

Warren Consolidated Schools



A Parent's Guide to Fall Options

2020-2021 School Year



WCSKIDS.NET



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A Parent's Guide to the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap

On June 30, 2020, Governor Gretchen Whitmer announced the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap. This document overviews a series of phases, each with requirements and recommendations for schools to follow for in-person instruction during the Covid-19 pandemic. Our district continues to work with our colleagues from the Macomb Intermediate School District and the Macomb County Health Department on reviewing policies, procedures, and protocols.

The safety of students and staff has, and continues to be, a priority for our district. As the debate continues about whether schools will be open this fall, WCS will offer in-person instruction and a virtual option using our own teachers for interested families.

Below you will find some highlights from Phases 4 and 5 of the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap as you consider the options for your child for next fall. Please note, there is no in-person instruction for Phases 1-3, and we return to pre-pandemic safety protocols in Phase 6. You can find the full report by clicking here: [MI Safe Schools: Michigan's 2020-21 Return to School Roadmap](#).

MI Safe Schools:
Michigan's 2020-
21 Return to School
Roadmap



	Phase 4 In-person instruction permitted with required safety protocols	Phase 5 In-person instruction permitted with minimal required protocols
Personal Protective Equipment	Face Coverings are required for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff PreK-12 students in hallways and common areas 6-12 students in classrooms All people on a bus 	Face Coverings are strongly recommended, but not required , for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All staff Pre-K-12 students in hallways and common areas.
Hygiene	Schools are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide supplies including soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, tissues, and informational signs Procure portable handwashing stations to be set up throughout school buildings Teach and reinforce proper handwashing procedures Wash hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the cafeteria or school buses 	It is strongly recommended, but not required , to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provide supplies including soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, tissues, and education about healthy behaviors Require students wash hands or use hand sanitizer when changing classrooms, entering the cafeteria, or getting on a bus.
Spacing, Movement, Access	Schools are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prohibit indoor assemblies with more than one class It is strongly recommended, but not required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Space desks, students, and teachers be spaced as far apart as possible Limit guests in buildings Display signage, floor markings, and seating encourage distancing and proper hygiene. 	It is recommended that: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Desks, students, and teachers be spaced as far apart as possible Guests are limited in buildings Signage, floor markings, and seating encourage distancing and proper hygiene
Testing Protocols	Schools are required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperate with the local health department regarding implementing protocols for screening students and staff It is strongly recommended, but not required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a space and designate it as a quarantine area Send symptomatic students and staff home until they have a negative test or have recovered according to CDC guidelines. 	It is strongly recommended, but not required to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identify a space and designate it as a quarantine area Send symptomatic students and staff home until they have a negative test or have recovered according to CDC guidelines.

	Phase 4 In-person instruction permitted with required safety protocols	Phase 5 In-person instruction permitted with minimal required protocols
Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students	<p>It is required that schools:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cooperate with the local public health department if a confirmed case of COVID-19 is identified, and in particular, must collect the contact information for any close contacts of the affected individual from two days before he or she showed symptoms to the time when he or she was last present at the school. <p>It is strongly recommended, but not required, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify local health officials, staff, and students immediately of any possible case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws. <p>It is strongly recommended, but not required, that the health department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate contact tracing, following regular public health practice. Anyone who was within close contact of the case (less than six feet apart for 15+ minutes) will be asked to self-quarantine for up to 14 days after exposure. 	<p>It is strongly recommended, but not required, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notify local health officials, staff, and students immediately of any possible case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws. <p>It is strongly recommended, but not required, that the health department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiate contact tracing, following regular public health practice. Anyone who was within close contact of the case (less than six feet apart for 15+ minutes) will be asked to self-quarantine for up to 14 days after exposure.
Cleaning	<p>Schools are required to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean frequently touched surfaces including light switches, doors, benches, bathrooms at least every four hours Clean libraries, computer labs, arts, and other hand-on classrooms after every class period Wipe down student desks after every class period Playground structures must continue to undergo normal routine cleaning 	<p>It is strongly recommended, but not required, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean frequently touched surfaces including light switches, doors, benches, bathrooms at least every four hours Clean libraries, computer labs, arts, and other hand-on classrooms after every class period Wipe down student desks after every class period Playground structures must continue to undergo normal routine cleaning

A Parent's Guide to In-Person Learning

As we move toward the 20/21 school year in these unprecedented times, Warren Consolidated Schools will offer families two options: in-person instruction (as long as our state remains in Phase 4, 5, or 6 of the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap) or enrollment in our virtual program. Our goal is to return students to in-person classroom routines in a safe manner. This document will overview our plans for in-person learning.

