

White Bear Lake Area Schools

FALL 2020

RETURN TO SCHOOL

GUIDE



**FALL 2020 PLAN
APPROVED BY
SCHOOL BOARD:**

Info on
Pages
11-13

**Hybrid Learning Model
for Grades K-12+**

Students will attend school in-person and be at home learning on an A/B day rotation by alphabet on Monday-Thursday. All students will be at home learning on Fridays.

Info on
Page 14

**Distance Learning Model
Option**

Available for all families who wish to choose that as an option.

Plan subject to change.
This version of the Guide was last updated on 9/11/20.



www.isd624.org
651-407-7500



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For ongoing updates from WBLAS on our COVID-19 response and plans for returning to school, visit isd624.org/Fall2020 or see the Fall 2020 FAQs doc.



GENERAL GUIDELINES

The health and safety of our students, staff and families is of utmost importance as we prepare to return to school. When the 2020-21 school year begins, school will look much different than previous years due to new health and safety measures in response to COVID-19. The White Bear Lake Area School District has developed plans to reopen schools based on guidance from public health officials and state and federal agencies. District plans will continue to be updated as the situation evolves.

The district's plans are built in alignment with our Mission, Strategies, Equity Commitment and 4-Way Decision Making Protocol.

Mission

The mission of the White Bear Lake Area School District, the community at the forefront of educational excellence, honoring our legacy and courageously building the future, is to ensure each student realizes their unique talents and abilities, and makes meaningful contributions with local and global impact through a vital system distinguished by:

- Students who design and create their own future
- A culture that respects diverse people and ideas
- Safe, nurturing and inspiring experiences
- Exceptional staff and families committed to student success
- Abundant and engaged community partners

Strategic Plan

During the 2017-18 academic year, more than 200 volunteers consisting of students, families, staff and community members, came together to create a new District Strategic Plan with the following strategies:

- We will ensure that each student is the primary agent in their learning.
- We will provide expanding access to a broad range of opportunities for all students.
- We will foster community engagement and partnerships.
- We will build organizational capacity.
- We will embrace all cultures with humility and respect.
- We will ensure learning environments enhance students' educational experience.
- We will engage families as partners in the education of their children.
- We will ensure the social and emotional growth of each student.
- We will imagine new concepts in learning and teaching at White Bear Lake Area High School.

Equity Commitment

To nurture the whole student, we disrupt systemic inequities by recognizing, honoring, and embracing all cultures with humility and respect.

4-Way Decision Making Protocol

1. How does this help to provide opportunities to students who have been marginalized within the system in the past?
2. How does this help to ensure equitable access for all?
3. How does this help to eliminate barriers based on race/ethnicity, gender, disability, age, or other protected groups?
4. How does this ensure that the same rigorous standards for academic performance exist for all students?

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Equity & Access

The White Bear Lake Area School District is committed to equity and access to quality instruction for all students supported with safe and best practices during a pandemic.

Our schools have a responsibility to be culturally and linguistically responsive and meet the needs of ALL students, including language support for English learners and support for students with disabilities. All students must have opportunities to achieve academic success that are accessible, personalized, culturally relevant, and responsive.

Requesting an Interpreter

Families can request that a district staff member call them through the use of an interpreter who speaks the language they speak. Information about how to make the request can be found in text and audio translations, in all languages spoken by students in the district, on the district website.

How to Request a Call
with an Interpreter

Cultural Liaisons

Our cultural liaisons work with students, families, and staff throughout the district to increase student and parent engagement with various programs and district activities.

- Miles Webb Sr., African American Cultural Liaison
- Briana Santoscoy, K-12 Latino Cultural Liaison
- Amy Ottaviani, Early Childhood Latino Cultural Liaison
- Nirvana Yang, Hmong & Asian American Cultural Liaison
- Jordan Zickermann, Native American Cultural Liaison

Meet our Cultural
Liaisons

Access to Student Supports

Our Student Support Services Department, Special Education and Section 504 staff members will work with families to ensure their child receives the appropriate accommodations, services and supports.

Access to Technology

All middle school and high school students in White Bear Lake Area Schools are provided with district-issued Chromebooks. Elementary families who are in need of a Chromebook for their student may request one from the district. Additionally, district-issued wifi hotspots are available to families who are in need of internet access.

Those who need assistance with technology can email parenttechhelp@isd624.org or call the Parent Tech Help Line at 651-407-7637.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Social Emotional Learning

The White Bear Lake Area School District recognizes the social-emotional impact of the pandemic including fear, loss and isolation. The District has committed to increasing mental health supports for students in the upcoming school year, including a renewed focus on social-emotional learning.

Attending to the social-emotional well-being of our students will be a top priority as they return to school.

Links to District Resources:



SUPPORT HUB

Support Hub

The Support Hub serves as a place for families to access information such as crisis services, basic needs, mental health and well-being, physical health, racial justice, social emotional learning and more.

Free Bear Care
Mental Wellness
Support Line

Free Bear Care Mental Wellness Support Line

The Free Bear Care Mental Wellness Support Line is now available at 651-653-2980 to connect district families to resources that can meet the mental wellness needs of their children ages birth-age 21.

Free Bear Care
Health & Wellness
Clinic

Free Bear Care Health & Wellness Clinic

White Bear Lake Area Schools is partnering with the St. Catherine University Nursing Department to provide students with free health assessments and treatment.

Academics

The White Bear Lake Area School District believes excellent teachers and staff members are essential to student success. Whether our students are learning in the classroom or at home, our teachers will provide quality instruction and support our students through engaging learning experiences that promote and encourage reading, writing, critical thinking, and communicating.

The Distance Learning model option that will be offered this fall will look different than it did in the spring, as both synchronous and asynchronous learning will be offered throughout the district.

Activities

White Bear Lake Area High School Activities - The WBLAHS Activities Office will offer extracurricular activities as appropriate. Each activity affiliated with the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) will adhere to the established guidelines as defined by the MSHSL, CDC, and MDH for health and safety.

