

March 26, 2020

Dear Parents,

When we sat down to create a school in Corolla, we could not have fathomed that we would be back at the drawing board eight years making our school a virtual one, but here we are. Now, just as then, we are wowed and overwhelmed by the support and positivity from families and community. You all are a huge part of our success and we are grateful to you! And thank you for your amazing feedback to survey. We had a near-whole school response, which really helped us drive and define some of these changes.

As you know, we will not be back in school until May 15, 2020 at the earliest. As this is a learning process for all, we are making adjustments to our original calendar-launch based on feedback from students, parents, our teachers, and other schools. This will provide what we hope are the best possible strategies and learning environment for your students. Below is an overview of our schedule changes.

First things first: The classwork for students 2nd-8th grades tomorrow (Friday, March 27) is all independent work! (No *need* to log in to Zoom, but if you have questions, teachers will be available in their Zoom rooms, and will be alerted by chat messages only if they are away from their desks.)

K and 1st will log in as usual tomorrow at 9am, have social studies right after math, and be done around 11:30am

NEW SCHEDULE: (effective SUNDAY, March 29 please review carefully)

Sunday- packet/ materials switch-out days at the schoolhouse. (Please see below for details)

	Monday			
	Wolff	Sonnenberg	Fennimore	Moore
9:30-10:00	5th ELA	Math II	234 SS/ Sci	k/1 ELA
10:05-10:35	6th/ 7th ELA	math I	4th math	k/1 ELA to 10:15
10:40-11:10	8th ELA	6th/ 7th math	3rd math	Math
11:15-11:45	2nd ELA	5th/ 6th science		Math
11:45-12:30	Lunch and recess- NO SCREEN TIME PLEASE!!			
12:30-12:35	Pledge			
12:35-1:05	4th ELA	7th/ 8th science	5th math	2nd math
1:10-1:40	3rd ELA			SS/S 12:45 - 1:30
1:45-2:45	Monday&Thursday- 6/7/8 BHP;		Breakout rooms	library (independent)

	Tuesday			
	Wolff	Sonnenberg	Fennimore	Moore
9:30-10:00	Individual Student Check In	Available by ZOOM classroom chat only		ELA - 9 - 10:15
10:05-10:35	Individual Student Check In			ELA - 9 - 10:15
10:40-11:10	Individual Student Check In			Math
11:15-11:45	2nd grade ELA			Math
11:45-12:30	Lunch and recess- NO SCREEN TIME PLEASE!!			
12:30-12:35	Pledge			
12:35-1:05	Available by ZOOM classroom chat only	Teachers not available		2nd math
1:10-1:40				SS/S 12:45 - 1:30
1:45-2:45				
	Wednesday			
	Wolff	Sonnenberg	Fennimore	Moore
9:30-10:00	5th ELA	Math II	234 SS/ Sci	k/1 ELA
10:05-10:35	6th/ 7th ELA	math I	4th math	k/1 ELA to 10:15
10:40-11:10	8th ELA	6th/ 7th math	3rd math	Math
11:15-11:45	2nd ELA	5th/ 6th science		Math
11:45-12:30	Lunch and recess- NO SCREEN TIME PLEASE!!			
12:30-12:35	Pledge			
12:35-1:05	4th ELA	7th/ 8th science	5th math	2nd math
1:10-1:40	3rd ELA			SS/S 12:45 - 1:30
1:45-2:45	Wednesday- 5/6/7/8 MEDIA		Breakout rooms	music (independent)

