**Parent Questions about the Reopening of Schools**

The list of questions below were submitted to IWCS from parents seeking information on the reopening of schools. Additional questions are being addressed and this document will be updated on Wednesday, August 12. Future updates will occur on an as needed basis.

**Scheduling**

- **What is the difference between the different options for learning?**
  - Parents have an option for an In Person Continuum of Learning or a 100% Virtual Option. For parents of PreK-3 students, the In Person Continuum at this time is the AB Hybrid Schedule. For parents of students in 4th–12th, the In Person Continuum option is currently set for Temporary Remote. Students in this model will be learning at home but would return to school the 2nd 9 weeks if the School Board makes that decision. Parents that choose 100% Virtual for their child are making that commitment for the entire first semester. The 100% Virtual students would NOT return during the 2nd nine weeks.

- **Will my children at different schools be scheduled to attend school on the same days with a hybrid schedule?**
  - Yes.

- **I have two children. Can I choose different options for each of them?**
  - Yes.

- **What happens if we select an in-person option and Virginia reverts back to phase 1?**
  - All students would be temporarily remote at that time. However, the Governor appears to be letting individual school divisions make the determination for their in-person continuum.

- **If a student is sent home for isolation what does their school day look like?**
  - They would have the option to view recorded class sessions and access assignments and learning activities through the Canvas learning management system.

- **Will school hours remain the same?**
  - At this time, yes.

- **How would Phase 2 blended learning differ from Phase 3 blended learning?**
  - For IWCS, there would be no difference. While Phase 2 only allows for Pre-K through 3rd grade and special needs students in intensive needs classrooms while Phase 3 guidance allows for all grades. Should Virginia move back to Phase 2, we could continue with our current plan.

- **How will the secondary zoom schedule work? Will the same course use the same blocks? So Block 1 is always math class, etc? Or are those just placeholders?**
  - If a student has Math first block, then that Zoom session will always be math. The blocks will be a set schedule, the same as if they were going to classes in the building.

- **What will lunch look like?**
  - All students will eat their lunch in their classroom.
Are teachers going to different classes, or are students moving classes?
  ○ Pre-K through 3rd grade students are staying in their classrooms with the exception of attending resource classes.
  ○ In middle school, we will develop cohorts and there will be some movement of students to elective courses. At high school, students will move to each classroom as they normally would.

Will temporarily remote students in grades 4-12 maintain teacher and peer continuity if there is a return to in-person learning?
  ○ Yes. They would be with their same teachers once they return in person.

Will schedules be available to the parents before having to make a final decision as to how they would like their student to receive their education?
  ○ Sample schedules of the instructional day are available for both the In Person Continuum model and 100% Virtual. However, individual student schedules won’t be complete until after the deadline for parents selecting the in-person versus 100% virtual decision.

When would students be expected to be online for the remote learning part of the blended AB learning model?
  ○ There are specific times in the schedule for live instruction. However, the live sessions will be recorded and available to students who may not be able to participate in live sessions.

When choosing the blended AB learning option, will I be able to choose the days of the week that correspond with my working schedule?
  ○ Students will be assigned to in-person days at the division level based on their last name. Parents can make special requests but we won’t be able to consider those requests until all scheduling is complete. At that time, we can look at each request on a case by case basis.

How are you going to handle students changing classes?
  ○ All students will be required to wear face coverings in common areas such as hallways when they cannot stay 6 feet apart. Elementary and middle school students will be in cohorts and have limited movement throughout the building.

Are we looking at the first semester as the first nine weeks, or as the first 2 nine weeks?
  ○ First semester would be the first and second nine weeks (until the end of January 2021).

What will class sizes look like?
  ○ That will really depend on the number of people who decide to use the 100% virtual option, but most likely no more than 12 students per class. Depending on the square footage of the space and the ability to be 6 feet apart, some rooms may be able to have more students at one time.

Will Honors courses be provided through the virtual learning option?
  ○ Yes.

