



## ***Frequently Asked Questions about***

### ***Return to School 2020-2021***

***(responses are based on Phases 4 and 5)***

**1. Will my student remain a Wyandotte student?**

Yes, your student will still be considered a Wyandotte student even if they decide to take virtual classes.

**2. What happens if we start school using the virtual company and decide it isn't the right option for us?**

Once you decide on virtual, you will be committed to it for the 2020-2021 school year.

**3. Why does it have to be for the entire year?**

We need to have you commit to virtual or in-person, so we can adequately staff the classrooms and provide the best space requirements for students and teachers.

**4. What are the class sizes of the in-person option going to look like?**

As of right now it looks like they will be around 22 students.

**5. What if I choose the in-person option and the Governor closes the schools again?**

Students will not see a disruption in classes other than they would switch to online. All of their teachers will remain the same and they will continue with their current classes.

**6. Are the hours and days going to be the same with the in-person option?**

Yes.

**7. Is drop off and pick-up going to be staggered?**

We do not have an answer to this yet.

**8. Will my student need to keep their mask on all day?**

K-5 will be contained in their classrooms and will not need to wear a mask except when in the hallways. Students 6-12 will need to wear their masks all day, except during lunch, because they switch classrooms and are in the halls more frequently.



9. **If I sign up for virtual learning for the 2020-2021 school year how will I know which classes to select for my middle school or high school aged student.**

You will register for similar classes. In the event an elective is not offered, the student would select a different elective. More information to come.

10. **If I sign my student up for virtual learning for the 2020-2021 school year will they be able to participate in club activities and sports?**

Yes!

11. **If a vaccine becomes available during the school year will students be required to get it?**

We will follow the guidance of the Health Department, but they have not rendered a decision yet.

12. **Will students in K-5 still have specials classes?**

Yes. These classes will be brought into their classrooms.

13. **What steps are taken by the school when a student or staff person has a confirmed positive COVID-19 test?**

- a. The school will notify the local health department of the positive case.
- b. The school will provide the local health department with:
  - contact information for the student/staff person,
  - when the student/staff person was last at school,
  - what activities the student/staff person participated in
  - contact information for the close contacts of the student/staff person
  - provide the local health department copies of any COVID-19 test results that have been provided to the school
- c. The school will identify the areas in the school where the student/staff person had been and have the janitorial staff perform a deep cleaning of those areas
- d. Utilizing the COVID-19 notification template, the school will prepare and distribute a notification to parents of classmates of the positive COVID-19 staff/student.
- e. The school will prepare and distribute a notification to employees of the positive COVID-19 staff/student



- 14. If a student must quarantine for 14 days, must the rest of their classmates AND their siblings do so as well?**

We are waiting for final language on this from the Health Department.

- 15. If a household member of a teacher or student tests positive for COVID-19, does that teacher/student need to self-quarantine?**

Yes, when a household member tests positive, the teacher and/or student are considered close contacts and must self-quarantine for 14 days.

- 16. What steps are taken by the school staff when, while at school, a student becomes ill with symptoms of COVID-19?**

- a. Have the student taken to an identified quarantine area in the school, and remain there until they can be picked up by a parent or guardian
- b. Ensure the student has a surgical mask on while waiting in the quarantine area
- c. Arrange for the student to be picked up from the school
- d. Instruct the parent to consult a health care provider

- 17. When can a sick student/staff member return?**

We are waiting for final language on this from the Health Department.

- 18. Is there going to be someone taking the temperatures of staff and students?**

Per the Return to School Road Map, this responsibility will be up to the families. Staff members will fill out a health questionnaire each day. The Board could decide to implement this precaution in each of our schools.

- 19. What is the in-person gym class going to look like?**

K-5-students will go outside when possible. If there is inclement weather they will spread out in the gym. They will not be using common equipment. Our 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade students will not be required to change clothes; they will also go outside when possible. If it is inclement weather they will spread out in the gym. They will not be using common equipment.

- 20. What will lunch look like?**

All hot lunches will be pre-packaged and easy for the students to grab and go. Students will be spaced apart, and where feasible, a second seating area will be created.