	Thursday			
	Wolff	Sonnenberg	Fennimore	Moore
9:30-10:00	5th ELA	Math II	234 SS/ Sci	k/1 ELA
10:05-10:35	6th/ 7th ELA	math I	4th math	k/1 ELA to 10:15
10:40-11:10	8th ELA	6th/ 7th math	3rd math	Math
11:15-11:45	2nd ELA	5th/ 6th science		Math
11:45-12:30	Lunch and recess- NO SCREEN TIME PLEASE!!			
12:30-12:35	Pledge			
12:35-1:05	4th ELA	7th/ 8th science	5th math	2nd math
1:10-1:40	3rd ELA			SS/S 12:45 - 1:30
1:45-2:45	6/7/8 BHP		Breakout rooms	art (independent)
	Friday			
	Sylvia	Sean	Liz	Marcy
9:30-10:00	**3rd/ 4th ELA	**Math I/ II	Individual student check in	ELA - 9 - 10:15
10:05-10:35	**6th/ 7th/ 8th ELA	**5th/ 6th math	Individual student check in	ELA - 9 - 10:15
10:40-11:10	**5th ELA	**5th-8th sci	Individual student check in	Math
11:15-11:45	2nd ELA		Individual student check in	Math
11:45-12:30	Lunch and recess- NO SCREEN TIME PLEASE!!			
12:30-12:35	Pledge			
12:35-1:05	(Kat) 2nd grade math			SS/S 12:45 - 1:30
1:10-2:45	***THE WEVS WAY! AFTERNOON*** Review videos and post positive comments!			
	**Starred Friday times mean voluntary check-in only.			
	Individual Student Check In is by invitation only. (Teachers will advise specific students and parents regarding times and expectations.)			

***K/1- your schedule is the same all five days of the week!

***2nd grade, your ELA and MATH schedules are the same all five days of the week!

This schedule decreases your child's face time with the screen and allows for more time for your student to move around, transition, and relocate. The actual workload should stay about the same. Teachers will provide students with specific instructions on the work they are expected to complete independently. Teachers will use Canvas and/ or Google classroom depending on grade level to post assignments. (5th-8th grade students have been working with Canvas calendars and agendas and should continue to do so.)

SUNDAY SWITCH OUT AT THE SCHOOL FOR COMPLETED AND NEW WORK:

WEVS teachers are using Tuesdays and Fridays to grade, return, and generate new work for your students. On Sundays, teachers will put folders in a plastic bin outside the schoolhouse with your student's name on it. Please take the envelope and leave any work to be turned in in the folder. You may also use this time to switch out class books. THE FOLDER STAYS IN THE BUCKET. Parents- just take work out and replace with completed work. We will leave hand sanitizer and wipes. (Please clean hands before touching bin, and wipe down bin afterwards.)

ATTENDANCE:

We will count attendance by completion of work. We will informally count attendance with pledge login, but understand that we are dealing with finicky internet, technological difficulties; therefore we are looking to see that tasks are completed per teacher's expectation.

THE WEVS-WAY MINI-PROJECTS:

To keep kids 'interacting' and excited about learning, WEVS will be assigning mini-projects each week, but on an alternating week schedule. (So your students are producing one every other week.) Siblings can work together to produce one project. These will be projects that demonstrate some skill or creative endeavor videotaped (less than 5 minutes) with an explanation of the project. For example, if the project is 'recipe' students must find or create a recipe and record themselves making it OR explaining the final project. Friday afternoons, WEVS students must watch their peers' videos and leave positive and/or constructive feedback. We will use the SEESAW platform for this initially. MORE INFORMATION WILL COME HOME ABOUT THIS ON MONDAY as teachers work together to create a schedule and some project parameters that allows students to demonstrate the highest level of creativity without taxing parents' patience or resources!

PURPOSE OF THE CHANGES:

We want to maintain the WEVS culture and mission even through these uncertain times. Based on the experiences and feedback from the last 10 days, WEVS sought to:

- Lessen the amount of sitting time
- Lessen the amount of screen time
- Lessen the distractions of task completion by the Zoom group forum
- Maintain individual students' cultural contributions to WEVS
- Maintain one-on-one or small-group routines that were occurring, even in small time increments, in class, which is virtually impossible in 'full' Zoom classroom

We understand that this is another adjustment to make, but we are confident that your students can handle the tweaks, and that it will be to everyone's benefit (hopefully including parents!)

If you would like to delve into data, we have attached some survey results below. Please reach out with questions. Thank you again. We are so proud of all our students; they have jumped enthusiastically into this adventure. And we acknowledge the great efforts of all parents to support these kiddos in all aspects right now. Kudos to all.

