



SUPERINTENDENT - STACEY L. DENEWITH-FICI

DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT - NEIL CASSABON

DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM - KARA BEAL

August 11, 2021

We are excited about the start of the 2021-2022 school year and we have some very important information to share with you.

School starts September 7th and additional dates and important information will be coming from your child's principal. Watch your email for the latest updates.

This update includes information about:

1. Student placement
2. Masking and safety protocols
3. Quarantine protocols
4. Other information

Student Placement

1. Starting September 7, 2021, students will attend school in-person **full days with a five-day a week schedule**.
2. In May of 2021, families had the option to request a spot in our limited virtual program for the new school year ([Back to School 2021-2022](#)). **If you did not request virtual in May, your child has been placed in a face-to-face classroom.**
3. Parents who are still interested in committing their child to a full year of virtual instruction will have the opportunity to request a virtual placement. Requests will be made by completing the [Virtual Instruction Transfer Request](#) at the end of this email.
 - a. Requests submitted this week will be accepted on a first-come, first served basis depending on space/schedules. Unfortunately, a request does **not** guarantee a change of placement.
 - b. **New requests need to be made by Tuesday, August 17 at 3:00PM in order to be considered.**
 - c. Limited spots are available in our elementary 100% Virtual program taught by WW staff:
 - i. K/1 – Kindergarten 10 spots & 1st grade 6 spots
 - ii. 2/3 – 2nd grade 3 spots & 3rd grade 4 spots
 - iii. 4/5 – 4th grade 1 spot & 5th grade 0 spots
 - d. There were very few requests for 100% virtual learning for the 2021-2022 school year at the middle and high school levels (grades 6-12). Those requests from May will be honored. Virtual families will work with their counselor/administrator to create an option for students to learn virtually through Michigan Virtual or other third-party providers.

Masking and Safety Protocols

4. Based on current CDC, MDHHS and MCHD information, **we are strongly recommending, but not requiring**, the wearing of face coverings while indoors for students, staff and regular volunteers. Masks will be available for those interested.
5. Consistent with the CDC *Requirement for Face Masks on Public Transportation*, face masks will be required for students, staff, and drivers while using WWPS transportation services.
6. Frequent hand washing will be encouraged. Hand sanitizer and individual cleaning options such as wipes, will be provided in all classrooms, lunchrooms, and offices throughout the district.
7. Daily sanitizing of all school spaces, physical distancing as feasible, and the use of MERV-13 air filters throughout our buildings will continue.
8. Visitor entry to buildings will continue to be limited.

Quarantine Protocols as currently required by MCHD:

9. We will continue to ask families to self-assess their health conditions prior to coming to school using this form: [Self Health Assessment](#)

10. WWPS staff will continue to contact trace and quarantine individuals who meet the quarantine requirement of being a close contact. The current quarantine timeline is 10 days.
 - a. Vaccinated individuals, or those who have tested positive for COVID in the past 90 days, will not have to quarantine if identified as a close contact. **Proof of vaccination/previous diagnosis will be required to waive quarantine.**
 - b. Non-vaccinated individuals who are BOTH wearing a masks during the time of contact, will be identified as a close contact within a 3-foot distance. **All masks must be worn properly over the nose and mouth to be considered for 3-foot quarantine.**
 - c. Non-vaccinated individuals where one individual is NOT wearing a mask during the time of contact, will be identified as a close contact within a 6-foot distance.
11. WWPS may collaborate with authorized medical providers to provide easy and/or free access to on-site vaccinations or testing for those families who wish to voluntarily engage with those services. We will not separate students by vaccination status or mandate testing for students and staff.
 - a. While individuals are not required to receive a COVID-19 vaccination, as stated above, those who have been fully vaccinated may be exempt from quarantine requirements.
 - b. We encourage all families to talk to their healthcare providers about the vaccine and strongly support those that are eligible to consider getting vaccinated.

Other Information

12. Breakfast and lunches will continue to be free for all students for the 2021-2022 school year.
13. All athletic programs will continue to follow MHSAA requirements.
14. Additional information regarding student schedules, orientations and open houses will be sent out directly from the building principals in the next few weeks.

We will continue to work with the Macomb County Health Department to determine the best safety protocols for our district. Of course, requirements could change very quickly should the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) or the Macomb County Health Department (MCHD) issue an Emergency Health Order. Please understand that we will need to continue to be flexible and adapt based upon COVID-19 trends and the infection rates in our community.

We are proud that last school year and this summer we saw very little spread of the virus in our classrooms while providing in-person instruction. This achievement is a credit to our staff and community's commitment to following the safety protocols and requirements implemented across the district.

Thank you again for your commitment to our school and for serving as a partner in your student's education. We are committed to ensuring the social, emotional, and academic success of all students, and *we look forward to seeing you on the first day of school September 7!*

Sincerely,



Stacey Deneweth-Fici
Superintendent

Link to request 100% Virtual Placement for the 2021-2022 school year:

[Virtual Instruction Transfer Request](#)

A quick reference guide has been attached, providing easy access to information:

[21-22 Opening Quick Reference](#)