

# **Weatherford Public Schools Safe Return Plan**

**2021-2022**

*Revised: June 21, 2021*

**PLEASE NOTE: The details in this document are subject to change based on directives from governing authorities and health officials responding to new information and/or risk assessments.**

## **Return to Learn Update**

As we plan for the upcoming school year, we continue to face some uncertainty regarding the impact of COVID-19. District policies and practices will remain fluid as we respond to new information and work through any issues associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Some of the precautions/protocols that were developed during the past year may continue. We ask that all families help to reinforce the importance of following the recommended safety guidelines, which will minimize the potential spread and keep our schools open. This document is a working document which will change as needed based on the current COVID-19 status and recommendations of health professionals and/or the Department of Education. It is not intended to be a complete plan, but an initial outline of strategies and protocols based on the current community health threat to our students and staff.

## **WPS Learning Options (2021-2022 School Year)**

Parents will be given an option to choose one of two learning environments for each of their children. Should you have questions, please contact your child's principal. Phone numbers and email addresses can be found on the WPS website.

- *Option 1: In-Person Learning (Grades Pk-12)*
- *Option 2: Virtual Learning (Grades K – 12)*

## **Interruptions at School/Continuity of Academic Services**

In the event of a large outbreak of COVID-19, WPS may decide to activate distance learning for all students who select "In-Person Learning." In the event of a disruption, WPS will have measures in place to ensure continuity of student learning. Students with Special Needs Individualized Education Plans (IEP), 504 Plans, and English Language Academic Plans will be followed with the assistance of site principals. District-related service providers, such as speech and OT/PT, will be in contact with students and parents to arrange for continued services within the constraints of the public health crisis. IEP and 504 meetings will be held in person unless a request is made for a phone or video conference. All IEP/504 team members are required to participate. For information about IEP and 504 plans, contact Melissa Jarvis at [mjarvis@wpsok.org](mailto:mjarvis@wpsok.org). For information about English Language Services, you may contact Doug Gunselman at [dgunselman@wpsok.org](mailto:dgunselman@wpsok.org)

## **Continuity of Non-Academic Services**

If distance learning is activated due to COVID-19, WPS will have the capability to provide free drive-thru/pick up meal services for all students.

### **Social, Emotional, Mental Health Services**

- All school sites will maintain full-time counselors.
- WPS is the recipient of the Project AWARE Grant. This grant has been implemented to increase mental health awareness and accessibility to mental health treatment.
- AWARE Counselors: [Stephanie Perkins-sperkins@wpsok.org](mailto:Stephanie.Perkins-sperkins@wpsok.org) or [Kelly Lackey-klackey@wpsok.org](mailto:Kelly.Lackey-klackey@wpsok.org)

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## **Health Monitoring of Students**

It is important that all families partner with the district in monitoring the health of students and families. Students with a fever or other prominent COVID-19 symptoms (dry cough, shortness of breath, congestion, runny nose, nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, sore throat, body aches, chills, etc.) should not be sent to school until they are fever-free (without medication) for 24 hours. Families are expected to monitor the health of their children. Parents or guardians will need to notify the school if their child is symptomatic or has had possible exposure to COVID-19. If anyone in your household has had a possible exposure to COVID-19 and is being tested, please quarantine your student until test results are received.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) continues to update COVID-19 guidelines including quarantine recommendations. WPS will utilize the latest guidelines provided by the CDC as well as guidance from state and local health department officials when making decisions regarding cases of and/or exposures to COVID-19. Click the link to view full details from the CDC website. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov>

## **Vaccinations**

To promote health and wellness in our school and community, WPS will work closely with community partners (e.g., local pharmacies, Custer County Health Department, Indian Health Services) to facilitate access to COVID-19 vaccinations for all eligible students, faculty, and staff.

## **Quarantine Policy**

WPS will follow the updated CDC guidelines for quarantining. Click the link to view full quarantine details from the CDC website. <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>

## **Facial Coverings**

Currently, there are no facial coverings requirements. Facial coverings are an option for students, staff, and guests to wear, but are not required.

## **Physical Distancing**

Currently, there are no physical distancing protocols in place for the 2021-2022 school year. Social distancing will be encouraged when possible. An A/B schedule could be put in place if needed. Creating pods within school sites will be utilized if needed during a community or school outbreak.

## **Transportation**

Masks and physical distancing on buses will no longer be required. Transportation rules can be found in the WPS student handbook.

## **Athletics, Fine Arts & Other Extracurricular Activities**

Currently, there are no COVID-19 related protocols or restrictions in place.

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## **Breakfast and Lunch Service in Cafeterias**

Currently, there are no COVID-19 related protocols in place.

## **Cleaning, Disinfection and Ventilation**

The following actions will be taken by WPS to reduce the chance of COVID spread:

- Communication to students and staff promoting behaviors that reduce spread, such as frequent handwashing and respiratory etiquette, will continue.
- Each classroom will be provided an adequate supply of hand sanitizer, spray disinfectant, and towels. When available, disinfectant wipes will also be provided.
- Adequate provision of hand washing stations, hand sanitizer, and disinfectant wipes in common areas.
- The district will continue to disinfect all spaces as often as possible with the goal of one time per day minimum.

## **Questions, Comments, or Suggestions**

For any questions, comments, or suggestions related to the “Safe Return Plan” or if interested in serving on the committee, please contact Jill Henderson or Steve Callen at (580)772-3327.

## **Return to Learn Committee 2021-2022**

Brooke Brown  
Vanessa Bryant  
Steven Callen  
Jane Cole  
Doug Gunselman  
Ronnie Hicks  
Brad Howl  
Dr. Jay Huser  
Melissa Jarvis  
Anji Jett  
Dr. Ray Long  
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Jeff Priefert  
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Bailee Sossoman  
Jason Wilson  
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Robyn Randol  
Jill Henderson

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