Youth Enrichment, Recreation, Middle School Sports - Community Services & Recreation provides safe programs and opportunities for students and families, following guidelines from the MDH, MDE, and CDC. Programs will be adapted as necessary to be able to provide opportunities for all while following the most current guidance provided by the state.

Students who choose the District's virtual learning option will still be allowed to participate in athletics/extracurricular activities.

Attendance

The district will follow the MN Dept. of Education attendance reporting requirements. Students who choose a Distance Learning model option will be required to attend class and meet attendance requirements.

Calendar

Monday, Sept. 14 will be the first day for all Gr K-12+ Hybrid Learning Model Group A (Last names A-K) and all students who have chosen Distance Learning, and the first day of Early Childhood programming. Tuesday, Sept. 15 will be the first day for all Gr K-12+ Hybrid Group B (Last Names L-Z), who may also be given the opportunity to participate in virtual activities on Monday, Sept. 14.

A revised 2020-21 Calendar will be presented for action at the Sept. 14 School Board meeting. Any modifications to the calendar will be communicated to families through the district's usual protocol.

Communication

Ensuring Contact Info is Up-To-Date - Families will receive communications from their child's teacher, principal and the district throughout the school year at the contact information provided by families. Please ensure your contact information is up-to-date in the student management system, Skyward.

Email, Voicemail, Text Messages - District-wide messages will be sent by communications@isd624.org or 651-407-7530. Families can opt in to receive text messages from the district, which are sent periodically when important messages are shared. Find information about opting in to receive text messages [here](#).

Interpretation and Translation - Families can request that a district staff member call them through the use of an interpreter. Information about how to make the request can be found in text/audio translations, in all languages spoken by students in the district, on the district website. Hmong and Spanish landing pages are available on the district website, offering families the most important information in those two languages. Translations of all pages of the website are available through Google Translate. Additionally, our Latino and Hmong Cultural Liaisons share district-wide messages in Spanish and Hmong.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

Nutrition Services

- Breakfast and Lunch will be available on-site each day and will be provided to take home on days students are not in school.
- Meals will be pre-packaged or served directly to students, no self-service.
- Meal will be served in the cafeteria and other spaces that allow social distancing.
- Students will come to the cafeteria to pick up meals on a staggered schedule to allow for physical distancing.

School-Age Care

All school-age care options will follow social distancing, face coverings, and other requirements in place as deemed necessary by the MDH, MDE, and CDC. The following options will be available given the chosen learning model and the district will continue to assess its capacity to provide childcare options:

- **In-person Learning Model** - A fee-based before and after school childcare option will be available for interested families.
- **Hybrid Learning Model**
 - School day childcare options will be available at no cost for children grades K-6 of Tier 1 critical workers as defined by the state during regular school hours for distance and independent learning days.
 - A fee-based school day childcare option may be available for children of non-Tier 1 critical workers grades K-8 on their distance and independent learning days, depending on building space and capacity.
 - Students will receive support for synchronous learning time on their independent learning days.
 - A fee-based before and after school option will be available for interested families outside of the regular school hours.
- **Distance Learning Model**
 - School day childcare options will be available at no cost for children grades K-6 of Tier 1 critical workers as defined by the state during regular school hours.
 - A fee-based school day childcare option will be available for children grades K-8 of non-Tier 1 critical workers.
 - Students will receive support for synchronous learning time daily.
 - Families interested in before and after school care can register for extended hours for a fee.

Those with questions regarding school-age care options can contact the Extended Day Program directly at 651-407-7511 or find information at isd624.org/Fall2020SchoolAgeCare.

Transportation

Transporting students safely to school is a significant challenge during these times. Families are encouraged to transport students to school when possible. The following transportation protocols will be followed:

- All riders were to have requested transportation by Aug. 16.
- Distances to qualify for transportation are extended to 1 mile for K-5 students and 1.5 miles for students in grades 6-12.
- Families are expected to screen their child for symptoms prior to boarding the bus.
- All riders and staff will be required to wear face coverings.
- Students will spread out to the extent possible.
- Buses will be disinfected following every bus run with attention to high touch areas.
- Only one bus address per student. We may not be able to coordinate different stops on different days.
- Bus windows will be kept partially open, if appropriate and safe, while the vehicle is in motion to help increase air circulation.
- Limit the number of students on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy for hybrid schools, spread out as feasible for full attendance schools.

Feedback

White Bear Lake Area Schools values the partnership we have with families, including feedback collected through various means this spring and summer.

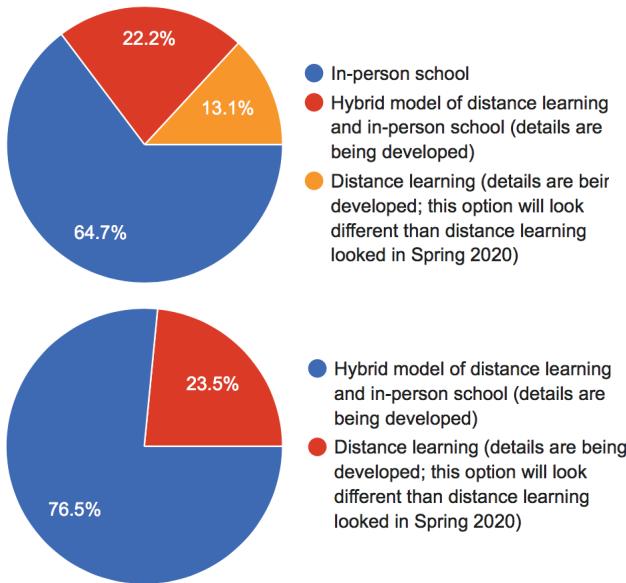
Family Input

Families have provided input that helped build options for Fall 2020 through a variety of ways:

- Teachers and staff members contacted all families by phone in the spring to collect feedback about supports that were needed to help students be successful.
- All families were invited to complete a short survey in late-June, indicating their learning model preferences and transportation needs.
- All families were invited to participate in a conversation via thoughtexchange, a crowdsourcing platform that allows users to submit ideas, rate others' ideas and see a snapshot of the conversation. Students were invited to participate in a separate online conversation, as well.
- Principals sent families Preference Opt-In surveys in early-August.
- We will continue to engage families and solicit feedback as we strive to best serve our students and families.

