



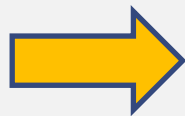
# REOPENING OUR SCHOOLS PARENT WEBINAR

AUGUST 12, 2020



# FORMAT FOR TONIGHT

- ▶ Responding to more FAQs
- ▶ Submit Live Questions during Webinar



[reopening@waterfordschools.org](mailto:reopening@waterfordschools.org)



## CONTINUE TO ENGAGE WITH US

- ▶ Over 1000 Parent Contacts responding to your ideas, input, questions & concerns
  - ▶ [reopening@waterfordschools.org](mailto:reopening@waterfordschools.org)
- ▶ Thursday will remain the district communication day.
- ▶ School-specific communication will increase now as we enter a new phase of reopening.



# REOPENING WEBPAGE

[www.waterfordschools.org/parents\\_family/policies\\_procedures/reopening\\_schools](http://www.waterfordschools.org/parents_family/policies_procedures/reopening_schools)

## Reopening Schools

- | District Plan
- | District Announcements
- | State Plan and Guidance
- | Reopening Schools Resources
- | Reopening Webinars
- | Reopening FAQs
- | District Forms



# Why are we starting in hybrid?



- ▶ Phase-in: Goal is full On-Campus Learning by mid-October.
- ▶ Reassess on or about October 5.
- ▶ June 19 – July 30 – Only option was full reopening per the Governor
- ▶ July 30 – Districts received written Guidance - Flexibility Options
  - ▶ Phase-in to Full On-campus Learning
  - ▶ Hybrid
- ▶ Governor asked districts to consider the following:
  - ▶ CT's overall number of cases per 100,000 people remains below 2%
  - ▶ CT asked for districts and Boards of Education to consider factors beyond just consideration of the statistics
  - ▶ Decisions should be based on indicators of the spread and prevalence of COVID-19 in the community; and on the physical and operational ability of schools to implement critical mitigation strategies.
  - ▶ The guidance went on to say that “there are also many structural and procedural considerations within school districts and individual schools that administrators should assess on a continual basis.” Some of those additional considerations include design of the physical spaces and ability to cohort among others.
  - ▶ A combination of these considerations should inform decision making.





# Why are we starting in hybrid?



## Other Factors:

- ▶ A phase-in approach to full in-person will allow us to thoroughly train students and practice all the new protocols and procedures with reduced density in the school buildings.
- ▶ A hybrid to full on-campus learning approach will help to reduce anxiety amongst staff, students, and families.
- ▶ Smaller classes in the initial onset of the year will allow us to target social/emotional resources and forge one-to-one relationships more efficiently with students due to less density on any given day.
- ▶ Finally, this phase-in approach will support the implementation of our synchronous distance learning model and the associated new resources before we may have to revert to a full distance model due to changing health conditions.
- ▶ It will allow us to thoroughly clean buildings between cohorts as well.
- ▶ Regional Approach – staffing, transportation between and among towns etc.





**LEARNING**



# COHORTS

- ▶ What will the cohorts be?
- ▶ What if I have a significant conflict with my assigned cohort days?

We will make every effort to accommodate cohorting your student based on the needs of your family including keeping siblings together on the same schedule as we return to school in the hybrid/partial opening phase. Please note that we will not be cohorting students based on social requests. Please contact your child's principal.





# CLASS LISTS AND SCHEDULES

- When will my child get his/her assigned cohort, teacher or class schedule?



# Can I change my mind about opting into temporary distance learning?


## ► How can I opt in to distance learning during the year?

Families that select voluntary distance learning during periods of on-campus or hybrid learning will be asked to fill out the district's Distance Learning Form. It is on the reopening page.

## ► How can I opt out of distance learning during the year and return to school?

Students learning from home may choose to return to campus at any time. School personnel will be available to determine a mutually agreed upon re-entry date. Parents are asked to provide a reasonable notification (up to 2 weeks) to the school office so that preparations may be made to accommodate all learners safely.







For families that decide on distance learning,  
is the classroom going to be live streamed  
to them?



What if parents don't want their child videoed  
for the live stream?

- 
- We plan to stream live audio from the classroom and share the active learning board screen. Teachers may stream video portions of the lesson if they determine it to be integral to the lesson. No children in the classroom will have their image streamed into the home. Video streaming will focus on the teacher in the front of the classroom alone. Students at home do not need to stream their video but audio participation may be essential.
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# ORIENTATIONS

- ▶ Will there be orientations before school starts?
  - ▶ PreK
  - ▶ K
  - ▶ Grade 6
  - ▶ Grade 9





# DISTANCE LEARNING

- Are distance learning students part of any class?





# SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING



# SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL WELL-BEING

- ▶ What is being done to address the needs of those who must stay home or who find that the significant changes needed in the classroom are more psychologically stressful than staying home?
- ▶ What is being done for students who show up to school?





# LOGISTICS AND OPERATIONAL QUESTIONS





# BEFORE CARE AND AFTER CARE

- ▶ Will Before Care and After Care be offered at the elementary level this year?
- ▶ What is the process?



# MEALS

- ▶ Will meals be distributed to students during hybrid at-home days?
- ▶ Will meals be distributed to students who opt for fulltime distance learning?
- ▶ Who is eligible?
- ▶ How will meals be made available?



# DEVICES

- Will devices be available for checkout this year?





# HEALTH AND SAFETY





# HALLWAYS AND STAIRWELLS

- What is the plan for hallways and stairwells to minimize contact?



# PROTOCOL IF A SUSPECTED OR POSITIVE CASE

- ▶ New addendum from the state
  - Individual has **COVID-19** symptoms but has **NOT** had close contact to a person diagnosed with **COVID-19**.
  - Individual has **COVID-19** symptoms **AND** had close contact to a person diagnosed with **COVID-19**.
  - Individual *does not have COVID-19 symptoms* **BUT** had close contact to someone diagnosed with **COVID-19**.