What is the rationale behind having students alternate, then have Fridays fully remote? Would it better facilitate cleaning between groups to have the weekly schedule go AA (fully virtual for cleaning) BB?
  ○ This was the preferred hybrid model through the survey. It does allow students contact with their teacher more frequently than the AA BB model.

Why is the AB schedule a full year commitment and not the same as the virtual semester choice?
  ○ AB is not a full year commitment. It is part of the In-Person Continuum. Students on the AB model for the first nine weeks may end up continuing with that model for the second 9 weeks, based on the school board’s decision. Students in grades 4-12 whose parents choose the temporary remote option are also part of the in-person continuum. If the board decides to expand the hybrid model to more grade levels during the 2nd 9 weeks, then those students could return to the classroom through this model. 100% Virtual is a full semester commitment, regardless of the In-Person Continuum for PreK-12.
Updated: August 12, 2020

- Will requests for specific A/B schedules be taken into consideration?
  - Students will be scheduled based on their last name. Once the schedule has been finalized, individual requests for a change in the days the student attends will be handled on a case by case basis.

- If I choose option 1 and send my child, but then I find that either precautions can’t or aren’t being taken and I do not see it as safe, how do they switch to virtual? (not for the reason of it not working out but because it doesn’t appear safe when it is in practice?)
  - The decision for in person or virtual is binding. However, if there are issues with safety, we would want parents to notify principals so those issues can be addressed. If there are high numbers of cases in a particular school or the county in general, we will work closely with the local Department of Health to decide if a school or the entire division should switch to a temporary remote model for a designated time period.

- I have a child that is in 3rd grade and 4th grade, which means one could go to school and one is completely virtual. Is it possible for my 3rd grade student to do temporary remote learning in case things change after the first 9 weeks and my 4th grade student will be able to attend?
  - Unfortunately, there is not a temporary remote option for your 3rd grader. Elementary students who are in the temporary remote model will have a teacher from their school.

## Learning

- Will teachers be more prepared with lesson plans?
  - Teachers will be trained in delivering virtual instruction and have a set schedule for Zoom meetings.

- Will students that choose the 100% virtual learning option also receive manipulatives to use at home?
  - Unfortunately, we will not be able to provide manipulatives for at home use.

- Will students still have the same SOL tests and other standards?
  - As of now, SOL tests may be administered for the 2020-2021 school year but will be used for a growth baseline.

- My concern with the 100% virtual option is that primary grades will only have 6 hours of actual teacher instruction virtually and secondary grades will have 9 hours of teacher instruction virtually, which puts a lot of the responsibility on full-time working parents to ensure their child/children are mastering their respective grade-level lessons/skills/learning concepts. In a 5-day a week face-to-face learning environment teachers are teaching 35-40 hours a week. What will they be doing for the remaining 30+ hours that they will not be providing face-to-face instruction?
  - The 100% virtual model is not intended to replace the daily schedule offered during an in-person school setting. It is designed to be a blended learning model with emphasis on independent learning and practice.

- I want my student to still have a connection to his school (Hardy). Would his virtual teacher be a Hardy teacher that he may see when he returns in the future? Would it be possible for virtual students to have a home school (Hardy) teacher?
  - This is a possibility but, in some cases, due to numbers, this may not happen.

- How will we ensure that every child is learning and not falling through the cracks?
  - Teachers will conduct assessments with students to ensure they are on track and provide assistance during Zoom time and through email.
• Is the Zoom meeting a one on one with a teacher or as a class?
  ○ They will be conducted with the whole class and at times be in small groups or individually if needed.
• How will students collaborate with other students if they have to stay 6 feet apart?
  ○ They will have opportunities to share with discussions in small groups while maintaining appropriate distance. This is a negative effect of social distancing caused by the virus.
• What will be the main point of accessing learning and information about our child's class? I do not want to access a bunch of different apps for every child or every class.
  ○ IWCS has partnered with Remind101 to provide a common platform for communication between the school and home. More information will be shared regarding this resource as we get closer to the reopening of school. There may be different apps for learning.
• If we choose to begin the year with the in-person continuum and then decide it’s not working for whatever reason (valid reason, of course), are we allowed to switch to all virtual?
  ○ The in-person continuum option is a yearlong commitment due to staffing limitations.
• How will students be graded?
  ○ Students will be submitting work virtually to be graded in the same manner as in the past.
• When will the decision on allowing the remaining elementary, middle school, and high school students to return to school for the second 9 weeks be made?
  ○ Recommendations will be made to the School Board at the October meeting and a decision will be made by the middle of October.
• What accommodations or options are there for families with working parents who cannot be home to work with their children on virtual assignments?
  ○ Lessons can be downloaded for parents to access with their children later in the day.