Please note, if Governor Whitmer were to move our state back to Phase 1-3 of the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap, our district would engage our Remote Learning Plan, specific details are found later in this document.

State Requirements: Our district continues to work with our colleagues from the Macomb Intermediate School District and the Macomb County Health Department on reviewing policies, procedures, and protocols as outlined by the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap. Additional details can be found in *A Parent's Guide to the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap*.

Schedule: WCS will follow our published school calendar for the 20/21 school year, [which can be found here](#) and includes full day instruction Monday through Friday, with the exception of our previously scheduled half days. A hybrid/part-time option is not available at this time.

Personal Protective Equipment: In Phase 4, Face Coverings are **required** for all staff, PreK-12 students in hallways and common areas, 6-12 students in classrooms, and all people on a bus. Face coverings may be homemade or disposable level-one (basic) grade surgical masks. Homemade facial coverings must be washed daily, and disposable facial coverings must be disposed of at the end of each day. For those who do not bring a face covering from home, WCS will provide disposable face coverings. Any staff or student who is unable to medically tolerate a facial covering must not wear one. Our district will require documentation for those unable to wear a facial covering.

In Phase 5, Face Coverings are **strongly recommended, but not required** for all staff and PreK-12 students in hallways and common areas.

Hygiene: Regardless of the Phase of the Governor's plan, our schools will provide supplies including soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, tissues, and informational signs. We will also teach and reinforce proper handwashing procedures and ensure students and staff wash their hands or use hand sanitizer before entering the cafeteria or school buses.

A Parent's Guide to In-Person Learning

Spacing, Movement, and Access: Work stations/desks for students and teachers will be spaced as far apart as possible, and all work stations/desks will face the same direction. Furniture that cannot be easily sanitized or does not allow for spacing will be removed from classrooms and not available for use. In light of the uncertainty of state funding, our large student population, and our careful management of learning spaces, we expect many classrooms to look very similar to a regular school year. The number of students choosing our Virtual Option may reduce the number of students in a building/classroom.

Guests will have limited access to our buildings.

Hallways and Common Areas: In Phase 4 and 5, schedules will be staggered to limit the number of students in hallways at one time. We will adjust lunch schedules to maximize spacing, and students in Grades TK-8 can expect assigned seating in our cafeterias. Recess will be held outside as often as possible.

Testing Protocols: Students and staff will answer basic screening questions upon arrival at school each day in a developmentally appropriate way. If a student or teacher answers yes to any of the prescreening questions or has temperature over 100.3 degrees, the staff member will be sent home, or an administrator will follow isolation protocols, which will include contacting the parents and having them pick up their student. Both students and staff will not be allowed to return to school until they can provide medical documentation that they are negative for Covid-19, or have recovered [according to CDC Guidelines](#).

Responding to Positive Tests Among Staff and Students: Should a staff member or student test positive for Covid-19, our schools would notify local health officials, staff, and students immediately of any possible case of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other applicable federal and state privacy laws. We would follow Health Department recommendations on cleaning and sanitizing any areas. Using Grant Funds, our district has added an "Interim Covid Manager" to work with Human Resources, our schools, our Office of Security and Crisis Management, and local officials such as the health department to stay up to date on the latest information about Covid-19 and to follow up on any positive tests among staff and students.

Cleaning: WCS has reliable cleaning protocols that meet safety standards for our buildings, all of which were deep cleaned over the summer. In 2016, our district began using Clorox Total 360 machines which spray a safe, commercial grade, cleaning solution. Last spring, we purchased additional machines to expand our use of these cleaning resources. Additional information on the Clorox Total 360 machines, commonly used in schools and hospitals, [can be found here](#).

Communication: As always, our district will keep you informed of important developments. It is critically important that families maintain accurate contact information in PowerSchool to ensure they receive all the information from our schools/district. Schools will have information for families about how to update contacts should addresses or phone numbers change.