**21. What is music going to look like for K-5 with the in-person option?**

Music will be provided in the classrooms.

**22. Will there be staggered days with the in-person selection?**

No, our schools are going to be open 5 days a week with students in attendance for the entire week.

**23. What happens if my child's mask breaks?**

We will have masks available in case this happens.

**24. What will recess be like?**

Students will stay with their class and be assigned certain areas of the playground, each day. Students will not need to wear their masks outside.

**25. Will students be allowed to have backpacks?**

Yes

**26. What if I pick a different virtual learning company than the two that are offered?**

If you were to select a different company, you would no longer be considered a Wyandotte student. This means the different company would be responsible for helping you make selections and any accommodations.

**27. What if my child has an IEP and I choose the virtual program?**

Both virtual programs that have been selected can be an option for a student that has an IEP. The virtual placement can be approved and then be a part of the student's IEP.

**28. What will passing time in middle school and high school look like?**

We are currently working on options for passing time. We can tell you that certain stairways will be one way only. Hallways may also be designated as one way only.

**29. Will there be hand sanitizer available?**

Yes, each classroom will have hand sanitizer and there will hand sanitizer available outside the lunchrooms.



**30. Will there be additional cleaning processes put into place?**

The bathrooms will be cleaned every 4 hours and desks will be disinfected with EPA-approved disinfectants whenever students leave the classroom. At night, classrooms and commons areas will be sanitized.

**31. How do I enroll my student for virtual school?**

More information will be coming soon. The timeline to decide has been moved to August 12, 2020. We are also exploring a different provider, based on the desire to have WPS teachers be more involved. Please wait as the decision is made prior to enrolling.

**32. Is it possible to start the online program before the first day of school?**

For K-5 using VLAC, the start date is September 1. For 6-12<sup>th</sup> grade students using Edgenuity, they can start on or before September 1<sup>st</sup>.

**33. Will there still be latch-key services available?**

Yes.

**34. Why is the Board meeting via Zoom Meetings to discuss our children return with face-to-face learning in a few weeks?**

Governor Whitmer's Executive Order No. 2020-151 prohibits large gatherings until midnight on August 11th. We knew this would be a meeting that many would like to attend and so it had to be done via Zoom.

**35. If there are so many unknowns why are we rushing to fully reopen by September 1<sup>st</sup>?**

We need to have several different plans in place to have our children receive an education for the 2020-2021 school year. Many things are changing and we need to have different options available.

**36. How much are we paying the online companies? Why aren't we using our own teachers?**

Wyandotte receives per student funding from the State. The online companies would get a portion of that funding for their services.



**37. If the District has the capability to move online why is there a need for students to go virtual for the year?**

From survey data, we know that some families desire a fact-to-face learning environment. Due to COVID-19 spikes, we may have to move to remote instruction for a period of time. These students will remain with their same teachers whether face-to-face or online/remote. Other families want a strict virtual experience, due to health or family concerns. It would be difficult for a classroom teacher to teach face-to-face students as well as virtual students all at the same time.

**38. Why do parents need to decide right now to use virtual companies for the year?**

The virtual companies need time to send computers and supplies to students using their services. At WPS we also need time to socially distance the classrooms and budget as well.

**39. Have teachers been consulted on their opinion about reopening?**

There has been ongoing dialogue between the administrative staff and the teachers. They will be meeting with them again this week to update them on all the newest developments and get their input.

**40. What PPE is the District providing for the staff?**

Our Director of Operations has been working tirelessly to gather all of the supplies we will need for our students and staff to be as prepared as possible. This includes masks (disposable and when required, N95), face shields, gloves and other items.

**41. If the District gets cameras for the classrooms why wouldn't there be an online option to participate in class?**

See #37 above

**42. Will a student who is sick be required to take a COVID test before they return to school?**

No. If the student tested positive for COVID-19, the student must be out of school for at least 10 days from the day they had the first symptom AND have had 3 days with no fever and 3 days with improving respiratory symptoms

**43. Will the volunteers who work in the schools be required to have COVID testing done? If so, how often?**

At this time, we will not be allowing volunteers into the buildings.