June Survey Results

- The June survey had 5,971 responses.
- 59.1% of families indicated they would have their child use district transportation if school were In-person.
- When asked about preferred learning model, the In-person Learning Model was preferred by 64.7% of respondents.
- When asked about preferred learning model when In-person Learning was not available, a Hybrid Model was preferred by 76.5% of respondents.



thoughtexchange Results

- The July thoughtexchange had 2,681 participants, 4,237 thoughts shared, and 102,806 ratings given.
- Common themes:
 - Results were pretty evenly split between those who wish for students to go back to school in person and those who wish for the distance learning model to be implemented.
 - Safety was a strong theme that resonated with exchange participants, regardless of feelings about in-person or distance learning.
 - Participants voiced the opinion that if Distance Learning were to be used this fall, it must look different than the model looked in the spring.
 - Participants asked for frequent communication from the district.

LEARNING MODELS

Minnesota's Safe Learning Plan

White Bear Lake Area Schools will be using the state's localized, data-driven approach to the 2020-21 school year to help students learn safely.

Decision-Making Process

1. Consider county-level data to determine MDE's Recommended Base Learning Model
2. Consult with health officials to examine local data and consider impact on schools
3. Evaluate our district's ability to implement required and recommended protocols (i.e. staffing, transportation, supplies, protocols, physical distancing)
4. Determine the learning model to begin the school year
5. Monitor community and school-level impact of COVID on a regular basis and adjust if needed

Number of cases per 10,000 over 14 days, by county of residence	Recommended Base Learning Model
0-9	In-person learning for all students
10-19	In-person learning for elementary students; Hybrid learning for secondary
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students
30-49	Hybrid learning for elementary students; Distance learning for secondary students
50+	Distance learning for all students

Source: [Minnesota's Safe Learning Plan](#)

Moving Between Learning Models

The COVID-19 pandemic is changing the way we do school. Our goal is to safely return to school to learn and reconnect with our students.

It is very likely that we will have to change our learning format throughout the year - sometimes meeting in person or in a Hybrid Learning Model and sometimes moving ALL students to Distance Learning - depending on the prevalence of COVID-19 in our community. Families and staff will need to be flexible and have alternative plans should we move to In-Person, Hybrid or Distance Learning district-wide or at an individual school or classroom level. The District will attempt to provide as much notice as possible in that situation.

The district will work with families who request to switch between the available models during the school year. In order to maintain a safe classroom environment and appropriate class sizes, a wait time may be implemented for families who choose to switch from Distance to In-person or Hybrid Learning.

In-Person Learning

Hybrid Learning

Distance Learning

Less Restrictive



More Restrictive

Flexible Options

The district will offer flexible options that may include In-person Learning, Hybrid Learning and Distance Learning.

IN-PERSON LEARNING MODEL

An In-person Learning Model consists of in-person school with social distancing practices.

Glossary of Terms

- **Asynchronous Learning** - students complete their work on their own time within a given time frame.
- **Synchronous Learning** - classes occur on set schedules and time frames. Students and educators are online at the same time, interacting at different places but during the same time.

Important Notes

Families will have the option to choose Distance Learning when our district learning model includes In-Person or Hybrid Learning. The district will work with families who request to switch between the models during the school year. In order to maintain a safe classroom environment and appropriate class sizes, a wait time may be implemented for families who choose to switch from Distance to In-person or Hybrid Learning.

At any point during the school year, it may be necessary for a classroom, school, or the entire district to switch to the Distance Learning Model. The District will attempt to provide as much notice as possible in that situation.

Early Childhood, Early Childhood Special Ed (ECSE) and Bear FUNdamentals

We are prepared to support our early learners and their families in an in-person model, a hybrid model making the necessary programmatic adjustments to meet state guidelines, and a distance learning model.

Elementary (K-5)

Students will attend school on-site Monday through Thursday. Small group check-ins will be scheduled as needed per student on Fridays when all students are home for an independent learning day.

Middle School (6-8)

Students will attend school on-site Monday through Thursday. Small group check-ins will be scheduled as needed per student on Fridays when all students are home for an independent learning day.

High School (9-12)

Students will attend school on-site Monday through Thursday. Small group check-ins will be scheduled as needed per student on Fridays when all students are home for an independent learning day.

Transition Education Center

Students will attend school on-site Monday through Thursday. Small group check-ins will be scheduled as needed per student on Fridays when all students are home for an independent learning day.

Flexible Options

The district will offer flexible options that may include In-person Learning, Hybrid Learning and Distance Learning.

HYBRID LEARNING MODEL

A Hybrid Learning Model combines distance learning and in-person school with social distancing practices.

Glossary of Terms

- **Asynchronous Learning** - students complete their work on their own time within a given time frame.
- **Synchronous Learning** - classes occur on set schedules and time frames. Students and educators are online at the same time, interacting at different places but during the same time.

Important Notes

Families will have the option to choose Distance Learning when our district learning model includes In-Person or Hybrid Learning. The district will work with families who request to switch between the models during the school year. In order to maintain a safe classroom environment and appropriate class sizes, a wait time may be implemented for families who choose to switch from Distance to In-person or Hybrid Learning.

At any point during the school year, it may be necessary for a classroom, school, or the entire district to switch to the Distance Learning Model. The District will attempt to provide as much notice as possible in that situation.