# Will you be installing any barriers (i.e. Plexiglass)?

- ▶ Plexiglass will be used throughout the district in a variety of ways. It is installed in all main offices where staff are interacting with others. There will be some Plexiglass installed in classrooms mainly around teachers' desk. It will also be used staff and students are working in close proximity to one another due to the specific instruction being implemented.



# What is the plan for Specials?

- ▶ We are following the reopening plan from the CSDE.
- ▶ It is likely specials will be limited throughout the year. Students may not have the same number or frequency of specials throughout the year.
- ▶ With the exception of physical education, most if not all specials will be offered in the cohort classroom in grades PreK through 8.







# What is your isolation protocol?

## Are all staff trained in this protocol?

- ▶ **Who will stay in the isolation room with the student?**
- ▶ **What is the communication protocol and containment plan if there is a positive COVID case in the school?**

# Will you be contact tracing?

- ▶ The school district is not responsible for contact tracing. We will coordinate with the Ledge Light Health District to accomplish this.
- ▶ We will immediately coordinate with the local health department; including being ready to comply with requests for information from the local health department to assist with contact tracing.





**CLEANING**



## How frequently will classrooms be disinfected? What is the cleaning policy across all schools?

- ▶ Clarification of Daily Cleaning Protocols have been added to the Reopening Plan on page 36.
- ▶ Disinfection and cleaning procedures will be initiated following student release in compliance with CDC guidelines. Classrooms will be cleaned and sanitized daily.
- ▶ All staff will be provided with adequate supplies, including sanitizing wipes, to support cleaning and disinfection practices that will enable them to clean commonly used surfaces (i.e. desks, keyboards) before use.
- ▶ In school daily sanitization of handrails / sink handles / door handles and knobs / light switches / and bathrooms will occur. Regular evening daily cleaning will consist of: Cleaning / Disinfecting / & Sanitizing in accordance with guidelines stated above.



# How frequently will bathrooms be cleaned?

- ▶ Bathroom surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected twice per day in times of full building occupancy in accordance with DPH guidance for cleaning and disinfecting of schools. The full protocol for bathrooms is outlined on page 41 of our plan. Additional strategies can also be found on the bottom of page 40.





# Will disinfecting products be given to teachers?

- ▶ All staff will be provided with adequate supplies, including sanitizing wipes, to support cleaning and disinfection practices that will enable them to clean commonly used surfaces (i.e. desks, keyboards) before use. We are also planning for safe access to materials which may include individual kits, gloves and increased sanitization between all uses. High touch surfaces will be cleaned regularly throughout the day.






# TRANSPORTATION



# What if I change my mind about transportation during the year?

- ▶ A change in transportation form can be filled out at anytime throughout the school year.
- ▶ Forms can be found on district website at [https://www.waterfordschools.org/parents\\_family/transportation/transportation\\_forms](https://www.waterfordschools.org/parents_family/transportation/transportation_forms)
- ▶ Note – change in preference will be accommodated within two weeks of receipt of form



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Mr. Thomas W. Glend III  
Superintendent  
Mr. Craig G. Powers  
Assistant Superintendent

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**YEARLY STUDENT TRANSPORTATION FORM**  
SCHOOL YEAR: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_  
STUDENT: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ New Student      ☐ Change of Address      ☐ Change in Preference  
Note: Change of preference will be accommodated within two weeks of receipt of form

HOME ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
DAYTIME PHONE NUMBERS: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ MY CHILD WILL TAKE THE SCHOOL BUS FROM AND TO HOME EVERY DAY.  
☐ MY CHILD WILL BE TRANSPORTED AND WILL NOT TAKE THE SCHOOL BUS.  
☐ MY CHILD WILL REQUIRE ALTERNATE TRANSPORTATION AS DETAILED BELOW:  
☐ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

**\*\* PARENT/GUARDIAN SIGNATURE REQUIRED BELOW \*\***

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Please complete this section for students who will require alternate transportation arrangements

Note: Transportation to a daycare is defined as a consistent, regularly scheduled arrangement between parents and provider. A temporary babysitting arrangement is not considered daycare.

DAYCARE PROVIDER: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROVIDER PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
PROVIDER ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
DAYCARE SCHEDULE:

	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
AM					
PM					

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Please print)  
Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**BUS COMPANY USE ONLY**

AM BUS #: \_\_\_\_\_  
AM PICK UP TIME: \_\_\_\_\_  
AM STOP LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_  
PM BUS #: \_\_\_\_\_  
PM DROP OFF TIME: \_\_\_\_\_  
PM STOP LOCATION: \_\_\_\_\_

# What will be the drop off & pick up protocol across all schools? Will there be staggered times?

- ▶ Schools are finalizing our drop-off and pick-up procedures. The school district in concert with the Waterford Police Department will plan to accommodate the expected increase in vehicles from parental provided transportation.
- ▶ Principals will develop arrival/departure procedures that limit unnecessary entrance of parents and guardians into the building.
- ▶ Each school will allow for minimal contact of parents with school personnel and students while dropping off and/or picking up students during the day.
- ▶ Students will be supervised at all approved drop off and pick up times.



# Reopening Plan – Version 3 Releases Tomorrow

- ▶ Remains a working draft
- ▶ State constantly releasing updated guidance
- ▶ Check the district reopening page often
- ▶ Version 3 highlights
  - Addendum 2 - Protocol if a Suspected or Positive Case





# Next Steps

- ▶ Shifting to school specific information now.
- ▶ Principals will begin to engage you on school opening plans.
  - Emails & Communications
  - Parent Engagement Opportunities
- ▶ You can engage your child's principal directly.

