If a family chooses remote but it isn't working out well, is there the option to switch back to in-school/classroom instruction before the end of the semester?](#)

A. The commitment is for at least one semester. The district has to staff our in-person classes using 8-12 students per class; if we have a huge influx of remote learning students coming back to the classrooms, then we cannot adhere to physical distancing rules.

Q. [On the opposite side, if a family chooses in-school/classroom instruction and finds it isn't working out well \(for any reason\) is it possible to switch to 100% remote before the end of the semester?](#)

A. This is actually ok...no worries of physical distancing for remote students. Students most likely would have different teachers for remote learning.

Q. [Will the 100% remote option offer all of the same courses as in-person would for middle and high school students?](#)

A. There may be some courses that we don't have remote teachers for, but we should be able to offer the vast majority of our courses.

Q. [Will the 100% remote model include accelerated options for middle school accelerated math and science?](#)

A. Yes.

Q. [Will middle and high school students who choose remote still be able to take the Regents exams at the end of the year?](#)

A. Yes.

Q. [Will students that are 100% remote be able to have print materials from school?](#)

A. Yes, and this will be organized by the teacher assigned. Some classes may have print materials available and some not. This is different from spring because our buildings will be open in the fall.

Q. If my family tries virtual and it is not working for us, can we opt to submit an IHIP and home school?

A. Yes.

Q. Out-of-district placements through Webster will most likely not have equal access to in-person learning. How does this allow equal access to an appropriate education?

A. The out-of-district facilities are making decisions about reopening that may result in different looks to their schedule as compared to ours. Rest assured, their decisions are based on the health and safety of our students, and their accommodations within their buildings and their schedules may not be the same as ours. Agencies want to partner with you to explain the support they will provide for each student. Please reach out to the administrators in the program so they can answer your questions and concerns.

Q. What about information on transportation for my child?

A. Bus assignments are available in the parent portal.

Q. If we are not going to know if our schedule change request has been approved, how do we fill out the transportation form?

A. Please complete the form by end of day on Wednesday, August 11. If your schedule changes, you can contact Transportation to let them know that you will need to update your information. It is critical for us to know if your child will be attending the hybrid in-person learning, or opting for remote by the end of the day on Wednesday.

Q. What about wearing masks on the bus?

A. Masking and distancing will be enforced on the bus.

Q. Can any student with a license and car drive to, and park, at school?

A. We are working on making this happen. Thomas does not yet have enough parking to allow for all licensed student drivers to park. We will not offer a safe drivers course this year, but we will offer parking permits. More information will come from the high school main offices.

Q. Will additional communication be coming out regarding mask requirements, social distancing, protocols in the event of a positive diagnosis, etc.?

A. Yes, there will be additional communication. Masking and distancing guidelines will be followed. Children and staff will be expected to wear face coverings on the bus, in hallways and in the classroom. Masking breaks can occur with teacher discretion during instructional time when physical distancing is 6 feet or more. We would take direction from the Monroe County Department of Health if there is a positive diagnosis in one of our schools. Students with a medical exemption request for masking will submit a [doctor's request on this form](#) to be reviewed by our district physician.

Q. What will the health screening be like?

A. Families will complete the health screening in an app or website before sending their child(ren) to school. The questions will be finalized as we get closer to school starting, but will focus on questions about whether your child has been in contact with someone who has tested positive, has had a positive test themselves, has traveled to a state on the travel advisory list from NYS or shows one or more symptoms from the symptoms list. Students that do not complete the screen at home will be screened at school.

Q. Is there a mask that the school recommends?

A. Updated recommendations from the Monroe County Department of Public Health were published on August 24. Cloth face coverings that cover both the nose and mouth are required. MCDPH is not

recommending neck gaiters, bandanas, or scarves, and they will not be allowed on campus. Face shields worn without other appropriate face coverings are not an acceptable alternative.

Q. Will recess be allowed at elementary school?

A. Yes.

Q. How and when will parents be notified if someone has tested positive for COVID-19?

A. The notification will come from the Monroe County Department of Health. The MCDOH will coordinate any responses in our district if someone tests positive for COVID-19. That includes any necessary quarantine or isolation.

Q. Will the district be doing onsite COVID-19 testing?

A. We will follow NYSDOH and our own MCDOH guidelines around testing. At this time, they are not recommending testing of students and staff as a mandatory step to attend school on opening day.

Q. Do students who opt for remote have to be up-to-date with their immunizations?

A. Yes.

Q. How do I know the ventilation (HVAC) systems in the district are compliant with standards?

A. Unlike other public buildings, school buildings and related mechanical infrastructure are under the oversight of the NYS Education Department Office of Facilities Planning (OFP). For decades, the OFP has held high standards of air quality far above airports, malls, churches, etc. Of particular focus to the OFP has been “make-up air” which is the mixing of a ratio of fresh air to the tempered (heated/cooled) air coming into the classroom. The OFP requires an extraordinarily high level of air for schools. The OFP approves plans and specifications of HVAC system design prior to construction and it is usual for them to make significant costly changes or add to the scope of a project. The OFP also reviews drawings once construction has been completed and final architectural certifications that the system is working as designed. The district’s ventilation systems meet or exceed the OFP’s high standards.