- 44. There is not a return to class after choosing virtual, is there an option the other way around?**

Unfortunately, no. This is due to the need to plan for class sizes, materials and programming.

- 45. Will parents/guardians have to sign a COVID waiver?**

As of now, no.

- 46. Will students be required to take a COVID test prior to the school year?**

No.

- 47. Will my child have to do a placement test if I sign up for VLAC?**

This has not yet been determined.

- 48. Is a Young 5's program being offered through VLAC?**

Parents should enroll in kindergarten, and then would come back to us next year in kindergarten again

- 49. Are there options for teachers who do not feel comfortable going back into the classroom?**

We are exploring this, depending on the preference and medical needs of staff. Any staff member with a question should contact our HR department.

- 50. What additional staffing (both during and after school hours) will be in place this school year to make sure all sanitation practices in the Back to School Plan are followed and how does this staffing level compare to last year?**

Sanitizing areas will be one of our top priorities, both during the day and after school. Each school will have both routine cleanings and sanitizing done on a regular schedule, by maintenance employees. They will receive training, as will our teaching, paraprofessionals and coaching staff members. As of now, we have not increased the number of employees but have re-prioritized their work.

- 51. How will bathroom breaks/emergencies be handled?**

For younger students, these will be scheduled by class or on an individual basis when students need to use a restroom. For older students, they will use passing time or receive a pass during class.



**52. Is there a detailed de-escalation process? i.e. sneeze guards, bagging of chairs and sanitization stations?**

I believe what is being asked is what precautions are being taken. There will be hand sanitizing stations throughout each school. Students will be reminded to wash their hands frequently, with soap and water whenever possible. In areas where lines will likely form, dots will be placed on the floor to remind students to stand 6' apart. Arrival and dismissal will be staggered and/or more entrances will be available to increase the ability to social distance. In the cafeterias, food will be prepackaged for safety.

**53. How will the Board be insuring compliance with the District's Back to School Plan and/or the State's Back to School Roadmap? How can parents stay informed as to the District's process, and what happens if a school is not compliant?**

Parents can stay informed of the District's Preparedness Plan, by watching or reviewing minutes of the August 4, 2020 and August 11, 2020 Board meetings. Our administrators and Board will be working to make sure we are compliant. If there is a situation in question, please contact the school's principal

**54. Will students be moved around to different schools to keep the class sizes smaller?**

This is not part of our current Plan.

**55. Is there an option to do partial virtual and partial in school? For example, 3-4 days virtual and 1-2 days in school. I worry that my child with an IEP will struggle with full time virtual but that I will put his health at risk sending him full time.**

Unfortunately, this is not one of the options we are offering.

**56. How are children with an IEP or a 504 going to be handled if we choose VLAC? Will getting out of class to do large muscle work and receive 1 on 1 work still be allowed?**

Please contact our Special Education Office, as the IEP team will need to identify how these accommodations will be handled.

**57. Are snacks and water still allowed at desks?**

Yes.

**58. How will social distancing be possible with 22 kids in a classroom?**

The Return to School Roadmap states social distancing is recommended, knowing this is difficult. Classrooms will be de-cluttered in order to provide as much room as possible for students to spread out.





**59. How will daily meds be handled?**

Just like they have been in the past. The main office will store the medications and keep a log of what was administered, to whom and when.

**60. How are parents that work from home expected to manage the online /virtual option?**

We recognize this is difficult for working parents, and will do everything possible to have school safely opened with face-to-face instruction.

**61. When have the schools HVAC systems been updated? Specifically, Monroe and Wilson.**

Our schools have many different types of heating and cooling systems. In Monroe they have air handling units in the classrooms. Their hot water system and boilers were replaced in 2016. In Wilson they have AC in the auditorium and 6 new classrooms on the north side of the building. These AC units are 5 years old. The south side of the building has steam heat and not AC. Our Director of Operations, Bernie Bowers said he would be happy to discuss the HVAC specifics of the WPS buildings with anyone who has a question. 734-759-6017

**62. For K-5 what handwashing procedures (with soap and water) will be in place?**

Per the Roadmap, staff will teach and reinforce handwashing. Every 2-3 hours, students will wash hands or use hand sanitizer. Classroom schedules will include time to do this.