Early Childhood, Early Childhood Special Ed (ECSE), Bear FUNDamentals & Transition Education Center (TEC)

We are prepared to support learners in an In-Person model, a Hybrid Model making the necessary programmatic adjustments to meet state guidelines, and a Distance Learning Model. Programs will contact families with additional information.

K-12

All students in grades K-12+ will be divided into two groups to reduce class size.

Each week, students in both groups will participate in a combination of in-person learning and distance learning (with a district-issued mobile device) by alternating between days.

The weekly schedule will mean that:

- Mon/Wed: Students with last names beginning with letters A-K attend school in-person. Students with last names beginning with letters L-Z are at home for distance learning.
- Tue/Thu: Students with last names beginning with letters L-Z attend school in-person. Students with last names beginning with letters A-K at home for distance learning.
- Fri: All students are at home for Independent Learning
 - Additional support for small groups of students either in-person, real-time digital learning, or remotely throughout the year for reinforcement or enrichment of learning.
 - Opportunity for students to complete learning activities for the previous learning days.
 - Additionally, teachers will have time to collaborate with colleagues to design high quality learning for our students.

Flexible Options

The district will offer flexible options that may include In-person Learning, Hybrid Learning and Distance Learning.

HYBRID LEARNING MODEL

A Hybrid Learning Model combines distance learning and in-person school with social distancing practices.

How Does Hybrid Learning Look for Elementary Students?

In-person days:

- Direct instruction mini-lessons for social/emotional learning, reading, writing, math, science and social studies.
- Partner, small group, or individual learning board activities aligned to learning goals
- Recess and outdoor experiences
- Intervention and extension activities

At-home days:

- View live or recorded direct instruction mini-lessons for social/emotional learning, reading, writing, math, science and social studies.
- Asynchronous completion of learning board activities that are aligned to learning goals

What Are the School Hours in the Hybrid Learning Model?

In the Hybrid Learning Model, schools will be dismissing one hour early to create work time for teachers.

The hours for Fall 2020 are:

- Elementary schools: 9:15 a.m. - 2:40 p.m.
- Middle schools: 8:05 a.m. - 2 p.m.
- North Campus: 7:30 a.m. - 1:15 p.m.
- South Campus: 7:40 a.m. - 1:20 p.m.
- ALC: 7:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
- TEC: 8 a.m. - 1 p.m.
- TAPP 9 a.m. - 1 p.m.

How Does Hybrid Learning Look for Middle School & High School Students?

	Relationship Building/Social Emotional Learning	"I DO" Direct Instruction	"WE DO" Supported Practice	"YOU (MUST) DO" Formative Assessment & Feedback	"YOU (CAN) DO" Reteaching and/or Choice-based extension
Hybrid (For kids in the building) Ex: Students in class 8:00-9:50	In-class activities ending with some sort of digital component (like a flipgrid video)	During 30 minutes of class time, possible blending of pre-uploaded activities and in-person direct instruction	30 minutes, Google Meet class time going on simultaneously	20 minutes of in-school time Turn in work digitally for equity and flexibility	The "At Home Day" Asynchronous reteaching/feedback application for kids who did not get it day 1 Opportunities for extension and application for kids who got it
Hybrid (For kids who choose distance learning) -or- Distance Learning Ex: Synchronous learning time 9:00-9:30	Pre-uploaded activities ending with a digital component (like a flipgrid video)	Asynchronous differentiated readings, instructional videos, etc.	Synchronous During 30 minutes Google Meet within class time	Asynchronous Turn in work digitally for equity and flexibility	Asynchronous reteaching/feedback application for kids who did not get it day 1 Opportunities for extension and application for kids who got it

Flexible Options

The district will offer flexible options that may include In-person Learning, Hybrid Learning and Distance Learning.

HYBRID LEARNING MODEL

A Hybrid Learning Model combines distance learning and in-person school with social distancing practices.

How Does the Weekly Schedule Work in Hybrid Learning?

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A (students with last names A-K)	 SCHOOL IN-PERSON LEARNING	 HOME DISTANCE LEARNING	 SCHOOL IN-PERSON LEARNING	 HOME DISTANCE LEARNING	 HOME INDEPENDENT LEARNING
Group B (students with last names L-Z)	 HOME DISTANCE LEARNING	 SCHOOL IN-PERSON LEARNING	 HOME DISTANCE LEARNING	 SCHOOL IN-PERSON LEARNING	 HOME INDEPENDENT LEARNING

All students in grades K-12 will be divided into two groups to reduce class size: Each week, students in both groups will participate in a combination of in-person learning and distance learning (with a district-issued mobile device) by alternating between days.

The weekly schedule will mean that:

- Mon/Wed: Students with last names beginning with letters A-K attend school in-person.
Students with last names beginning with letters L-Z are at home for distance learning.
- Tue/Thu: Students with last names beginning with letters L-Z attend school in-person.
Students with last names beginning with letters A-K at home for distance learning.
- Fri: All students are at home for Independent Learning.

If students from the same family have different last names, all students from that family will attend on the days of the week that correspond with the student last name that occurs earliest in the alphabet. (Ex: For siblings with last names Bear, Lake and School -- All siblings would go to school for in-person learning with Bear on Mondays and Wednesdays).

Flexible Options

The district will offer flexible options that may include In-person Learning, Hybrid Learning and Distance Learning.

DISTANCE LEARNING MODEL

A Distance Learning Model includes asynchronous and synchronous learning delivered online.

Glossary of Terms

- **Asynchronous Learning** - students complete their work on their own time within a given time frame.
- **Synchronous Learning** - classes occur on set schedules and time frames. Students and educators are online at the same time, interacting at different places but during the same time.

Important Note

Families will have the option to choose Distance Learning when our district learning model includes In-Person or Hybrid Learning. The district will work with families who request to switch between the models during the school year. In order to maintain a safe classroom environment and appropriate class sizes, a wait time may be implemented for families who choose to switch from Distance to In-person or Hybrid Learning.