**Attendance**

• How will attendance be tracked for virtual classes?
  ○ Students participating in live sessions must have their video on to be counted present and follow school dress code. For students who download and later watch the teacher video, attendance will be monitored by successful completion of all work.
• What will be the truancy policy?
  ○ The truancy policy remains the same, although there will be flexibility for families without reliable internet and for COVID-19 related isolations. As long as students are completing assignments and responding to teachers, a student would not be considered truant.
• Will cases of mandatory isolation or quarantine count against the students’ attendance?
  ○ No
• If a child has to isolate, will they be allowed to participate in virtual instruction if they have chosen to attend in person?
  ○ If a student is attending in person, then their absence would be treated the same way absences for illnesses were treated in the past. Teachers will work with students and parents on making up missed assignments. Students will still have access to work on asynchronous days.
• What happens if a teacher is out more than two weeks-do their students get switched to 100% virtual and join the 100% virtual group for that block?
  ○ No. We will continue to provide instruction for the students.
Technology

- Will the IWCS be providing Internet access for students if ANY virtual learning is required during the 2020-21 school year?
  - We have boosted the internet signals at all of our schools so that the wifi is accessible from the parking lot. We have also placed buses with hotspots throughout the county. Once we have the results from the survey regarding internet access, principals will make contact with individuals who do not have internet access to discuss possible options.

- Will laptops/ipads be provided to students or do we need to purchase?
  - iPads will be provided to all Pre-K through grades 3 students. Chromebooks will be provided to all 4-6 grade students. Laptops will be provided to all 7-12 graders.

- Are the school provided devices mandatory to accept?
  - No.

- Will the new program being used for virtual classroom management, with the video embedding capability talked about in 07/23/2020 School Board Meeting help prevent children from being exposed to content other than what the teachers want them to see?
  - All school-issued devices will have division filters installed on the machines.

- If a child has very limited access to WiFi (rural, low income, etc), can they work in a school to complete their assignments?
  - Once we have all of the information from the instruction form, principals will reach out to individual families who do not have internet access or a cellular signal for possible solutions.

- Who is manning the Technology Help Desk?
  - An employee from the IWCS Technology Department will be manning the help desk during regular business hours. Messages can be left outside of work hours and a technician will return the call the following business day.

- Will hybrid elementary students have to bring devices to and from school?
  - Yes

- Will the necessary software for specific classes, such as engineering, programming, etc. be loaded to students’ devices?
  - Students will be able to download required course software to their devices.

- Are hot spots available for students who don’t have internet access and are not able to drive to a location with wifi?
  - We are investigating this option. We have limited CARES funding.

- How is IWCS going to respond to students who do not have internet at home or have parents who are willing to help their child?
  - Parents will be able to download teacher videos and lessons at the schools or designated areas around the county. In addition, packets may be developed to go along with the downloaded videos.
Special Needs/IEP/504s

- How will special education work this fall?
  - PK-3 students with disabilities in the inclusion setting will attend every other day on either a Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday schedule alongside non-disabled peers. IEPs will be amended to reflect the shortened week. Students with disabilities in the 4th-12th grade levels who are accessing a standard curriculum in the inclusion setting and modified self-contained setting will start the 2020-2021 school year in a virtual environment. IEPs will be amended to reflect the virtual environment.

- Will parents of special needs students have to vote for AB schedule or virtual?
  - Parents must identify whether their child will remain on the planned in person continuum or 100 percent virtual by Thursday, August 13th at 11:59pm. This includes all students with disabilities.