**63. Will there be staggered arrival and dismissal times?**

For K-5, there will be staggered arrival/dismissal times that will be 5 minutes apart. We have not finalized a schedule for WMS and RHS.

**64. What will happen if there isn't a substitute to cover for a sick teacher?**

Another certified adult will cover the class (administrator, instructional aide, teacher).

**65. If students are using the virtual option, how will they be communicated with regarding clubs and sports that they may want to participate in? Also, scholarships and conferences that they might also want to apply for.**

The best way to keep in touch is to watch the announcements each day. These are posted on the RHS website.



**66. Will there be additional handwashing stations available for students?**

We have looked into these. The stations must be filled with clean water and then the dirty water must be emptied. We do not have the staff to do this throughout the day. Instead, we will have students use hand sanitizer.

**67. Were elementary schools offering the option to loop next year?**

Some classes are doing this, depending on the class, the grade level and the teacher.

**68. Will Wilson students have to wear masks in extreme heat?**

No matter the weather, the Roadmap stipulates all 6 -12th grade students must wear them all day, except during lunch.

**69. If too many parents choose online will there be layoffs?**

As of now, no. This will provide more space in classrooms.

**70. If parents choose virtual and it doesn't work out, do we worry that they will just choose another district or private school and we lose funding?**

This is a concern, as WPS must pay the virtual companies for the entire year.

**71. Is there any information on the air quality in the schools?**

These tests will be done in each school, prior to school starting. The results will be on our website, under the "Operations" tab.

**72. If high school students select the online option will they still be eligible for dual enrollment (as is available) in colleges?**

This is not a current option

**73. Why don't you stagger days for the start of the school year?**

Continuity of instruction for students is important, as well as for families. The Roadmap was written in a way that did not necessitate a staggered start so if at all possible, we would prefer to have students in session 5 days a week.



- 74. How will the attendance policy be enforced? There will probably be many absences with kids being sent home until sickness can be ruled out.**

This is something that will need to be re-evaluated and re-written. There will be more absences due to sickness as well as students who must be quarantined. These days will not be held against a student.

- 75. Is Wyandotte considering recovery services for forgone learning for students with an IEP?**

Once we return, students will be assessed in order to determine where they are. There will be a combination of reteaching and teaching throughout the entire year to catch students up as best we can.

- 76. What is the plan for the new 6<sup>th</sup> graders getting an orientation at Wilson?**

Mrs. Makuch and Mr. Jesue are working on this. They know it is important for students to be able to master locker coms and find their way around the school prior to the first day.

- 77. Will masks be distributed to students?**

If students do not have a mask, we will provide them with one.

- 78. If WPS teachers need to teach online will it be from their houses or their classrooms?**

It likely will be a combination of both, with a specified amount of time at school.

- 79. With the PD will teachers learn how to administer tests online such as NWEA and MSTEP or class progress testing?**

Teachers already have experience testing online with NWEA/MSTEP/PLAN. The PD will help teachers progress monitor what the class has mastered as well as where individual students are.

- 80. Is there a specific LMS the District is going to use?**

For K-5, it will be Seesaw. For 6-12, it is Google Classroom.

- 81. Why do we not move to Microsoft Teams for our online teaching platform? It allows students to see online documents and files in real time vs. Zoom platform that does not allow for this.**



Part of the August training will help staff get more comfortable to do this. They will use Google, Zoom and other tools to share documents and files online.

**82. How will pick-up and drop-off go? Especially with the early childhood center? With the infants for example.**

While plans are still be finalized at the Early Childhood Center, we know staff members will meet families at the doors. This is an effort to minimize the number of adults who are in the school.

**83. Why doesn't VLAC do all of K-12?**

There were no Advanced Placement opportunities through VLAC, as well as fewer electives.

**84. Will parents be made aware that Edgenuity is certified teachers, but not necessarily certified in their specific subject. They monitor the class only, not directly instruct.**

The mentors assigned to students may not be trained in the subject, but the teaches who teach the class are certified.

