During summer 2020, a group of WIS faculty and administrators (the Distance Learning Task Force) reviewed the Distance Learning program WIS implemented between March and June 2020. Analysis of our program, coupled with research of emerging best practices from schools across the world, allowed us to refine our practices and procedures to create our Distance Learning 2.0 program.

The following recommendations were essential in revising the Primary School Distance Learning program WIS will deliver in medium- or high-risk scenarios (hybrid or full distance learning, respectively):

- Build community within classes
- Foster teacher/student relationships
- Allow for student self-management (age-appropriate)
- Establish daily routines
- Differentiate instruction — facilitated through small group, 1:1, and independent work
- Balance synchronous and asynchronous learning within blocks of time

Primary School faculty remain committed and ready to continue to plan and implement the outstanding learning experiences which are the hallmark of a WIS education.

**What is the daily schedule for Distance Learning?**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:30–9:00 AM</td>
<td>“Get Moving” with Mr. Cahir, Ms. Coyne, and Mr. Cameron (optional)</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00–9:30 AM</td>
<td>MORNING MEETING</td>
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<td>Community building, reviewing plan for the day</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30–9:45 AM</td>
<td>Prepare materials for the day; snack</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:45–11:00 AM</td>
<td>Math inquiry and instruction</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00–11:20 AM</td>
<td>BREAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:20 AM – 12:30 PM</td>
<td>Language inquiry and instruction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30–1:00 PM</td>
<td>LUNCH &amp; LEARN (optional)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Open discussion — e.g. listening to/discussing music or an art demonstration</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00–2:00 PM</td>
<td>SINGLE SUBJECT PROJECT</td>
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<td>Week-long project. Small-group Zooms and 1:1 check-ins throughout the week</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00–3:00 PM</td>
<td>Independent inquiry, practice, and student-teacher conferences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00–3:30 PM</td>
<td>CLOSING CIRCLE</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Community building, review and reflection about the day, closing messages</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- Math and language inquiry and instruction sessions are teacher-led blocks of time when students will be required to work synchronously and asynchronously.
- The Lunch and Learn schedule will be sent out next week.
- Single Subjects: Students will have a week-long project to complete for their scheduled single subject, due on Fridays.
- Independent inquiry practice and student-teacher conferences: Students will have project-based engagements connected to the Unit of Inquiry and assigned reading and math practice to
complete asynchronously. Teachers will schedule 1:1 sessions and small-group conferences to recap, reinforce, reteach, and check in with students.

**How will we receive the individual class lesson plans?**
Families will receive Learning Guides that include: a child-friendly checklist for each day, group members for specific tasks/meetings, materials needed and Zoom links.

**Learning Guides for Monday, August 24 and Tuesday, August 25 will be issued on August 21, as Google slides available via Seesaw. Learning Guides will be sent on Tuesdays and Thursdays from then on.**

Beginning August 31, students in Grades 3–5 will use Google Classroom as their learning platform. Grades 3–5 Learning Guides will be posted in their Google Classroom. We will send parent training and help guides next week.

Students in Grades 1 and 2 will use Seesaw as their learning platform as it is the appropriate tool for this age group.

**What are the expectations for my child?**
Students should be “ready for school” in a quiet space. They will need headphones (with a built-in microphone) and should have the WIS materials pack available. The pack will contain school supplies, math manipulatives, and notebooks.

Students should take the scheduled breaks away from their work space.

Attendance will be taken during Morning Meeting. Please inform the teacher and Tony Fletcher (tony.fletcher@wis.edu) if your child is absent.

**What is the Distance Learning content?**
On August 24 the School will share a Curriculum Overview for each grade level, showing the Unit of Inquiry with the math and language curriculum outcomes to be taught during the first weeks of school. Our counselors have prepared materials that teachers will use during Morning Meetings and Closing Circles in order to build community, establish relationships, and foster self-management skills (based on recommendations from the Distance Learning Task Force).

**How will start-of-year assessments work during Distance Learning?**
Formative assessment will be the focus for the start of the year. It is the collection of information about what a student knows, understands, and can do through observation, conversation, student self-reflections, and engagement in learning activities. Teachers use formative assessments to collect data about students’ understanding of stated curriculum outcomes and learning needs. Teachers will ask students to read aloud and complete comprehension activities, mathematics activities, and thinking routines — these are a few examples of formative assessment. Interactions between teachers and a student provide information about individual students that teachers use to deliver differentiated instruction in small group meetings.
How will my child in FAL/SAL be supported through Distance Learning?
Our FAL/SAL teachers will support language learners through synchronous and asynchronous engagements. The FAL/SAL schedule is integrated into the class schedule. This means that FAL/SAL teachers have the ability to pull out language learners and work with them in small groups and even 1:1, depending on student needs. Similarly, the schedule allows FAL/SAL teachers to join activities in the immersion classroom and work with students in that environment. Our FAL/SAL teachers will use a range of resources and interactive methods to work with students. They also will communicate regularly with immersion classroom teachers regarding learner progress and the best ways to meet student needs.

How will my child receive extra Student Support during Distance Learning?
Our Student Support Team will provide support by continuing their work from last year. Angela Myler, the learning specialist, will contact parents and arrange times to provide support. We have a referral process as in years past. Please contact Angela (angela.myler@wis.edu) with any questions.

Our Counselors are available for consultation/calls/support as needed. In addition, they will be in classes and conducting specific lessons with each grade level.

What other opportunities are available, especially in French and Spanish?
We are putting together a schedule of opt-in opportunities to share as soon as possible. If you are interested in offering something fun in French, Spanish, or any other language, contact Lilia Aparicio, Co-Curricular Associate, at lilia.aparicio@wis.edu.

If you are interested in securing the services of a tutor, please contact our Learning Specialist Angela Myler for further details.

A limited number of after school enrichment classes taught by WIS teachers and outside providers will begin on September 8, 2020. All classes will be delivered virtually and take place between 3:00 PM and 6:00 PM. Private music lessons will take place virtually for the entire school year. If you have any questions regarding after school opportunities for your child(ren), contact Yannin Garcia, Co-Curricular Associate, at yannin.garcia@wis.edu.

Parent Feedback
Your feedback is vital to a positive and successful Distance Learning program. We know every one of our students is experiencing this pandemic differently and every family is working out how to make it work.

While we cannot design a program to suit the needs of every home situation, we will be asking for feedback on Distance Learning 2.0 through a parent and faculty survey the week of September 21. This provides several weeks for everyone to become accustomed to the schedule. By late September, we will also know whether conditions will allow us to move to the Hybrid Model or if we will continue with Distance Learning.

As we work together through this start of the semester, our doors are open! We will be scheduling parent Zoom calls with grade levels to check in and answer questions throughout the next few weeks. Be on the lookout for these invitations.