- My incoming 6th grader is on an IEP plan. Will there be any in-class instruction for IEP students? If so, what does that schedule look like?
  - Students with disabilities in the 4th-12th grade levels who are accessing a standard curriculum in the inclusion setting and modified self-contained setting will start the 2020-2021 school year in a virtual environment. IEPs will be amended to reflect the virtual environment.

- Are all Sp Ed students including the self contained classrooms all day long?
  - All students with disabilities who have intensive support needs, are a part of a self-contained classroom and accessing a nonstandard curriculum will have the option to follow the hybrid model or 100 percent virtual learning.

- Can IEPs be written just once so that we can move fluidly through Phases 1-3 without having to redo them each time?
  - We are currently exploring this option.

- What about kids with allergies?
  - Any student with allergies who will be in a school building, the parent/guardian needs to communicate this as a medical issue and it will be noted under “medical considerations” in Power School. We will be sending home a “Student Health Information Form.” The school nurse will inform the teacher if they already are not aware of this. If the allergy is life threatening and medication such as Benadryl or epinephrine is required for treatment, a health care provider’s order such as a LAMP (Life-threatening Allergy Management Plan) form must accompany the medication. If the allergy is food related the nurse will communicate with the cafeteria manager the allergy information.

- Will children who qualify for homebound services be able to receive them if 100% virtual?
  - Homebound instruction will be provided virtually for at least the first nine weeks.

- If a child has an IEP but the family chooses to homeschool, will the child still get to keep the IEP when he/she returns the following year?
  - If a family chooses to homeschool their student an Individualized Service Plan will be written to allow for consult special education services and direct related services, if appropriate. If the student re-enrolls, an IEP will be written.

- What about children under a 504 plan with health concerns?
  - Students with protection under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act will continue to be provided accommodations and/or services, as appropriate, based on whether they are in a virtual or hybrid environment.

- Are students with special needs also expected to wear face coverings on the bus?
  - Yes, unless stated in the student’s IEP, they will be expected to wear a face covering.
Gifted/AP/Governor's School

- How will gifted students participate in the SEARCH program?
  - Opportunities to Zoom and participate in enrichment activities weekly with a Gifted Resource Teacher.
- Will AP, Dual Enrollment, and Honors be available through the 100% virtual option?
  - Yes
- What is happening with the Governor’s School for the Arts this year?
  - It will be virtual for the first nine weeks at which time time will be reassessed. The times for Isle of Wight will be 2:00pm to 5:00pm
- What is happening with the Governor’s School for Science and Technology?
  - We are still waiting on an update from GSST.

CTE

- Which CTE courses are offered in-person on the hybrid schedule?
  - The following double-blocked CTE courses will be offered in person: agriculture, building trades, cosmetology, culinary arts, early childhood, nurse aide, and welding.
- Which CTE classes will be available to the students who are in the all virtual model for the entire semester?
  - Students who enroll in the 100% virtual option will not be able to participate in agriculture, building trades, cosmetology, culinary arts, early childhood, nurse aid or welding. All other CTE courses are available for students in the 100% virtual model.
- How would transportation work for the CTE classes if they are in school two days a week?
  - Transportation will not be provided for CTE students.
- If a CTE student attends the course in person, but then has to attend one of their virtual courses immediately after or before they will likely be late if they have to first go home to log into the virtual course or vice versa. How will this be handled?
  - The schedule provides significant time between morning and afternoon blocks.
- Can a CTE student remain at the school before or after their CTE class to work on their other virtual classes?
  - No.
- Will virtual students have the option to participate in JROTC?
  - Yes, students in the 100% virtual option will be able to participate in JROTC and will not be penalized for the lack of in-person instruction.

