



WORCESTER
PREPARATORY SCHOOL

RE-OPENING PLANNING

for the 2020-2021 school year

Planning current as of 6.29.20

Information will be updated as necessary

What will stay the same



Scheduling & Curriculum

- Beginning September 1, students will be on campus for education five days a week for full-day instruction.
- Through our rigorous curriculum, students will continue to be challenged and supported.
- The After Care program will be offered.

What may look different

- Classes will be reduced to smaller sections.
- Physical distancing will be created in classrooms and throughout campus.
- Schedules will be adjusted to limit student-to-student exposure.
- Lunch schedule and options may look different based on Health Department recommendations.



Health & Safety

- The health and safety of our students, faculty and staff will remain a priority.
- We will continue to rely on parents to monitor the health of their children and request that they remain home from school, if they are showing any signs or symptoms of illness.

- Health screenings of students may be completed upon arrival to school.
- WPS will implement increased infection control protocols, including physical distancing.
- We will create an area for the isolation and monitoring of sick students, while they await their dismissal to home.



What will stay the same



Transportation

- The school day will end at 3 p.m. and will follow our typical dismissal procedures.
- Parents will continue to drop-off and pick-up in the back parking lots with buses in the front parking lot.

What may look different



Building & Grounds

- While enhanced cleaning and sanitizing procedures will be in place, all campus buildings will be open to students and staff.
- All buildings will remain locked as usual throughout the day, with a campus safety check performed each morning.

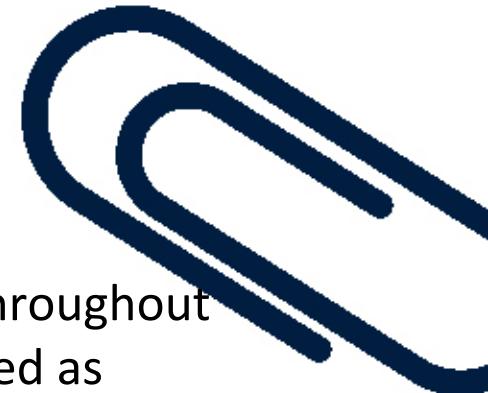
- The start time of classes may be delayed 10-20 minutes to accommodate new drop-off procedures, although morning drop-off time will remain the same.
- Physical distancing may be required on buses.

- Cleaning and disinfecting will happen continuously throughout the day.
- Visitors will be limited to entering the main door and waiting in the reception area. At the start of the school year, we will be unable to invite volunteers on campus.
- Parents will be asked to remain in cars and not accompany students into school each morning.



INFORMATION FOR THE FALL

- Classes will feature smaller section sizes and physical distancing will be required in classrooms.
- Families will be asked to perform a daily health check each morning before arriving at school or boarding the bus.
- Heightened cleaning and sanitizing protocols will continue throughout the fall and additional procedures will be evaluated and added as necessary.
- All faculty and staff will be provided comprehensive Professional Development in terms of designing and implementing Continuous Learning and executing healthy and safety protocols.



INFORMATION ON FACE COVERINGS

Based on information currently available from the Worcester County Health Department, these are our guidelines regarding face coverings on campus for the fall:

- Approved facial coverings include masks and neck gaiters.
- We will provide a WPS logo gaiter to each student prior to the start of the school year.
- Students are also free to wear personal face coverings that are solid color or basic patterns and do not feature messaging, slogans or inappropriate images.

Students and staff members will be required to wear face coverings when physical distancing is not possible, including when:

- entering and exiting the buildings
- moving in shared spaces such as hallways, restrooms and common areas
- completing drop-off and pick-up procedures

Faculty will be required to wear facial coverings within 6 feet of students and desks. We are researching portable standing shields for faculty in order to allow for flexibility in instruction and create a barrier between teacher and students.



CONTINUOUS LEARNING

While we are fully committed to re-opening in the fall, we are also focusing on our Continuous Learning plan in order to be well prepared for all contingencies. WPS is working to re-design our Continuous Learning program so that it is as comprehensive and robust as possible. This program will be ready in the event a student must take an extended break from the classroom or schools face another closure farther into the year. Below we have outlined, by Division, some initial changes which will be made.

Lower SCHOOL

- PK-2nd grade: synchronous morning meeting to incorporate circle time, start the day together, and provide overview of assignments
- PK-3rd grade: synchronous small group instruction for literacy and math (two times per week per subject)
- 4th-5th grades: daily synchronous and asynchronous math and reading instruction
- Science and social studies will be project-based
- One special subject per day
- Seesaw will continue as our platform to deliver assignments and asynchronous instruction

Middle & Upper SCHOOL

- For the fall, a new schedule will be implemented for on-campus learning. This schedule will continue to be followed in the event Continuous Learning is necessary.
- Academic classes will each meet on a daily basis and one elective per day will be offered.
- Video sessions and/or Zoom conferences will be held each day for instruction and presentation of material. Video sessions will include comprehensive recorded lessons and will be reinforced throughout the week. Students will have daily interaction with core teachers and at least 3-4 Zoom sessions per week, per academic subject.
- Additionally, asynchronous lessons and synchronous instruction will be incorporated across subjects and weekly Advisory will continue.



Guidelines & Regulations

What we know:

- Summer school programs are approved to open with in-person instruction and class sizes of up to 15
- We are considering all current recommendations related to schools safely reopening in order to be as prepared as possible for the fall
- Only an Executive Order from Governor Larry Hogan can prevent our campus from opening for the 20-21 school year

What we are waiting to hear:

- Recommendations regarding student/staff movement in building
- Guidelines for lunch and recess across divisions
- Additional information related to transportation, sports, after-school activities and gatherings



WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS FOR WPS FAMILIES?

- Continue to monitor the Task Force web page for updates
- Complete all necessary forms and paperwork for the coming year
- Reach out to the appropriate Division Head with any questions or concerns