**85. Will students be allowed to sanitize their desks with wipes prior to the start of class?**

Sanitizing desks will happen frequently throughout the day. Older students will be able to help, while staff members will do this for younger students. Wipes are difficult to obtain, so we are looking at a disinfectant solution that dries within 60 seconds.

**86. Will students be able to carry hand sanitizer and wipes with them during the day?**

Yes

**87. Where in the schools will students be quarantined if they show symptoms?**

Each school is configured differently, but it will be in a contained area near the office. The room will be labeled, and anyone who enters will wear PPE. A log will be kept to record the name and time each student arrived. After each use, the area will be sanitized.

**88. How do you plan on protecting the staff when students are calling home and during pick up and drop off?**

In the office, there will be space to social distance, especially for students who do not feel well. Masks will be worn by everyone entering the school, and students will be reminded to social distance. As many entrances/exits will be utilized as possible in order to spread out families from staff.



- 89. If we accept the online option will we still be guaranteed our spot at Washington the following year. We have chosen Washington, but should be at Jefferson.**

We will work with you to return to Washington, if there is room.

- 90. Why don't we look at spreading out the elementary students to all of the buildings and having 6-12 go virtual?**

This is a plan that was discussed, yet older students also benefit from the day to day interactions of being in a classroom. We did not pursue this idea after examining the inequities it created.

- 91. At RHS with necessary cleaning between classes, will there be an extended pass time to allow staff/students to complete tasks prior to the start of the next class period?**

As of now, passing time will remain the same. It will take 60 seconds to disinfect a desk, which can be done at the end of class so the room is ready for the next group.

- 92. I have a question regarding my senior. He only needs one English class and one math class to get his required 26 credits. Is there an option for him to only take these two classes in person or virtual? This would help reduce class size in unnecessary courses and help ease his anxiety over wearing a mask all day.**

At this point, this is not an option. We want students to benefit from a full-time experience with electives.

- 93. What are the guidelines for after school activities? Football and cheerleading for example.**

Please consult with the MHSAA website: <https://secondhalf.mhsaa.com/All-News/articleType/ArticleView/articleId/9181/Rep-Council-Approves-Phased-In-Fall>

- 94. How will lunch look at Wilson and RHS?**

Students will be spread out and at WMS, an alternate area will be created in the gym. Students can purchase lunch in a grab and go style. Every item will be pre-packaged.

- 95. When a student with special needs runs away from their cohort, will they be penalized? How can they ensure students are safe?**

If the student came into contact with other students from another cohort, s/he would not return to class. They would finish the day in an alternate area.



**96. Can I do all my classes online during the day and go to band at night? (From a student)**

Yes

**97. If we elect all virtual and we are in phase four, can we still have athletics and activities?**

Yes.

**98. Is there any way that Dr Cost would be able to meet with staff (in small groups or PLCs or with volunteers)?**

This week, the principals (if they haven't already) are meeting with their staff to review the Preparedness Plan. Dr. Cost would be happy to meet with any concerned staff members.

**99. If we moved to a block A-B schedule or a 6-hour day in secondary, would we eliminate one more class for teachers to manage and one less exchange for F2F? It would make for easier scheduling of zooms and whatnot—these 3 hours meet MW, and these 3 meet TTH.**

This plan is not being considered as it does not provide continuity of instruction.

**100. If a student wants virtual all year, WITH WPS, not Edgenuity, can there be “all virtual” hours? That way if we go back, the virtual hour would stay online. We want our teachers, but may want to stay online if we still do not feel safe sending our child.**

This concept is being explored. A report to the Board will be given on August 4, 2020.

**101. Are kids still sharing lockers?**

Yes, at the elementary level. An alternative would be for a student to take his/her backpack and coat and put it at the desk.

**102. Are the virtual and in person curriculums roughly the same?**

The essential standards (what is taught) will be the same, however, how they are taught will be different.

**103. What qualities did you like about Edgenuity?**

We have used this company to provide our students with credit recovery courses, and they have worked well with both students and staff. When situations arise, they are flexible and they also have a range of courses, including AP courses. Other districts in Wayne County have contracted with them and had success.



**104. Can we start the school year face to face and then switch to one of the virtual companies that have been selected?**

Unfortunately, once you start the school year face to face, you cannot switch to virtual.