Electives/Resource/Sports

- Will electives such as band be available for secondary students if they go with the 100% virtual option?
  - Yes
- Will our children be allotted recess? How will this be handled?
  - Yes. Students will physically distance during recess. They will have activities they can participate in that will not use playground equipment.
● What exactly does Resource look like?
  ○ Students in PreK-3 will attend their resource classes. Very little will change except for physical
distancing and having their own supplies. Resource classrooms will be cleaned between use. We
believe the change in location will give the students a much-needed break from their classroom
during the day.
● Will students go to a different room for resource/encore classes? Or will the Encore teachers rotate to
them?
  ○ Yes. The resource classrooms will be wiped down after each class. Students will have their own
supplies.
● Will students be able to participate in PE, band, and other electives where physical distancing is more
difficult?
  ○ Yes.
● Is Packer Block gone?
  ○ No. It will be offered when in-person learning resumes.
● Is driver’s education only offered on the blended model?
  ○ No. It is part of the Health and PE 10 curriculum.
● Can someone explain what the procedures are going to be for electives/clubs, specifically band/choir, and
Beta?
  ○ All clubs are virtual at this point.
● What about sports?
  ○ Due to the fact that high school students will not be attending any in-person classes for the first
nine weeks and the fact that the Virginia High School League has pushed back their start date for
competition to December 14, conditioning for all sports has been delayed until further notice.
  ■ Model 3 – Condensed Interscholastic Plan.
    ● Season 1 (Winter) December 14 – February 20 (First Contest Date – December
28) o basketball, gymnastics, indoor track, swim/diving, wrestling
    ● Season 2 (Fall) February 15 – May 1 (First Contest Date – March 1) o cheer,
cross country, field hockey, football, golf, volleyball
    ● Season 3 (Spring) April 12 – June 26 (First Contest Date – April 26) o baseball,
lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis, track and field
● Will 100% virtual students be allowed to participate in sports and clubs?
  ○ Yes
● Can students not take electives in order to let them focus on their core classes?
  ○ No. Students would take a full schedule just as in any other year.

Social Emotional

● Will there be more options for perhaps zoom meetings with the school counselor to help with these life
altering changes and separation from peers?
  ○ Each school building will have a process for referring students to a counselor or counseling
department for additional support.
• I would like to know the schools are figuring out ways of addressing social/emotional needs of children virtually even above academics. We need to allow time in the construct for some type of team building, esp. if we end up being 100% virtual.
  ○ Each school building will consider how to adapt their norms, routines, and traditions to reflect the new look of school. This will probably look different for different age groups but could include adaptation of current practices such holding virtual morning meetings, clubs, lunch groups, and house meetings. It could also include newer forums such moderated google

**Face Coverings**

• Will the children and staff be required to wear face coverings throughout the school day?
  ○ Yes, the only exception will be in the classroom when they can be socially distanced six feet apart.

• How will wearing a face covering be enforced?
  ○ Through the student code of conduct as defiant behavior if they refuse to wear the face covering.

• Is it going to be pointed out how to wear a face covering properly for students and staff?
  ○ Training will occur and be reinforced throughout the day. Same as above.

• Will face coverings be provided?
  ○ One cloth face covering will be provided to all students and staff. If students forget their face covering, a disposable mask will be provided. Parents can provide these for their child as they have been wearing them out in public places and the child can pick out ones they enjoy wearing.

• Even though the children are required to wear face coverings on the bus and while in the school, what about lunch and snack time.
  ○ Our current reopening plan involves students eating meals in the classroom to minimize the risk of exposure and only half the class will be there any given day through the blended AB model. Students will be physically distanced while eating.

• What do we do about students that have issues with hearing but read lips. How will face coverings affect them?
  ○ Individual accommodations will be made for these students.

• What about students who physically cannot wear a mask due to medical reasons?
  ○ Individual accommodations will be made for these students.

• If you decide to send everyone back what would the class size be? Would you be going from 12 class size which some may be okay with to 24? If so can we take our kid out?
  ○ We would not return all students until the Virginia Department of Health and CDC indicate that we no longer need to practice physical distancing.

• Will there be requirements for what kind of mask? Will it be required that the mask cover the nose and mouth verse just the mouth?
  ○ It should completely cover the mouth and nose and not contain a valve. A cloth face covering is preferred but there are many options parents may wish to use. Gaiters should not be used in place of a face covering. All students will receive a reusable mask through their school.

