

**Western Boone County Community School Corporation
Return to School Plan for 2022-23 School Year**

Subject to Change

A. 2022-23 Master Calendar

WBCCSC Master Calendar can be found here:

<https://www.weboschools.org/information/calendars/school-calendars/907-2022-2023-school-calendar/file>

B. Instructional Day Format

Decisions on the instructional day format will be made in consultation with the Boone County Health Department and using the guidance found here:

<https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/public-resources/>

Western Boone County Community School Corporation will begin the school year on a traditional instructional schedule. The guidelines set forth in this plan will be followed for the 2022-23 school year.

C. Remote Learning

WBCCSC will **not** provide a 100% online instruction option for the 2022-23 school year.

D. Virtual Instruction Guidelines

Virtual instruction will not be offered for students or staff members for the 2022-2023 school year. Students will follow the attendance policy provided in the student handbook for COVID-19 or other absences. Staff members will follow the attendance policies in the handbook and/or master contract for COVID-19 or other absences.

E. Daily Screening

If you have COVID-19 symptoms, test and stay away from others while awaiting the test results is recommended.

See Section J – Re-entry of Negative and Positive Cases for additional clarification

F. PPE

Masks are not required for students and staff unless the WBCCSC Board of Trustees, in conjunction with local and state health officials, determines that they are required due to a local COVID-19 outbreak. If WBCCSC students are participating in co-curricular or extra-curricular activities at other locations, they must adhere to the local mask policy of the host location. Students and staff will be responsible for the care and maintenance of their own mask.

G. Social Distancing Guidelines

WBCCSC will consult local health department for social distancing guidelines in various educational settings.

1. Classrooms

Size: If possible, classroom sizes will be balanced to allow for equal number of students in grade level sections and/or subject offerings.

Set Up: Classroom furnishings will be arranged to provide appropriate social distancing.

Snacks: With teacher consent, students will provide snacks for their personal consumption.

2. Cafeteria

Students will be as socially distanced as possible. Frequent sanitation procedures have been implemented.

3. Weight Room

Frequent sanitation procedures have been implemented.

4. Office Areas

Plexiglass shields may be utilized in school office reception areas to minimize contact with visitors.

5. Clinic

Students presenting with COVID-19 symptoms will be kept as separated as possible from students reporting for non-COVID-19 related needs.

6. Media Center

The Media Center will be pre-scheduled by teachers. Furniture will be arranged to encourage appropriate social distancing.

7. Gym

Occupancy may be limited to provide ample space for appropriate social distancing.

8. Auditorium

Occupancy may be limited to provide ample space for appropriate social distancing.

9. Field Trips

Field trips will be permitted at the discretion of administration.

10. Water Consumption

Students will be encouraged to bring their own water in a clear container for consumption. Each school will provide bottle-filling locations and water at lunch.

11. B.A.S.E.

B.A.S.E. will be in operation in the elementary buildings. State and local safety guidelines will be followed.

H. Cleaning & Disinfecting

1. Cleaning Supplies:

- a. CDC Approved Disinfectant will be used.

2. Cleaning Protocols

- a. Custodians will clean every area every day with a focus on heavily touched areas.
- b. Student desks will be disinfected at the conclusion of each day.

3. Handwashing/Sanitizing Guidance

- a. Students and staff will be encouraged to wash hands for 20 seconds before meals, after restroom breaks, and after activities outside the classroom.
- b. Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and common areas throughout the school buildings.
- c. Students and staff will sanitize hands after blowing nose, coughing, and/or sneezing.

I. Staff/Student Training

Staff Training/School Procedure-

When: First Staff Day

Where: Individual Buildings with school nurse and building administration

How: Presentation with possible use of Safe School Training

Student Training/School Procedures-

When: First student day – shared during first hour (7-12), early on day 1 (elementary)

Where: First hour/homeroom

How: Presentation or locally recorded video

J. **Re-entry of Negative & Positive Cases**

Health Protocol for Schools

It is essential for the school community to work together to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the school environment and in the community while still providing a quality education program. Please note that WBCSC may be required to close based on county and state health mandates.

According to local, state, and federal health officials, the COVID-19 vaccine is the biggest mitigation and prevention step for individuals, ages five and older.

Symptoms Impacting Consideration for Exclusion from School

Students and employees should be trained to recognize the following COVID-19-related symptoms:

- A fever of 100.4 ° F or greater when taken by mouth and/or chills
- Sore throat
- New uncontrolled cough that causes difficulty (for students with chronic allergic or asthmatic cough, a change in their cough from baseline)
- Shortness of breath and difficulty breathing
- New onset of severe headache, especially with fever
- Loss of taste or smell

Students and employees should be excluded from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit one or more of the symptoms of COVID-19 based on CDC Guidance that is not otherwise explained and documented by a primary care provider.