Early Childhood, Early Childhood Special Ed (ECSE) and Bear FUNDamentals

We are prepared to support our early learners and their families in an in-person model, a hybrid model making the necessary programmatic adjustments to meet state guidelines, and a distance learning model.

Transition Education Center

Students will receive live digital lessons with their teachers twice weekly. On days when students aren't attending digital lessons, they will work individually, in virtual small groups online, and/or attend small group check-ins with their teachers.

Elementary (K-5)

Students will receive live digital mini-lessons in literacy including reading and writing, math, and morning meeting/social and emotional learning daily Mon-Thu. Digital mini-lessons in either science or social studies will be delivered at least twice weekly. Learning Boards will serve as the foundation for communication of weekly learning goals and will include reinforcement and enrichment activities. Specialist time will be added after the school year starts. This schedule will be created in collaboration with specialist educators. Small group digital check-ins will be scheduled as needed per individual student.

Middle School (6-8)

Students will receive live digital lessons with their teachers twice weekly. On days when students aren't attending digital lessons, they will work individually, in virtual small groups online, and/or attend small group check-ins with their teachers.

High School (9-12)

Students will receive live digital lessons with their teachers twice weekly. On days when students aren't attending digital lessons, they will work individually, in virtual small groups online, and/or attend small group check-ins with their teachers.

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES

Stay Healthy

The White Bear Lake Area School District will promote behaviors that reduce the spread of infectious diseases by educating our students, faculty and staff about routine, regular handwashing, wearing face coverings, and sanitizing spaces and high touch surface areas.

As public health guidelines change, the District will adjust plans accordingly.

General Safety Precautions Throughout the Day

- Staff will disinfect high touch areas in classrooms, hallways, and restrooms throughout the day. Disinfecting wipes and/or spray disinfectant will be supplied.
- Building ventilation systems will be running at optimum capacity before school occupancy and throughout the day.
- Enhanced disinfecting will take place each evening following MDH guidance.
- Hand sanitizers will be provided in various locations throughout the buildings.
- Classrooms with sinks will be supplied with sufficient inventory of soap and paper towels for handwashing.
- Drinking fountains will be disabled, but the bottle filler function will still work (we added several of these over the summer.)
- Front office and health office desks will be provided a plexiglass barrier.

Classroom Procedures

- Staff and students will wear face coverings and use social distancing.
- Regular handwashing will be encouraged throughout the day.
- Classroom surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day.
- Classrooms will be disinfected every evening.



HEALTHY REMINDERS

Keep 6 feet from others	Wash your hands often	Wear a face covering	Cover your cough & sneezes

Go (*Stay Healthy*) Bears!

Student Safety & Health Protocols

- Cloth masks/face coverings will be available for students in youth and standard sizes.
- Disposable 3-ply Medical/Surgical masks will be provided in situations where a student does not have access to a mask for the day. These will be available in youth and standard sizes.
- Safety information will be posted frequently throughout the building, reminding students and staff of healthy habits and social distancing expectations.
- Restrooms, cafeterias, and water bottle fillers will have floor signage encouraging social distancing while students are in line.
- Handwashing will be incorporated into daily classroom routines.

HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES

Stay Apart

Social distancing is important to ensure the health and wellness of our students and staff as it will help limit the spread of the virus. Social distancing will need to be practiced in all classes, courses, and spaces.

We will work together with our students and families to keep our children safe as we transition to a new school year.

As public health guidelines change, the District will adjust plans accordingly.

Schools will implement the following strategies to maintain smaller groups of students in shared spaces:

- Modify school schedules and/or courses if social distancing is not feasible or if there is an increased risk of spread (Ex. Choir, Band); Alternative accommodations and scheduling options will be considered.
- Face coverings required inside district buildings.
- Limit visitors on campus.
- Keep students in smaller groups.
- Space desks to the extent possible for desks to be spaced six feet apart.
- Serve meals in socially distanced settings.
- Serve individually plated or boxed meals.
- Stagger lunches, recesses, and other transition times.
- Where possible, keep student groups from mixing.
- Do not host large gatherings such as assemblies and dances.
- Identify a sick room for students who are not feeling well to minimize contact with others until they are able to go home.





FACE COVERING GUIDE

FACE COVERING MEANS

- » A cloth or paper disposable mask, scarf, bandana, or religious face covering that covers the mouth and nose completely.

FACE SHIELD MEANS

- » A clear face shield that extends below the chin in the front, to the ears on the sides and with no gap between the forehead and the headpiece.

FACE COVERING REQUIRED

- » When I am moving through the building - including classrooms, hallways, communal spaces, and public spaces.
- » When I am outdoors in situations where social distancing cannot be maintained.
- » On all District-provided transportation.

FACE COVERING DOES NOT MEAN

- » Any mask or other item that includes a valve, hole, gaps or openings to facilitate easier breathing, or is made of a material such as mesh with such openings.
- » Safety goggles that cover only the eyes or only the eyes and nose.

Students encouraged to **Bring Their Own Mask**. Disposable face coverings available in each building front office.

WEAR YOUR FACE COVERING CORRECTLY



FACE COVERING EXEMPTIONS

- » Individuals with a medical condition, mental health condition, or disability that makes it unreasonable to maintain a face covering.
- » If there is a medical reason that a student cannot wear a face covering or face shield, a parent must present medical documentation to Health Services.
- » If there is a developmental or behavioral reason that a student cannot wear a face covering or face shield, a parent must work with their 504 or IEP team.
- » NOTE: Children who are under two years old should never wear a face covering.

FACE COVERING ALTERNATIVES

- » Face coverings are preferred; however, face shields will be provided for students if they meet the face covering exemptions.