• How much of the day will students be wearing masks (K-3)?
  ○ Students would need to wear face coverings if they are unable to physically distance at least 6 feet from others.
Safety and Sanitation Measures

● Will teachers be wearing gloves?
  ○ Teachers will have hand sanitizer in every classroom and wear gloves when deemed appropriate.

● Will the schools be checking everyone’s temperatures before coming into the building or getting on the bus?
  ○ It is not recommended. However, we will continue to monitor health data and temperature screenings may be implemented if needed.

● What if a child needs to see the nurse, but she's dealing with a COVID situation. Is there a separate waiting area/room?
  ○ Yes. Each school principal and clinic nurse will choose an appropriate room for a sick child to wait for parent/guardian pick up after their assessment. Students in the ‘sick clinic’ awaiting pick up to go home will be observed by a chosen staff person. Teachers will be instructed to call clinics before sending students to the clinic so that the nurse can control the amount of students and also to know the reason for their impending visit. Yes. The nurse will continue daily visits with other students.

● Will bathrooms and playgrounds be monitored for distancing and sanitizing?
  ○ Yes.

● Regarding the bottle filling stations, the likelihood of children touching the filling nozzle to their bottle and possibly contaminating that nozzle could be very high.
  ○ By design, the stations limit the opportunity for contact with the bottle opening. Students will be trained on how to use the stations with safety in mind. Depending on the age of the student, the station may be monitored.

● How will they accomplish cleaning and sanitizing bathrooms three times a day?
  ○ There will be a sign-off sheet outside the bathroom door every time a custodian cleans the restroom. There will also be a form for administrators to fill out every time they inspect the bathrooms. SSC will increase the custodial staffing at each PreK-3 site to facilitate cleaning procedures.

● Will schools still conduct safety drills? If so, how will these look?
  ○ Drills will be conducted with the new guideline in place and new protocols will be developed.

● Will protective barriers be provided for students and staff?
  ○ Plexiglass barriers may be used in the classroom as needed. Barriers will also be installed in the clinic at the nurse’s desk and also in the main office due to interaction between the general public and school staff.

● Will students be required to clean their own desks?
  ○ Middle and high school students will clean their own desks prior to lunch. In elementary schools, the custodial staff will clean desks while students are at recess.

● What will the school have in place to ensure that students that are sick do not get others sick.
  ○ Separate clinics will be in place. Students will wear masks on their way to the clinic in the hallways and if they do not arrive with one on, it will be given to them to wear while being assessed by the nurse.

● How is the social distance that needs to be maintained going to be handled?
  ○ Procedures and routines will be developed in each building and grade level to educate children.
• All teachers are not from the Isle of Wight County area, from areas that may have more cases than us, are all precautions being taken to protect students and other teachers?
  ○ All employees have to answer the employee questionnaire before coming to school and report any possible exposure to human resources.
• What if a student repeatedly refuses to follow physical distancing and face covering protocols?
  ○ This will be treated as defiance and handled through the student code of conduct.
• Can you build a wellness curriculum like we have for medical providers?
  ○ We will investigate this.
• Who will be cleaning the classrooms after each class? How much time will this take?
  ○ We will be finalizing the plans for this and will share that information once it’s available.
• What is the cap for in-person classes at the K-3 level?
  ○ The goal is for 12 or fewer students per class. Depending on the physical space of the classroom, some spaces could accommodate more students than others while still physically distancing.
• What will classes with group seating do for distancing? Will students need to wear masks because they can’t space desks far enough?
  ○ Desks will be arranged at least 6 feet apart. In cases when students are unable to physically distance, face coverings would need to be worn.
• Who will be cleaning the rooms?
  ○ Most of the cleaning will be done by our custodial company, SSC. There may be additional cleaning that would need to be done by the students (such as wiping down their desks before eating) and staff. This would be part of the regular classroom procedures, such as frequently washing hands.
• How many students will be accepted back for in-person instruction? I keep hearing that class sizes will be smaller. How do we know that?
  ○ Our plan is to keep class sizes to 12 students. Once we receive information from parents regarding their selection for their child, we will begin scheduling to see what the class sizes will be.