Q. Why are the data and info confusing?

A. HVAC systems are complex and need to be in balance. Turning something up is not necessarily going to achieve the desired result in one space or throughout the system. It may disrupt a balance in the entire system making something worse further down the line. HVAC has its own pressure system that is constantly seeking balance. For example, a room with a filter rated with a Minimum Efficiency Reporting Value of MERV 8, a measurement scale that reports effectiveness of air filters, will allow more fresh air exchanges into the room than a Merv 15 filter as this larger, thicker filter will reduce air flow. Details on the district filters are available [here](#).

Q. What is fresh or makeup air and what does it mean in our buildings?

A. Makeup air is the fresh air being pulled in from the outside to be mixed with the heated air or cooled air as it is forced into an interior space with exit return vents to circulate the airflow throughout the space. This fresh air comes in through our hvac units’ dampers. Think of a damper as being a window which opens and closes controlling temperature and refreshing the air supplied to the space.

Q. Why are other public buildings NOT subject to these high standards?

A. Other public buildings are not subject to these standards because this inefficient system includes high-powered fans, heat pumps, etc. Think of a winter day where it is 20 degrees and 25 mph wind outside; your home furnace works hard to keep your home at 68 degrees. What do you think would happen to your furnace if it worked to keep your home at 68 degrees and 40% of the air fed to it was 20 degrees? That 20-degree air would need to be heated to 80 degrees or more to ensure that sufficient

heated air would be circulated through ductwork and into your rooms. That is precisely what the schools systems are being asked to do. This process is extremely energy inefficient; systems are costly because they are oversized, work harder, and, as such, result in short system lifespans. Because private sector and municipal public buildings are not held to the higher air quality standards, they do not invest the capital to attain those standards.

Q. Can the district just upgrade its filters?

A. Per the OFP, the district already has OFP-approved and code compliant filters with many areas at the maximum. Remember, the OFP approves the district's system design and the filter is just one variable in the air quality formula. The OFP has determined the current systems and operation meet or exceed required code standards. The NYSED Reopening Guidance Document cautions districts against upgrading filters or modifying system design or operating specifications because they are not approved by the OFP. The filters will likely reduce air flow and stress the HVAC systems to the point of being inoperative, thus causing a far more concerning air quality result.

Q. How does the district know if the systems are working properly?

A. Through our capital projects over the last 25 years, the district has been installing and upgrading the Direct Digital Controls (DDC) of our HVAC systems, allowing us to remotely monitor and adjust the systems. This monitoring system has software and control hardware so units can be adjusted and monitored for proper function and efficiency. The system has alarm capabilities and sends notification to our buildings and grounds staff's desktops, laptops and devices.

Q. What are the details and makeup of the cleaning products the district is using?

A. Below are the links to the product descriptions utilized by the district:
<http://www.diversevericlean.com/diverse-veclean-system/products/disinfectants/oxivir-tb>
<http://www.diversevericlean.com/diverse-veclean-system/products/disinfectants/oxivir-tb-wipes>

Q. Will students in K-5 be able to take their iPad or Chromebook home with them?

A. Yes. That will be directed by each classroom teacher. We will be asking families about their technology needs soon.

Q. What technology programs will be used for remote learning?

A. Our learning platforms will be SeeSaw for K-2 and Google Classroom for 3-12.

Q. Will students participating in remote learning have access to their district-issued device?

A. Yes.

Q. Will there be sports, extracurricular activities, or activity period (at the elementary schools)?

A. After school activities and transportation for after school activities shall resume when extracurricular activities and/or interscholastic athletics are permitted. All activities are cancelled until further notice. We are awaiting additional guidance from the NYS Public High School Athletic Association.

Q. Can you explain the timing of the half-day elementary hybrid plan (schedule)?

A. The elementary hybrid plan is designed to offer two sessions for elementary students. Originally we said it was about 2.5 hours, but as many parents have noted, the actual time is different. In a typical full day program, students are in school for 6.5 hours. Lunch is 30 minutes, specials are 45 minutes, and arrival and dismissal are about 20 minutes. That leaves 4 hours and 55 minutes of classroom time in a typical full day. Our top priority for elementary students is getting them to school every day. In order to do that, and have physical distancing in every classroom, we decided on a half day program. Those two sessions have to be built in that 6.5 hour time. Teachers need to have a 30 minute lunch and a 45

minute planning time, which will happen in the middle of the day, between the AM and PM sessions. The schedule is then built into the time that is left. Our teachers are preparing now to maximize the time they have with each group. Remember that each group will be half, or less, of the size of our classes last year.

- Q. [Can we opt-in for transportation, just in case, and plan on still driving our children to and from school daily?](#)
- A. No. The whole idea of the opt-in or opt-out is to plan how to transport students, given the change in schedule, constraints due to COVID-19 guidelines, and limited driver resources. If parents are driving their child(ren) daily or participating in the 100% Remote Learning Model, they opt-out for transportation needs. Should circumstances change and students need daily transportation, there is an opt-in form to fill out and send in via the Parent Portal (this form may be found as a link within the student assignment letter that was posted to the IC Parent and Student Portal on August 5). The opt-in transportation form will take a few days to process as the district reworks that particular route.

To submit a question not found in this document follow this [link](#).