Wisconsin Heights School District Re-Opening Plans

2020-2021

An Opportunity to Fulfill our Mission

1. Take time to cultivate and deepen **relationships.**

2. Design opportunities where adults can connect, heal, and build their capacity to **support students.**

3. Create safe, supportive, and **equitable learning** environments that promote all students' social and emotional development.

District Level

Priorities:

- Learning continues in every format -- online, hybrid and in person.
- Student and staff safety guides decision making.
- Risk mitigation underpins changes in instructional delivery.

#1 concern of staff and parents was keeping all people in the schools safe and healthy (Survey data, July 2020).

Guidelines:
- CDC
- Madison and Dane County Health Department
- DPI
- State of Wisconsin

Required Procedures

1. Hygiene
2. Protective Measures
3. Illness
4. Facility Cleaning
5. Health Reporting Agreement
6. Action Plan for a Confirmed COVID Case

Notes -
- This link includes a PDF of the adopted procedures
- All staff will acknowledge receipt of these measures via SafeSchools

Decision Making Timeline

Ongoing since March - Administrative team and school nurse participating in county and statewide meetings. Meeting weekly.

1. May 13, 2020 - Parent letter introduces three options for 20-21
2. May 29, 2020 - Staff survey and parent survey deployed
3. June - Analyze survey data and follow county health trends
4. June 22, 2020 - Updates emailed to all parents and staff
5. July 1, 2020 - Staff survey and parent survey deployed
6. July 8 - 15 - Analyze survey data and monitor COVID trends
7. July 13 & 14 - Updates emailed to all parents and staff

Decision Making Timeline

8. July 16, 2020 - Madison/Dane County Public Health information:
    a. Quarantine entire cohort based on one positive case
    b. Social distance, static groups, mandatory mask wearing
    c. Developing metrics for closure of county schools
9. July 20, 2020 - Zoom meeting with DLT and Federation representatives
10. July 21, 2020 - Updates emailed to staff members
11. July 22, 2020 - Administrative team meets to make a recommendation to the School Board

Our Number One Commitment

- Is the safety of our students and staff.

- We want students and staff to **BE SAFE** and **FEEL SAFE.**

Risk Mitigation

- Our state and our county have been trending in the wrong direction.
- Consistency of delivery method vs. bouncing back and forth
- Public health guidance - we are over the threshold to open, and all schools in Dane County need to be ready to start virtually (7/16/20)

Few schools in the United States will get through the 2020-21 academic year without some form of remote learning, for some portion of the student body, for some period of time.

Lieberman, M (July 22, 2020). COVID 19 & remote learning: How to make it work.

Education Week. https://www.edweek.org/ew/issues/reopening-schools/covid-19-remote-learning-how-to-make-it.html

The Plan

- We will start on September 1, 2020 in an Enhanced Online Environment PK-12 grade.
- This will be our delivery method through at least November 4, 2020 (end of the first academic quarter).
- Enhanced = refined online learning experience and in-person services provided for specific populations by invite (special services).

OVERVIEW: A CONTINUUM OF SERVICE

ENHANCED ONLINE	BLENDED	IN-PERSON

ENHANCED ONLINE
- Students are fully online, using Schoology and Zoom to interact with teacher(s).
- Learning coaches assigned to support families as needed.
- Courses/schedules may look different from traditional setting.

BLENDED
- Alphabetical split arranged to lower number of students in buildings on a given day.
- Alternating weeks of in-person and online instruction.
- Each level using a cohorting method
- Individual learning plans for students who need more

IN-PERSON
- Traditional instruction supported by Schoology LMS.
- Classrooms set up for social distancing
- Masks for all
- Sanitizing routines throughout day and at night
- Cohorting of students (PreK-5)

Enhanced Online

Incorporating lessons learned from Spring 2020

Spring 2020

Issues emerged . . .

Realizations:
- Expectation mismatch
- Lack of structure
- Multiple platforms
- Devices
- Internet access
- Lack of teacher interaction
- Grading
- Attendance
- Specialized services

Spring 2020

Celebrations occured . . .

Realizations:
- Increased collaboration among teachers
- Rapid growth in technology skills
- Creativity/innovation
- Deeper appreciation for teacher/student relationships
- Acquisition of multiple instructional delivery skills

Enhanced Online Basics

- Learning Management System (LMS), Schoology
  - PreK-12
  - Synced (communicates) with Skyward
  - Communication tools housed within: Zoom, internal messaging, real-time updates
  - Grades entered in Schoology are pulled into Skyward.
- Virtual learning expectations for teachers and students
- Synchronous learning (live on schedule) and asynchronous learning (on student's schedule)
- Specialized services for students with disabilities and/or at-risk

ONLINE

A NEW LOOK, NEW EXPECTATIONS WITH EDUCATIONAL COACHING

Black Earth Elementary Schoology example

Middle School Schoology Reading

Middle School Schoology Math

High School Schoology example

Online Learning Expectations -- Teachers

- Posting of plans for the week on Monday.
- Required student interaction through Zoom.
- Increased formative assessment to check student understanding.
- Referring students for specialized support.
- Helping students self-goal and self-evaluate as part of the learning process.