Sincerely,
The WEVS team

DATA SYNTHESIS:

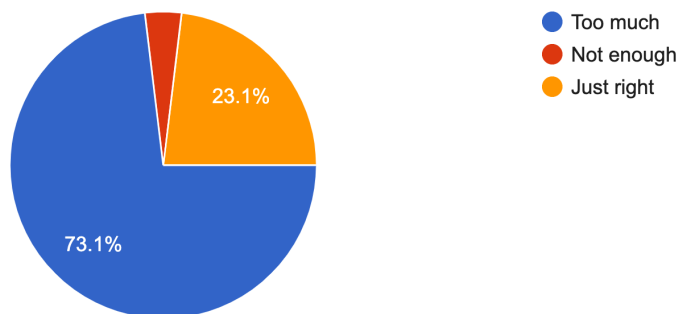
We surveyed WEVS parents and students and met on various occasions teacher/Board president. Overall it seemed that most K/1 parents and Ms. Moore wanted to keep things just about how they were initially laid out. Many of the older students and their parents indicated that a little less face-to-face would be better, and teachers agree that there may be an easier way to still find opportunities to interact together and in smaller groups with less time online and fewer background interruptions.

We have introduced some new platforms in the past two weeks, but only because we've had so much opportunity to learn from other teachers too! Seesaw and Zoom were ones we were glad to find after we launched on Google Classrooms alone. We're going to begin the new schedule as we've laid it out for you above. We're hoping it keeps everyone learning, their home-stress as low as possible while still "home schooling," and that you'll stay in touch with constructive feedback. Let us know if you think it's time for another survey! In the meantime, this is what we learned:

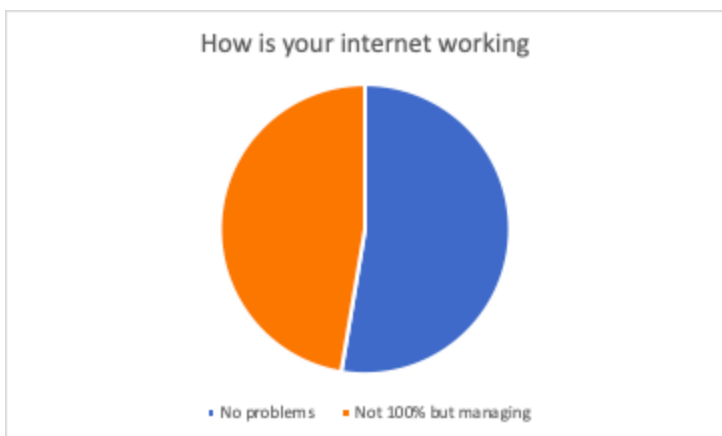
(2nd+) WEVS Student Feedback:

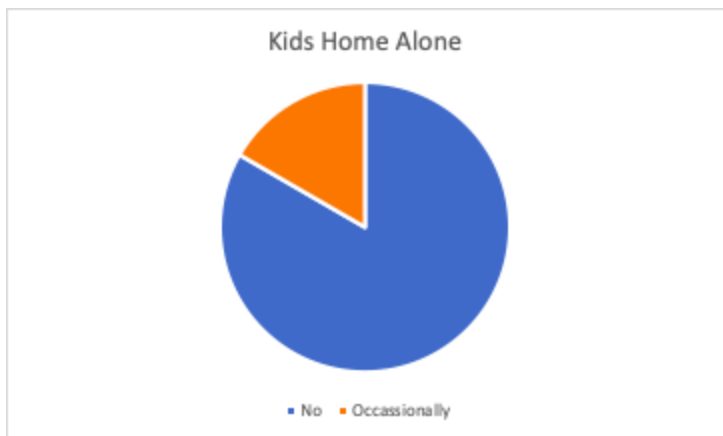
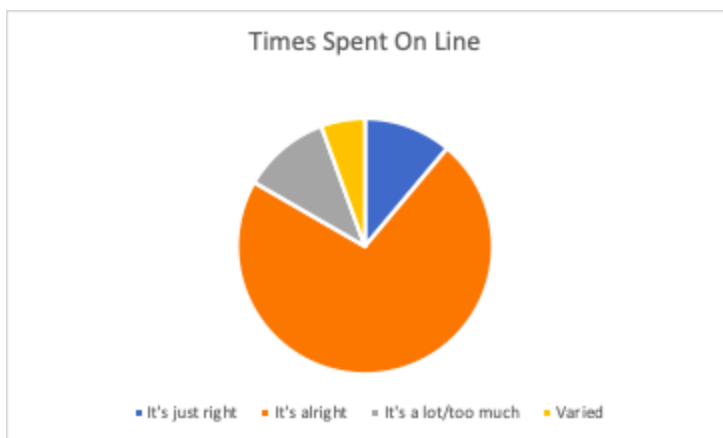
The time spent on the computer is...