FACE COVERING MAY BE TEMPORARILY REMOVED IF SOCIAL DISTANCING CAN BE MAINTAINED

- » When engaging in indoor physical activity (e.g. during recess, after school sports, or when exercising in a gym) where the level of exertion makes wearing a face covering difficult, and during classes or activities held outdoors.
- » When pre-kindergarten students age 5 years and younger are participating in programming in a school building or district office.
- » To eat or drink, but care should be taken to maintain as much space as possible between people.



WHAT DOES OUR RETURN TO SCHOOL LOOK LIKE?

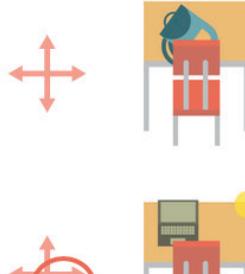
DISTANCE LEARNING

For students who opt in and for well students who are quarantined, we will offer distance learning



STUDENTS

Teachers will assign seats and place desks and tables in rows. Shared learning tools and materials will be limited



ADDITIONAL SANITIZATION PROCEDURES

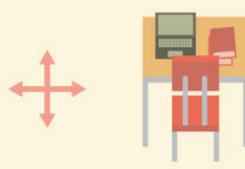
Frequently touched areas such as chairs, desks and doors will be sanitized nightly

STAFF

Staff will receive training about maintaining safe environments, COVID symptoms and teaching techniques while maintaining a safe physical distance

FACE COVERINGS

Per the Governor's mandate, all people who are able to wear a face covering need to do so inside school buildings



SPECIALS/ELECTIVES

Instruction for some specials/electives may take place inside the classroom

HAND SANITIZING

Hand sanitizing dispensers will be available at all entry points to the building and inside classrooms

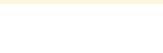
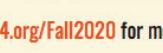
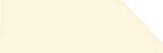
CLEAN AIR

We will be doing our best with our existing ventilation systems to increase fresh air and accelerate filtration changes per CDC and MDH guidance



SIGNAGE

Signs will be placed around the school to remind students and staff to practice healthy habits that prevent the spread of germs

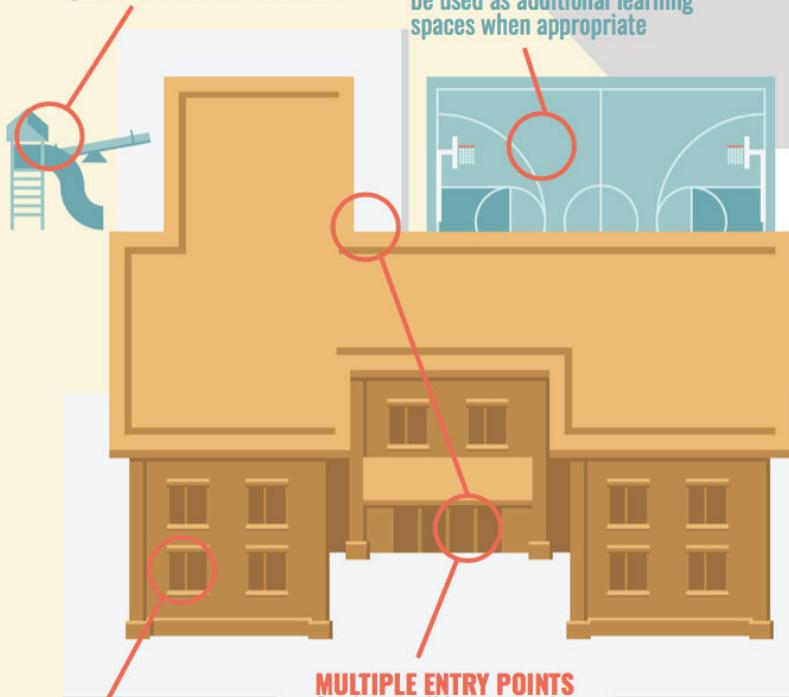


WB
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WHAT DOES OUR RETURN TO SCHOOL LOOK LIKE?

PLAYGROUNDS

Outdoor areas such as playgrounds will be open. Students will be reminded to stay 6 feet apart. Additional cleaning and sanitizing will take place on these hard surfaces



ISOLATION ROOMS

A dedicated space will be available to individuals displaying symptoms to be isolated until they can be picked up

BUS

Seats will be assigned and the loading and unloading of students will be coordinated to maintain physical distancing

WATER FOUNTAINS

Water bottles can be refilled, but drinking fountains will be turned off

OUTDOOR SPACES

Fields, courts and open areas will be used as additional learning spaces when appropriate



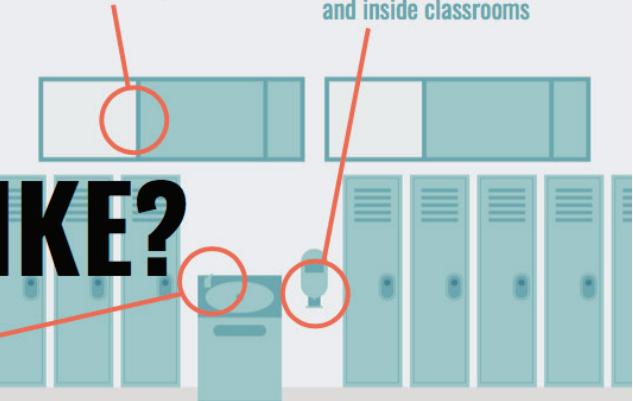
MULTIPLE ENTRY POINTS

Students will be assigned specific doors to enter to reduce bottlenecks and maintain physical distancing



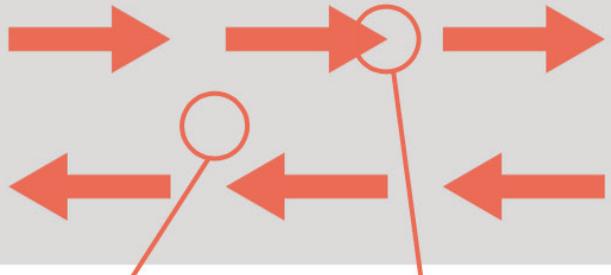
WINDOWS

To increase the flow of fresh air circulation, we will open windows when possible



HAND SANITIZING

Hand sanitizing dispensers will be available at all entry points to the building and inside classrooms



FLOORING

Hard surface flooring will be sanitized with an antimicrobial coating



CONTROLLED TRAFFIC PATTERNS

School leaders and teachers will work together to schedule the movement of classes in the building. Arrows for traffic patterns will be in hallways

FOOD SERVICE

Meals will be delivered to classrooms and students will eat lunch at their desk, while keeping a safe distance from others



REDUCE CONGREGATION

We will reduce the number of people gathering in areas like the cafeteria, main office and locker rooms. There will be no large assemblies. Visitors to the school will be limited

WB
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HEALTH & SAFETY GUIDELINES

Screening

It is the expectation of the White Bear Lake Area School District that families, students and staff will self screen at home before coming to school.