**COVID**

• What is the protocol for when a student or staff is exposed to or tests positive to COVID-19? notifying parents, school closure, cleaning, etc.).
  ○ For a suspected case of COVID-19, the individual will be isolated but no contact tracing will occur.
  ○ For confirmed cases, the individual will be isolated. Contact tracing will be used to identify anyone who has been within 6 feet of the individual for at least 15 minute. Individuals identified through contact tracing will need to be isolated for 14 days.
• Will parents be informed when there is a suspected or confirmed case of COVID-19 in the class?
  ○ We will notify parents and employees in the school when there are suspected or confirmed cases.
• Should the current situation continue, is the division prepared to continue remote learning or a hybrid schedule for an extended amount of time?
  ○ Plans are in place to support instruction in all three phases of the in-person continuum.
• What requirements would need to be met for a complete school closure?
  ○ We will track cases within each school and work with the Virginia Department of Health to determine closure of a particular school or a division-wide closure.
● If a parent of children in multiple schools tests positive, do the schools close down?
  ○ If children are exposed to family members who have tested positive, they must follow the CDC guidelines and isolate.

● How is community spread of COVID-19 being monitored?
  ○ It is being monitored by staff through the local health department.

● What if one of the mills or plants has a spike and they have children that attend these schools- will we automatically shut down?
  ○ No. We will follow the CDC guideline for possible exposure.

● If your child has a stomach virus or a cold and you keep them home, will we have to keep them out of school for 10 days since those are also symptoms of COVID-19?
  ○ Parents will be strongly encouraged to take their child to their health care provider for evaluation and to send in or call the school with the doctor’s recommendation.

● When a child is sick at school, will there be a time limit enforced to pick up the child from school?
  ○ Parents should make arrangements to pick up their child within an hour of being contacted by their child’s school.

● If a child is sent home with COVID-19 symptoms, will they be required to provide a negative test result before coming back to school.
  ○ No. According to CDC guidelines, they can return to school after
    ■ 10 days since symptoms first appeared and
    ■ 24 hours with no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and
    ■ COVID-19 symptoms have improved (for example, cough, shortness of breath)

● Parents knowingly sent their children to school sick the last school year with the flu, strep, etc. What is to stop them from sending their child to school sick with coronavirus?
  ○ We believe there is no ‘stopping’ parents from doing this. We can only educate and firmly request via communication to parents the importance of keeping sick children at home. Our hope is that their conscience will prevail.

● How do the nurses determine it is a positive COVID case?
  ○ The nurses won't be the ones determining positive cases. They will be looking at a child's symptoms to see if they are showing symptoms associated with COVID. Only a COVID test can determine a positive case.

**Parent Involvement**

● Will teachers email parents weekly with the week's lesson plans and assignments as we will be supporting our students with instruction?
  ○ Teachers will be required to send out weekly plans to parents and to be available for email on the non-virtual days and the non in-person days.

● Would it be possible to make individual student time slots to meet teachers in person and see the classroom? Similar to how parent/teacher conferences work. Will there be a parent teacher conference opportunity earlier in the year so we can discuss with teachers how our child is doing?
  ○ We are working on an in-person Open House plan for the PreK-3 students. Students in grades 4-12 will meet their teachers on a virtual schedule to be published closer to the start of school.
● What is the policy for visitors/volunteers during this time?
  ○ We will not be allowing visitors into schools at least for the first nine weeks. We are hopeful that groups such as the PTA and Boosters will be able to still support our schools even if they are not able to physically access the building.