26 responses



Whole School WEVS Parent Feedback





Parent Feedback (made anonymous)

- I am impressed with how smoothly it is going for us and how quickly y'all were able to get us back on track. Great Job to all of you and big thanks to Mrs. Moore for facilitating this learning experience.
- We are very blessed to have this online class!
- Thanks for everything! Appreciate you all making the best of the situation.
- I'm so grateful and impressed with you all for getting this together so quickly and doing it so well! ...
- We miss you guys lots, and if I can lend a hand in any way, please let me know!
- Thank you!!! X and I feel so lucky that our kids are in this school.
- We think everyone is doing a fantastic job. We know this is not forever but we see things evolving since we will be doing this for over a month.
- Thanks for all the work you all have put forth.
- It actually has been great. As stated above, if X was given just worksheets to turn in at the end of the week, no doubt there would be arguments on when to get it done. Having a bit harder of a time getting my child to do his homework, but the virtual school work is really not a problem
- Thank you for all you've done, happier now more than ever that the children are at wevs
- Thank you!
- The children definitely miss the peer interaction, and I know X would appreciate the occasional allowance of group chat (X and X like to discuss what they're working on), but I understand that is hard and frustrating to monitor from the teacher's standpoint because sidebar convos can easily get out of hand. Maybe with the new format, the kids would be able to utilize breakout rooms to work on tasks together? Thank you! Please let me know how I can help in any way :)
- I can give X one on one time during each class
- Right now, time spent sitting in front of the computer and staying focus is tough at this age for some. Maybe laying out work for kids to work Independently and having kids meet maybe once a day at lunch to do pledge/ say hello would be nice for them to see each other and keep community feel. And even if you decide you want to teach one community type of project with them once or twice a week.
- Also think that it might not be bad to check in occasionally (you could specify a time that works for you) with kids individually or as a very small group (no more then 3 kids) to see how they are doing.
- Offer up one on one time with a student(s) who may have a problem and needs assistance.

- With what's going on in the world I'm thankful that teachers are doing their best to still continue giving my son the education X needs. We try to learn some more here around the house may it be cooking, chores, gardening, carpentry. Thank you for all you do.
- We all know is a bit difficult with my child but am happy seeing my child trying little by little every day, thank you for all you do !
- WEVS rocks and I am amazed at how ambitious and capable WEVS teachers are.
- We really like the idea of a daily check in- and perhaps per class, but I agree completely w your idea that giving them an assignment w instructions, expectations, and timeline may be more productive than staying on for the whole class every day. Even as a bystander from a distance , there are times that the competing voices and/or a single student seeking assistance - would open the door to be distracted. That aside - the level of enthusiasm you guys consistently bring to the table, and the absolutely crystal clear commitment that you have to these kids' success is just really special to be able to see and hear first hand. You are really special humans💕.
- Only after this weeks end how we might be getting assignments for younger student. Older student just wants more hands on interaction, however knowing how hard that might be.
- Ref the email & keep on fighting the good fight y'all! Xo
- Sorry I submitted twice just wanted to add that part about older kids maybe being more independent but not the younger kiddos