As public health guidelines change, the District will adjust plans accordingly.

Stay Home When Sick

If a student is sick, or has an infected person in their household, please stay at home. If a student becomes ill while at school, the student will be isolated, and parents will be required to pick up the student in an immediate manner.

Parents are asked to notify the school if a student has symptoms associated with COVID-19 or has been in close contact with someone who has been diagnosed with, or is showing symptoms of, COVID-19. Close contact is defined as being 6 feet or less for more than 15 minutes without wearing a mask.

Symptoms

New onset cough or shortness of breath by themselves

OR at least 2 of the following:

- Fever (100°F or higher) or Chills
- Headache
- Muscle Pain
- Sore Throat
- Fatigue
- Congestion
- Loss of Sense of Smell or Taste
- Gastrointestinal Symptoms (diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea)

Anyone experiencing ANY of these symptoms should NOT attend school

By acting quickly, we can also determine if other close contacts need to be quarantined and if deep cleaning may be required for any schools or buses. If quarantined, it is imperative that students DO NOT enter ANY WBLAS property/facility until they are cleared. Students returning to school must be fever free for at least 3 days.

The Minnesota Department of Health may be notified if the district becomes aware that a student has tested positive, and may include those individuals in “close contact” to assist the MDH in their contact tracing efforts.

COVID-19 PROTOCOLS

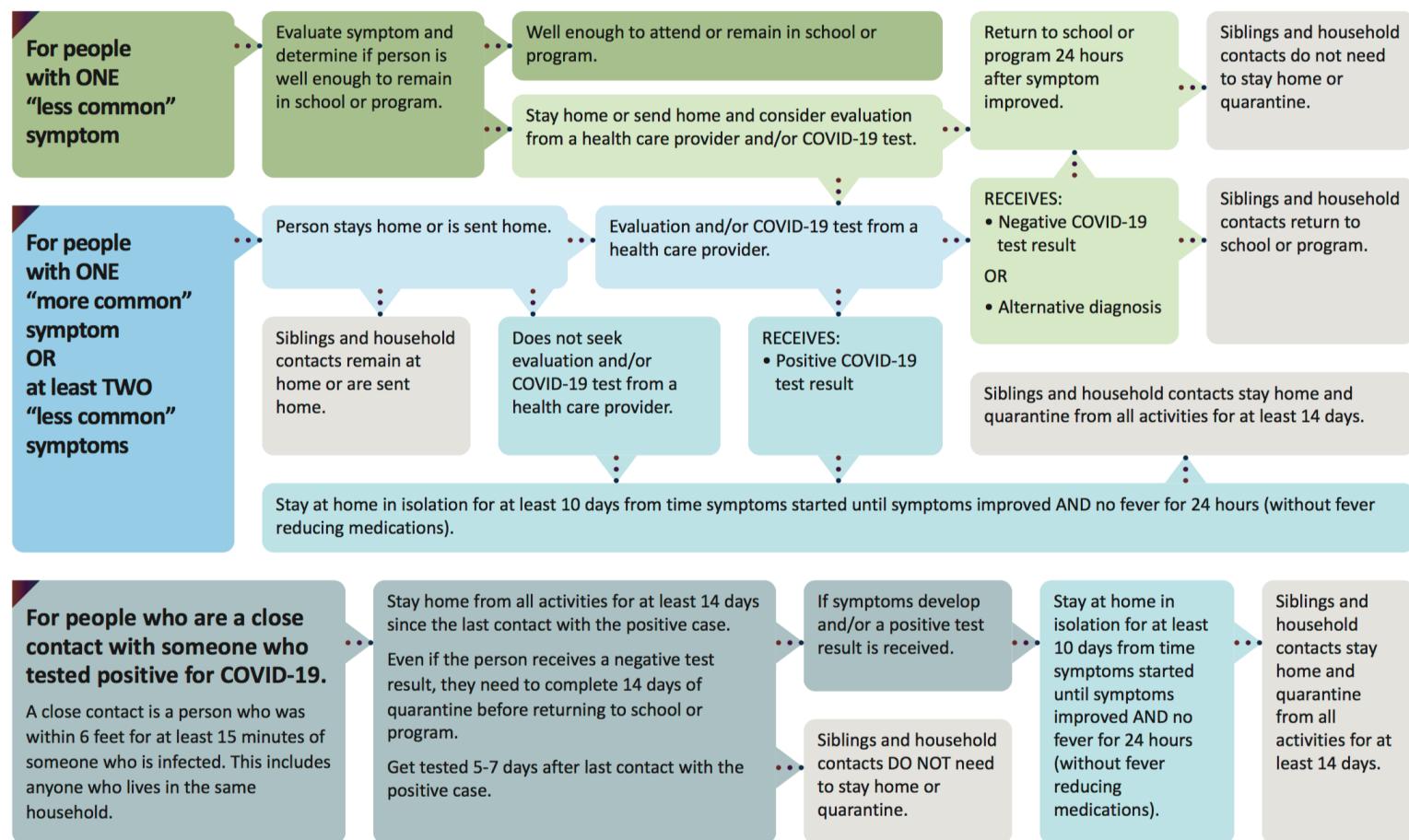
Decision Tree

White Bear Lake Area Schools will follow the Minnesota Department of Health guidance if a child, student or staff member is experiencing symptoms consistent with COVID-19.