Isolation should be used for individuals with COVID–19 illness to separate them from those who are not infected (even at home). At home, anyone sick or infectious should separate from others, stay in a specific “sick room” and use a separate bathroom if available. Stay home for at least five days. “Day Zero” is considered the day symptoms first appear or the day the test was administered, whichever is later. Individuals may return after five days as long as symptoms are improving, and they are fever free for at least 24 hours without use of fever reducing medications.

Return to School After Exclusion

Once a student or employee is excluded from the school environment for symptoms not otherwise explained, they may return if they satisfy the following guidelines:

Untested

Persons who have not received a test proving or disproving the presence of COVID-19 but experience symptoms not otherwise explained may return if the following conditions are met:

1. Untested person has not had a fever for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fever; and
2. Other symptoms have improved (for example, cough or shortness of breath have improved).

Testing – PCR testing provides the most accurate results and may be required for re-entry. Rapid testing is acceptable for a positive result. A symptomatic individual with a negative rapid test result may return to school with improved symptoms and no fever for at least 24 hours without the use of medicine that reduces fever. A positive result from a COVID-19 test administered at home will be accepted for exclusion from school with photo verification sent to a school principal.

Tested Positive- Symptomatic

Persons who experienced symptoms and have been tested for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:

1. The individual has gone without a fever for 24 hours (without the use of medicine that reduces fevers); and
2. Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath has improved); and
3. At least five calendar days have passed with “day zero” being the day the test was administered.

Tested Positive- Asymptomatic

Persons who have not had symptoms but test positive for COVID-19 may return to school when the following conditions are met:

1. Asymptomatic person may return in five days with “day zero” being the day the test was administered.

Tested Negative- Symptomatic

Persons who experience symptoms but test negative for COVID-19 may return to school when ALL of the following conditions are met:

1. Fever free for 24 hours without fever-reducing medications;
2. Other symptoms have improved; (for example, cough or shortness of breath have improved).

Tested Negative- Asymptomatic

Persons who have not had symptoms and test negative for COVID-19 may return to school when the following conditions are met:

1. An asymptomatic person may return to school immediately.

Upon receiving a positive COVID-19 result, it is the responsibility of the parent or staff member to immediately notify a building principal and provide a copy of the positive test.

K. Clinic Guidelines

1. Students presenting with COVID-19 symptoms will be kept as separated as possible from students reporting for non-COVID-19 related needs.
2. Students will continue to report to the clinic for treatment of all other health needs not related to COVID-19. While in the clinic students will adhere to appropriate social distancing guidelines to the greatest extent possible.

L. **Signage**

1. Building Entry signage will document symptoms for COVID-19. Signage will require individuals who have symptoms or have been exposed to COVID-19 to not enter.
2. Posted signage will encourage handwashing, hand sanitizing, social distancing when possible.
3. Food Service signage will promote proper sanitation and serving guidelines in the cafeteria.

M. **Community Usage of Buildings & Visitors**

- Any person with COVID-19 symptoms should not enter our school buildings.
- During the school day, visitors will not be allowed in the cafeteria and not allowed to eat with students.

1. Outside Organizations/Community Use of School Facilities

To help mitigate risks associated with the spread of COVID-19, community use of school facilities will require prior approval from administration.

N. **Food Service**

Food Service Staff

Food service staff will follow HACCP guidelines and procedures to minimize the spread of all infectious diseases, including COVID-19.

O. **Transportation**

Bus drivers will follow protocol outlined in Section J.

P. **At-Risk/Medically Fragile**

1. Staff members who believe themselves to be medically fragile will be required to fill out a medical history form.
2. Staff members with pre-existing health conditions and/or are 65 years of age will be encouraged to be vaccinated.
3. Students having a medical condition which increases the risk for complications as a result of COVID-19 will be encouraged to take extra precautions such as wearing a mask, frequent hand washing, no face touching, and social distancing when possible.
4. Students and staff members who are at high risk for contracting COVID-19 should provide a list of health recommendations from their primary care provider. Once the plan is developed, the plan should be shared with the building administrator and the school nurse.

Q. **Corporation Reporting Guidelines**

Reporting will be conducted as required by state and local mandates.

R. **Special Education Students**

Student services, annual case reviews, and evaluation timelines will be observed and provided as required by law and written in Individual Education Plans and Consent for Evaluation forms, either in person or remotely.

S. **Professional Development Plan/Staff Meetings**

WBCSC will follow social distancing guidelines and sanitation protocol when conducting staff meetings. When necessary, alternative meeting formats will be utilized.

T. **Social-Emotional Needs/Lessons**

1. School-based mental health services will continue in person or remotely to social/emotional needs of students.
2. Staff will be trained to recognize and refer students who need social/emotional support
3. Teachers and staff will continue to employ neuroscience strategies to address acute social/emotional needs in the classroom.