Online Learning Expectations -- Students

- Students are expected to be engaged with online learning daily.
- Students will learn features in Schoology and become proficient in the online classroom.
- Students will attend scheduled Zoom meetings.
- Students will set personal learning goals with assistance of teacher.
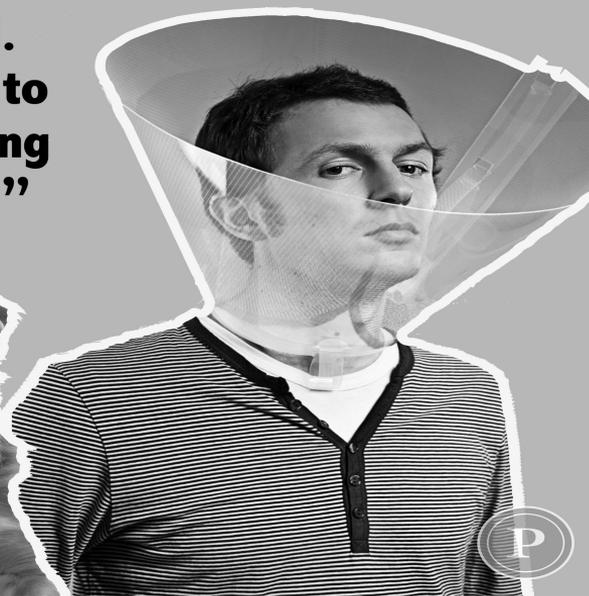- Students will self evaluate progress towards learning goals.

Pupil Services

1.) We must recognize that <u>some students NEED in person instruction</u> to move forward academically and emotionally.

2.) Students receiving special education services will have individualized plans. The special education teacher will work with families to determine the best plan given the child's needs.

We all have a different perspective now…

"It's for your own good. You've got to stop touching your face."

Co-curricular Activities

Forward Dane Guidelines
- No competitions for moderate risk (volleyball, soccer) or high risk (football) sports
- Modified competitions can be held for low risk (cross country, swim) sports
- Modified practices with masks and social distancing are allowed for all sports
- Indoor maximum of 10 students, outdoor maximum of 25

Capitol Conference
- Schools are still deciding whether to provide fall sports; most are determined to provide athletics if it is within their county guidelines

WIAA Ruling
- Will push back the start date for moderate and high risk sports to September 7th; low risk sports start date is August 17th
- Schools have the option of playing fall sports in the spring

Frequently Asked Questions

Will we have the tech and teachers for online learning?

- Devices (i-pads, chromebooks, laptops) will be checked out to each student.
- Internet hotspots available to support those who need access.
- BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) also used at MS/HS level.
- Individual Learning Plans guide learning expectations.
- Students will have assigned teacher(s) plus a Learning Coach (as needed).
- Learning will be both synchronous (following a schedule) and asynchronous (some tasks can be accomplished on student's own time).
- Some old school tools (paper/pencil) will be used as instructional situation warrants.

Will there be a common online learning platform?

- The District selected Schoology as the the Learning Management System that will be used with students and families, PreK-12.
- Teachers received basic training in June and continue to develop skills through targeted professional learning this summer.
- Parents and students will have online modules that will assist in learning the system.
- Syncs (communicates) with Skyward so that grades are accurate in both systems.

Will there be live online instruction?

- Synchronous instruction will be live.
  - Online student "Zooms" into classroom at scheduled time to participate in live lesson with teacher.
- Asynchronous instruction will be recorded.
  - Online student assigned to watch teacher's lesson in preparation for activity/assessment.
  - Flipped classroom concept: student watches online mini-lesson in preparation for application work with teacher when zooming.

What kind of individual communication will my child receive?

- Schoology allows for general communication to the class and personalized messages from teacher to student.
- Teachers are focusing on feedback to improve student learning.
- For our MS/HS students, if they have his/her own cell phone, teacher will call student directly as needed.
- Learning coaches assigned to students who need additional academic support.

What's the plan for attendance, testing, grading?

- Attendance: Students are expected to be online, learning daily. If a student is going to be absent for any reason, parents must call or contact school office/attendance line to report absences.
- Testing:
  - Classroom assessment will focus on assessment for learning (formative) which gives students feedback on where they need to improve on knowledge and skills.
  - Assessment of learning (summative) allows students to show what they know and can do with that knowledge.
  - Large-scale testing from the district will be conducted when and if in person.
  - State required testing (ACT, ASPIRE, FORWARD) are directed by DPI.
- Grading:
  - Return to traditional marking systems at all three levels.

What about accommodations or modifications for students with academic or social/emotional needs?

- Learning Coaches when students' need redirection.
- Individual Learning Plans for students with IEPs and 504s
- Individual Learning Plans for students who have evidenced need of more support
- In-Person Student Support Hubs on campus by invitation
- Social/Emotional coaching from Pupil Services Staff
- Coordination of care with outside providers

How can I provide feedback as a parent?

- Start with the person you want to give feedback to first.
- If a situation is not resolved, contact building principal.
- If it's positive feedback, share widely!

What will be our instructional priorities/focus?

- Online learning is focused on essential standards.
- We will not be teaching content that does not transfer well to the online setting. Example: Taxidermy.

How do teachers plan to make online learning engaging and rigorous?

- Using tools with Schoology to ensure clarity of instruction.
- Zooming to interact with students.
- Combining synchronous (live) with asynchronous (pre-recorded) learning.
- Increasing students' self-monitoring of learning and self-evaluation of learning.

What's Next?

Ongoing

- Professional staff members engage in further Schoology training.
- WHSD staff communicates with families regarding technology needs.
- WHSD staff communicates with families/students regarding grade/class level learning plans.

1. July 28, 2020 - Parent letter sent from the School District - reopening plan.
2. July 28, 2020 - Staff letter sent from the School District - reopening plan.
3. By July 31, 2020 - Parents receive their child's invitation to join the in-person school support hub.
4. Week of August 3 - Information communicated regarding registration process and online learning expectations.
5. August 10, 2020 - Share planning progress at school board meeting.
6. Week of August 24 - Staff in-service.
7. September 1, 2020 - First day of school.

Thank You

"Decisions are hardest to make, especially when it is a choice between where you should be and where you want to be."

- Unknown