COVID-19 Decision Tree for People in Schools, Youth, and Child Care Programs

Follow the appropriate path if a child, student, or staff person is experiencing the following symptoms consistent with COVID-19:

- **More common:** fever greater than or equal to 100.4°F, new onset and/or worsening cough, difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell.
- **Less common:** sore throat, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, chills, muscle pain, excessive fatigue, new onset of severe headache, new onset of nasal congestion or runny nose.



STAY SAFE MN

Minnesota Department of Health | health.mn.gov | 651-201-5000
 625 Robert Street North PO Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975
 Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format. | 8/31/2020

Source: [Minnesota Department of Health](http://mn.gov/health/)

PRACTICE AT HOME

Helping Students Prepare

The guidelines WBLAS will implement to address the challenges of COVID-19 in the upcoming school year may seem uncomfortable to students at first. Try these tips from our Mental Wellness Team to help your child prepare at home...

TALK TO YOUR CHILD
about returning to school in September

MODEL AT HOME
wearing a face covering, washing your hands & demonstrating six feet of distance

Allow your child to **PICK OUT A FACE COVERING** that is comfortable to them

PRACTICE putting on & taking off a face covering. You can PRACTICE with a favorite doll or stuffed animal

Encourage your child to **ASK QUESTIONS** and communicate their feelings

Help your child think of **ALTERNATIVE WAYS TO SAY HELLO** like...

VIRTUAL HUG



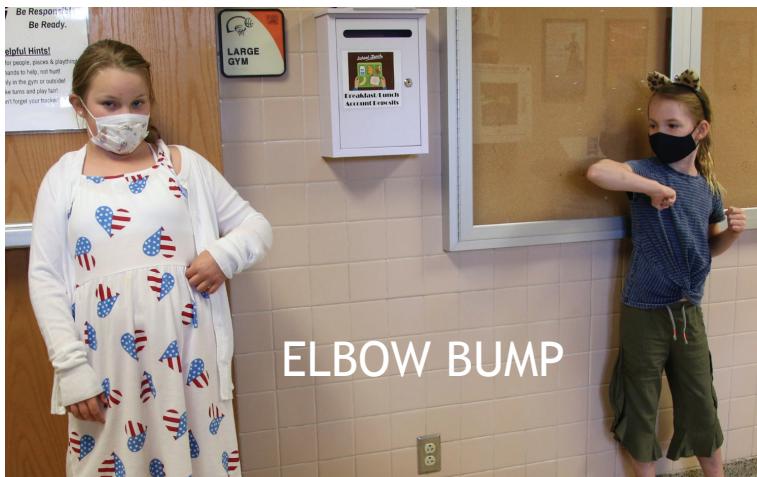
DANCE PARTY



RAISE THE ROOF



ELBOW BUMP



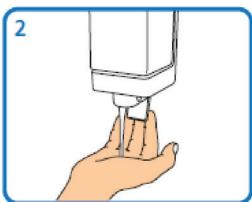
Practice **PROPER HANDWASHING** while learning the WBLAHS school song...

Go (Wash Your Hands) Bears!

**Hand-washing technique
with soap and water**



White Bear High School,
fight on to fame.



White Bear is our glorious
name.



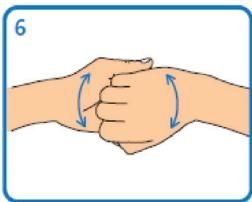
We'll always win and we'll
always fight,



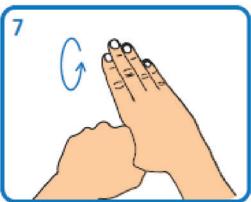
Cheer Orange, Black and
White!



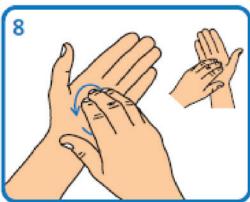
Rah! Rah! Rah!



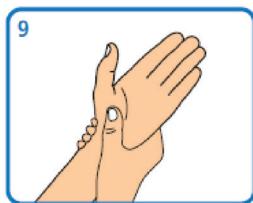
Mighty Bears, we'll fight
to the end.



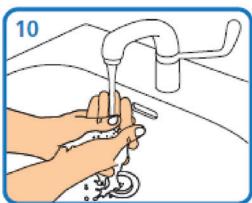
Always we'll be true



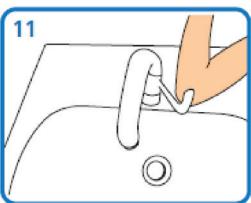
So, fight, Bears, let's fight
on forever!



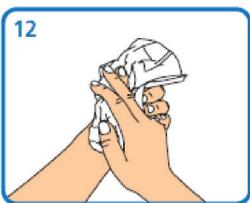
On to victory!



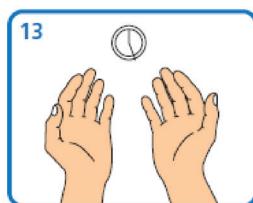
V....I...C...T...O...R...Y



Victory, Victory for White
Bear High!



Go Bears!



Go (Wash Your Hands)
Bears!

Create your own
<https://washyourlyrics.com>

Adapted from National Health Service, who adapted from the World Health Organization Guidelines on Hand Hygiene in Health Care.

Created under the Open Government License. See <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3/> for details

Resources Used to Build the Plans

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF PEDIATRICS

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

U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL & PREVENTION

[Operating Schools](#)

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

[2020-2021 Planning for Schools](#)

[Decision Tree for People with COVID-19 Symptoms](#)

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[Safe Learning Plan for 2020-21](#)