Transportation

● How many students can be transported on a school bus?
  ○ The amount varies per bus, but students will only sit one per seat unless the students are in the same family.
● How will it be decided if a student can ride the bus or if they must find other means of transportation?
  ○ Once we see the amount of students requesting virtual learning, or opting out of transportation, we will have a better idea on how transportation will look for the remaining students. At this time, we should be able to provide transportation for PreK-3 students who are requesting transportation. We may need to revisit the plan if additional grades return to the hybrid schedule for the second nine weeks.
● Will there be additional busses to transport students?
  ○ Bus drivers are already at a shortage so this will not be possible.
● How will bus schedules be adjusted?
  ○ Schedules will be determined once we have the number of students who will attend in person.
● Will the buses get wiped down and cleaned between runs?
  ○ Yes, bus drivers will be trained on how to properly clean the buses between runs.
● I am willing to transport all of my kids however how would this work if I have 3 kids at 3 different schools, 2 of which have the same start time (ie. Carrollton and Westside)? How would this work in regards to departure?
  ○ We would excuse tardiness if you chose to do this and make accommodations for departures as well.
● Is there any way to stagger the arrival times?
  ○ We will not be able to do so once middle and high schools are back in-person. However, we are still investigating if this is something we can accommodate at the elementary schools while using the hybrid schedule.
● How will afternoon pick-up at the elementary schools look, especially as we are being strongly encouraged to transport our children to/from school?
  ○ Schools will work on protocols for parents to drop off and pick up without coming into the school at the beginning and end of the day.
● Is there going to be a parking fee for parking spots and if so, how much will it be since the students won’t be using it 5 days a week and possibly sharing?
  ○ We will reduce the parking fee this year to $50 for the year. Students will not purchase spaces until they return to in-person learning.
● What about using crossing guards for areas that have housing within walking distance to a school to reduce some of the numbers on buses?
  ○ We will investigate this as an option.
● Will transportation be provided for CTE students?
  ○ No.
● Is the bus schedule going to stay the same as what is currently posted on the Transportation web page for grades 9-12?
  ○ Once we have the number of students who are returning for the hybrid model, Transportation will work on the schedule for the fall. We can’t guarantee that those schedules will be the same, but we will share them as soon as they are finalized.

Nutrition/Meal Distribution

● How will meals be provided for virtual students?
  ○ Per the Virginia Department of Education, the division is required to continue to provide meals to those students that qualify. IWCS will provide communication concerning those students who do not qualify on how to purchase meals. We will continue to provide 5 day meal kits to qualified students and those students who wish to purchase on a designated pickup day and location.

● How will lunch/breakfast work in person for pre-k through 3rd grade?
  ○ Meals for PreK-3 will be provided in the classrooms. Students will pick up their breakfast once they arrive at their classrooms. Lunch will also be provided in the classroom. Students will come into the hallway to make their selection.

● How will meals work for PreK-3 students on the hybrid model on the days they are not in the school building?
  ○ 3 days of meals consisting of 3 breakfast and 3 lunches will be provided to those students that qualify on a once a week basis.

● Will CTE students be fed in person?
  ○ Qualifying CTE students will have the opportunity to pick up a 5 day meal kit, however we will not be providing meals on site during the CTE instructional block.

● With smaller class sizes can students eat in the cafeteria?
  ○ At this time, we have chosen to have students served in the classroom to adhere to social distancing guidelines.

Communications

● How will information be communicated to parents?
  ○ IWCS will utilize the Connect 5 system for phone calls, emails, and text messaging. The division website and social media outlets will also be utilized. In addition, schools will use electronic newsletters and the Remind app for notifications.

● I haven’t been receiving information through the Connect 5 parent portal. Can the school district please allow parents to ensure our contact information is correct?
  ○ The online Annual Student Update will be coming out in August. Please complete this form to ensure accurate contact information. Links will be sent to the email address of the primary and secondary contacts listed for each child. If you feel your email information may be incorrect, please contact your child’s school.
Will the various presentations related to reopening schools be available to view?
  ○ Yes, they will be posted on the IWCS website.

Miscellaneous

- If we choose to homeschool, will we be able to enroll our children back into the public school system when school goes back to normal even if that is mid-year? How about earlier?
  ○ Students who are approved for homeschool, may return to IWCS at any time.
- My concern is for those parents and students, like ourselves, that are at risk of financial/housing crisis. Are there any planned resolutions for such situations to secure the educational opportunities to our students, or are we on our own?
  ○ Families who experience a housing crisis should contact the office of their child’s school in order to explore options for educational stability.