

RESET AND RESTART DISTRICT UPDATE -- JULY 10, 2020

We hope that you are enjoying a healthy, safe, and relaxing summer vacation. Although we all hope for far more normalcy during the 2020-2021 school year, we know that we must prepare for different scenarios considering the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic. Our school year is slated to begin on September 9, 2020.

The Governor released two important documents last week, and our team has been working to analyze these documents so that decisions can be made to reset and restart our school operations in a safe and proficient manner.

Those documents can be found here:

[Reset and Restart Education Planning for Ohio Schools and Districts](#)

[COVID-19 Health and Prevention Guidance for Ohio K-12 Schools](#)

I would also like to call attention to the guidelines issued by the American Pediatric Society. Those guidelines can be found here:

[COVID-19 Planning Considerations: Guidance for School Re-entry](#)

Finally, the Centers for Disease Control(CDC) guidance can be found here:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>

Our team is working on our RESTART plan and will release it the week of August 3rd.

Important Items of Concern for Parents and Students

1. The West Branch Local School District's goal is for in-person learning for the 2020-2021 school year. However, the district may have to change quickly based on many different factors in response to COVID-19. The safety and welfare of our students, parents, faculty and staff is paramount in making any decision in regards to day-to-day operations.

We will be using a color coded chart like the one pictured here:

WBLSD	Health Department Directed Levels			
Color Coded Levels	Level I: Low Very low spread, consistent or decreasing numbers	Level II: Moderate Moderate number of cases, relatively flat	Level III: High Increase in numbers	Level IV: Severe Spike in cases
What is the learning format in this level?	In-Person Learning	Blended Format: Combination of In-Person / Online Learning	Blended Format Combination of In-Person / Online Learning	Everyone Online Learning

What will the health & safety precautions be per level?	Parental temp check Daily Staff & Student Temperature/symptom checks Masks worn by all WB staff and students in grades 3-12	Parental temp check Daily Staff & Student Temperature/symptom checks Masks worn by all WB staff and students in grades 3-12	Parental temp check Daily Staff & Student Temperature/symptom checks Masks required	NA
What will instruction look like per level?	All students in attendance Monday-Friday at school.	Group 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M-W: at school ● T-TH: independent work at home ● F: live digital ALL at home Group 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M-W: independent work at home ● T-TH: at school ● F: live digital ALL at home Group 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Special Education Units ● Prek 	Group 1: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M-W: at school ● T-TH: independent work at home ● F: live digital ALL at home Group 2: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● M-W: independent work at home ● T-TH: at school ● F: live digital ALL at home Group 3: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Special Education Units ● Prek 	All students remote learning. School buildings closed.
Can I just keep my child home?	<i>Full time At-Home Learning will be optional for everyone at parental choice, regardless of health department designated risk levels by registering for the Warrior Academy, an Online option for students attending West Branch Local Schools. This will be a robust instructional system with digital delivery and academic teachers. A decision on Warrior Academy attendance will have to be made by August 20, 2020.</i>			

2. Faculty and staff members will be wearing face masks. I cannot emphasize how important this is for everyone's well being.
3. Temperature Screening/Symptom Checking - **Parents should check their children's temperatures daily.** Anyone exhibiting a 100.4(degrees) or higher temperature should be kept at home. The district will be utilizing thermal imaging devices and no-contact thermometers at entrances each morning. Students who exhibit symptoms will be monitored and isolated so that a parent/guardian can be contacted and pick-up can be initiated.
4. **Transportation - Students who ride district transportation (buses) to and from school will be required to wear a mask.**

5. Students in grades 3 - 12 will be required to wear masks. Grades PS - 2 can wear a face covering if parents prefer. Face shields are an option, but masks are the preference as per ODH guidelines.
6. Physical & Social Distancing will be prioritized for our students and staff - Classrooms, Hallways, Cafeterias if used, etc.
7. Sanitizing - The district will implement daily protocols for cleaning and disinfection of classrooms, restrooms, common areas, etc. along with frequently touched surfaces.
8. Cafeteria operations will look different - No condiment areas (packets) - Touchless serving lines, etc. We will strongly encourage parents and students to lessen the use of cash as much as possible.
9. Visitors will not be permitted in the buildings unless a symptom check is complete and will be permitted to enter only if absolutely necessary.

10. Parents of students who do not wish to attend traditionally, can opt to enroll in the Warrior Academy - online option - Information on Warrior Academy is available on the district website.

It is important to note that the Reset & Restart Planning is fluid and can change in the next 30-45 days depending on the current COVID-19 rates within our district, county(s) and state.

The district plan is relying on everyone's cooperation and assistance. Educating our students on best practices and encouraging the use of masks, hand-washing, sanitizing, and social/physical distancing will be important for a safe return.

As we receive further guidance and make decisions in planning, we will continue to update you.

In the meantime, if you have any questions, concerns, or comments, please contact the Superintendent directly at 330-938-9324 or via email at timothy.saxton@wbwarriors.org.