

Back to School



July 15, 2020

Our weekly “Back to School E-newsletter” for families!



Important Update

District officials originally anticipated that they would be able to share final details this week about our return to school in the fall. However, due to follow-up research still being conducted with district staff, it looks more likely that the release of this information will instead happen next week. Board members will be meeting Monday evening at 6 p.m. Once meeting logistics are finalized, anyone interested in watching these proceedings will be able to obtain details at www.wcsoh.org/VirtualBOE. The board is also considering moving back to in person meetings in the future with appropriate protocols that address health and safety concerns.



Academics

As a reminder, the following is a brief summary of items were shared last week:

- District officials continue to monitor the “status level” for Delaware and Franklin counties and will defer to the county with the least favorable status for continued decision making and impact any planning to date.
- Given that Franklin County is currently at level 3, The district plans to open school next year in a blended model. The Board of Education reviewed various options for blended learning and charged the administration with developing a recommendation. (Note: Follow-up research being conducted with staff pertains to this topic.)
- The administration is finalizing its state-required Face Mask Policy.
- The administration is developing a recommendation for a fully online option for any families that would prefer not to have their child(ren) return to school.



Operations

District officials recently provided all staff members with health/safety expectations moving forward. Below are the key components of these expectations:

Definitions:

- **Facial mask:** cloth/fabric that at a minimum covers mouth, nose and chin.
- **Facial shields:** are different and may be allowed in specific circumstances.

Facial masks must be worn upon coming onto school property and before entering any district owned building or vehicle.

Facial masks must be worn when engaging in any school related function (exceptions below).

Facial shields are allowable when working with students in these circumstances if wearing a facial mask will significantly impact the activity. Exceptions include:

- Facial coverings in a school setting are prohibited by law or regulation.
- Facial coverings are in violation of documented industry standards.
- Facial coverings are not advisable for health reasons.
- Facial coverings are in violation of the school's documented safety policies.
- Facial coverings are not required when staff works alone in an assigned area.
- There is a functional/practical reason for a staff member not to wear a facial covering.

Exceptions for students to wear facial masks while engaged in school related activities (ie: athletics, band camp) prior to the start of school for students is guided by district approved plans.

A staff member who feels they meet an exception to this requirement based on those listed above should contact his/her direct supervisor. A student who feels they meet an exception to this requirement should inform the staff member responsible for the student's care/supervision.

We expect employees to conduct self-assessments of their overall health, which includes regularly monitoring their temperature. Any employee experiencing one or more of the following symptoms should contact their doctor to discuss the matter with them:

- Fever or chills
- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Headache
- New loss of taste or smell
- Sore throat
- Congestion or runny nose
- Nausea or vomiting
- Diarrhea

Furthermore, should an employee experience any of the following emergency warning signs for COVID-19, they are encouraged to seek emergency medical care immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion
- Inability to wake or stay awake
- Bluish lips or face

Employees should contact their medical provider for any other symptoms that are severe or concerning.

In summary, staff are expected to adhere to the following:

- Maintain social distancing of at least 6 feet during any face-to-face interactions.
- Wear facial coverings when interacting in person with others; while moving about the office; or when in common areas (meeting spaces, the break room, bathrooms, etc.).
- While an employee is at their desk or in their personal work space, they may remove their facial covering if they are not having face-to-face interaction with others.

- Wash hands and use hand sanitizer frequently; regularly clean surfaces and disinfect when possible.





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Parents/Guardians: The District is sometimes able to provide free language assistance in other languages. If you need such assistance, please contact the building secretary or building administrator at your child's school and let them know the language you speak.

Spanish: Padres / Guardianes: A veces el Distrito puede proporcionar asistencia gratis en otros idiomas. Si necesita esta ayuda, comuníquese con la secretaria del edificio o con el administrador del edificio en la escuela de su hijo y hágales saber el idioma que usted habla.

Somali: Waalidiinta/Mas'uuliyiinta: Degmada Waxbarashadu waxay mararka qaarkood idinka caawin kartaa luqooyinka kale. Haddii aad u baahan tahay caawintaas, fadlan la xariir xoghaynta ama qofka maamulka iskuulka ilmahaagu dhigto una sheeg luqadda aad ku hadashid.