A Parent's Guide to Virtual Learning

While our goal is to return students to in-person classroom routines in a safe manner, we realize not all families are comfortable returning to school at this time and would like a virtual option. This document will overview our plans for virtual learning.

State Requirements: Students must be registered, enrolled, and taught by a certified teacher. Teachers are responsible to take attendance daily, as they would in a traditional school. For High School students, grades and earned credit will be recorded on the pupil's transcript.

District Requirements: Students must enroll in our virtual program for a minimum of one semester/trimester. Some WCS programs (CPC, WCSPA, MSVPA, MS2TC, MMSTC, and Transitional Kindergarten) are structured to be taught in person, and are not available on a virtual platform. A hybrid/part-time option is not available at this time. Students are expected to adhere to our district Acceptable Use Policy for Technology.

Schedule: WCS will follow our published school calendar for the 20/21 school year, which includes full day instruction Monday through Friday, with the exception of our previously scheduled half days. A typical day for a student would be balanced between virtual instruction from a teacher and independent practice on learning activities. Below, you will see what a day in the life of a student might look like:

A Sample Elementary (K-5) Virtual Learning Day	
8:00 – 8:15	Teacher and Student Set up Time- log on to Schoology, review any daily announcements from teacher, organize learning space, optional morning meeting
8:15 – 10:15	ELA instruction- incorporates whole group instruction, small group instruction, transition times and independent student work time, embed Social Studies & Science literacy content
10:15 – 10:30	A.M. Student Recess, Brain Break, Movement
10:30 – 11:30	Lunch/Recess, Brain Break, Movement/Independent Reading Time
11:30 – 1:00	Math instruction- incorporates whole group instruction, small group instruction, transition times and independent student work time
1:00 – 1:45	Teacher Prep/Student Elective- live instruction or recorded video
1:45 – 2:00	P.M. Student Recess, Brain Break, Movement
2:00 – 3:00	Science or Social Studies instruction or time for student support services

A Parent's Guide to Virtual Learning

A Sample Secondary (6-12) Virtual Learning Day	
8:00 – 9:00	Math
9:10 – 10:10	ELA
10:20 – 11:20	Social Studies
11:20 – 12:00	Lunch/Break
12:00 – 1:00	Science
1:10 – 2:10	Elective 1
2:20 – 3:20	Elective 2

Special Education/504/Students Needing Additional Support: Students will have access to Resource/Intervention providers. To ensure our students receive the needed academic and social-emotional support, the sample schedule times above may be rotated to allow for interventions to occur. You will receive more specifics on our supports as we near the academic school year.

Staffing: The WCS virtual program will be staffed by district teachers who will use our district curriculum.

Technology Platform: Schoology will serve as our virtual learning hub. This will allow parents to log into a single site and have access to all of their student's information, regardless of how many children they have. WebEx, a premium, secure, video conferencing service, will be another platform available for teacher/student interactions.

Technology Support: WCS will offer training for parents and students on our two technology platforms beginning in August. Through our parent survey, the district will gain information about needed technology support and will publish a plan for parents.

Role of Parents: Parents are vital supports to their children's learning in a virtual environment and should be prepared to assist their students in logging on and monitoring their time spent on school work.

Communication: As always, our district will keep you informed of important developments. It is critically important that families maintain accurate contact information in PowerSchool to ensure they receive all the information from our schools/district. Schools will have information for families about how to update contacts should addresses or phone numbers change.

A Parent's Guide to Remote Learning

As detailed above, our district will offer families two options for the 20/21 school year. However, if Governor Whitmer were to move our state back to Phase 1-3 of the MI Safe Schools Return to School Roadmap, our district would engage our Remote Learning Plan, those details are the purpose of this document.

It is important to note that last spring, our Remote Learning plan was a stopgap measure and a quick response to a crisis. Should school be closed again, we would offer a more rigorous program with more academic instructional expectations.

Schedule: Parents can expect a set schedule from their school, and for their child to interact virtually with their teachers every day, Monday through Friday. Teachers will take attendance, deliver our district curriculum, and students will be expected to submit work and receive feedback and grades.

Technology Platform: Schoology will serve as our virtual learning hub. This will allow parents to log into a single site and have access to all of their student's information, regardless of how many children they have. WebEx, a premium, secure, video conferencing service, will be another platform available for teacher/student interactions.

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