

WYOMING CITY SCHOOLS

2020-2021

PLAN FOR RETURN

LEARN AT SCHOOL OR HOME



DESKTOP OR PERSONAL BARRIERS
AND SOCIAL DISTANCING OF
AT LEAST 3 FEET IN CLASSROOMS

MASKS REQUIRED FOR
ALL STUDENTS & STAFF



MUST RESERVE SEAT, NO MORE
THAN TWO STUDENTS PER SEAT

PRE-WRAPPED FOOD AT LUNCH



NO DRINKING FOUNTAINS - USE WATER
BOTTLE FILLING STATIONS & SINKS

ROTATING PLAYGROUND ZONES



ISOLATED CLINIC AREAS
FOR SIGNS OF ILLNESS

INCREASED DISINFECTING



PARENTS REQUIRED TO
ASSESS DAILY HEALTH

NO SCHOOL VISITORS,
NO FIELD TRIPS



FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT WYOMINGCITYSCHOOLS.ORG

Wyoming City Schools 2020-2021 Plan for Return

This plan is a result of the work of the Wyoming City Schools Fall Planning Team (made up of administrators, parents, staff members, and teachers) to best prepare for the 2020-2021 school year and the many potential scenarios presented by the changing COVID-19 situation.

It is important to note that these plans are subject to change based on evolving conditions, status of the pandemic, and recommendations and guidance from public health authorities and the scientific community. We will communicate any necessary changes with our families as soon as possible.

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Learning Options: In-School or All-Online



Families will have the choice of in-school learning, when possible, or an all-online option.

Due to the educational and developmental needs of our students, our goal is to mitigate risk and offer in-school learning when at all possible. Because community spread is an important safety factor to consider, the **In-School Learning Option** will be aligned with the [State of Ohio's county-based Ohio Public Health Advisory System](#), as follows:

Ohio COVID-19 Risk Level Guidelines for the Public			
LEVEL 1	LEVEL 2	LEVEL 3	LEVEL 4
Public Emergency Active exposure and spread. Follow all current health orders.	Public Emergency Increased exposure and spread. Exercise high degree of caution. Follow all current health orders.	Public Emergency Very high exposure and spread. Limit activities as much as possible. Follow all current health orders.	Public Emergency Severe exposure and spread. Only leave home for supplies and services. Follow all current health orders.
LEVEL 1-4 REQUIRE COMPLIANCE WITH ALL HEALTH ORDERS			
<small>Over 60% of Ohioans are considered high-risk based on CDC guidance. High-risk individuals* are at an increased risk of severe illness and should take every precaution to guard against contracting COVID-19, including following higher risk level guidance outlined below. Consult a doctor about your risk.</small>			

At **LEVEL 1** and **LEVEL 2**, face-to-face, in-school instruction Monday-Friday.

At **LEVEL 3**, we will move to a hybrid plan, with one group of students in-school full days on Monday and Tuesday, a second group of students in-school full days on Thursday and Friday. Online instruction for all on Wednesdays and when each group is not in-school.

At **LEVEL 4**, all students will move to online learning.

The hybrid plan will allow for greater social distancing and help to further minimize person-to-person contacts during very high exposure and spread in Hamilton County. The initial factor used to determine hybrid plan grouping will have families with surnames beginning with A-L reporting on Mondays and Tuesdays and M-Z reporting on Thursdays and Fridays; however, groupings could be modified after all families submit Return to School forms to allow for greater cohort balance. For planning purposes, any move from Monday-Friday in-school instruction to hybrid or online will begin the Monday after a change in the public health advisory.

An **All-Online Learning Option** is available for students who do not choose to return to in-school instruction at all. This option shares the same instructional focus as, and is paced to, the in-school learning option. Extracurricular participation is available for all-online learners (eligibility requirements remain in place).

All families are asked to familiarize themselves with this plan and share their preference between in-school or all-online instruction for the first semester (until winter break) by Friday, July 31, using this link: [Return To School Form](#). To manage staffing, scheduling, and building set-up, families choosing all-online learning will be making that choice for the entire semester and will not have the option of moving back and forth during this commitment period.

Learning Options: In-Person or All-Online



In addition to the closure of entire buildings, we must be prepared for individuals or groups of students to be unable to attend school due to infection or self-quarantine. To accommodate this need, students participating in online learning at any time will receive the same instructional focus that teachers provide in the classroom for students attending school on-site. All daily instruction, individual or group work, and student assessments will be similar for students participating in online learning and for students attending school on-site. To provide this instruction, teachers will be utilizing Zoom live streaming for remote learners while providing instruction to students in the classroom.

Structure - High School & Middle School: Students in grades 5-12 will have a consistent daily schedule. Each class period will typically begin with a lesson followed by independent or group work. Students participating in remote learning may remain logged in during independent or group work. Teachers will share any adjustments to this schedule directly with students/families.

Structure - Primary Schools: Students in grades K-4 will have a consistent daily schedule that meets the needs of young learners and is different than the 5-12 bell schedule. Teachers will communicate this schedule with families prior to the start of the school year.

Lessons: All mini-lessons/instructions will be recorded and posted to teacher Canvas sites. This will allow students participating in remote learning to either participate in their daily schedule by following the live streamed mini-lessons synchronously through Zoom or to view instruction and complete student work/assignments on their own schedule on a daily basis. A parent agreement regarding the use of recorded instructional videos will be shared with families at a later date.

Canvas: Teachers will be using the learning management system, Canvas, for all students regardless of their attendance in-school or remotely. The use of Canvas will include teacher communication to students and families,

posting of assignments, posting of instructional videos and other instructional resources, student sharing of work, student assessment, etc. The consistent use of Canvas for all students will allow for flexibility if the conditions of COVID-19 change and cause additional school building closures.

Individual Connection While Learning Remotely: A designated staff member will be assigned and responsible for checking in with students that are participating in remote learning multiple times per week. The purpose of these check-ins are to identify any concerns related to academic and/or social-emotional needs for students and families.

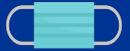
Specials/Electives: Specials classes, such as art, music, band, orchestra, and physical education will continue with modifications to allow for increased social distancing. This might mean that some of these classes will happen in larger areas of the building. There might also be adjustments made to the content and activities that students complete within the classrooms and at home. More detailed information will be shared from each building regarding the specific plans for specials and electives.

Calendar Change: We will start the year with orientation days for 1st-12th grade students. The week of August 24, we will run a Hybrid Plan Week. The week of August 31, we will begin to align our In-Person Learning Level with the Ohio Public Health Advisory System. [Click this link for more information.](#)

Feedback: The feedback received on spring's emergency distance learning from parents and staff played a huge role in building this plan. The feedback was obtained through surveys, conversations, and the work of the Parent School Association (PSA) Remote Learning Feedback Team. Thank you!

Technology: All students in grades 5-12 will receive a Chromebook or laptop device as part of the one-to-one technology structure in these grades. Students in grades K-4 participating in either In-School Learning or All-Online Learning will have the option to request a device.

Health & Safety: Multiple Layers of Protection



According to public health authorities, using multiple layers of protection to protect against catching the virus is key. In our schools, that will include the use of face coverings, good hand hygiene, physical or social distancing, and the use of plexiglass partitions or personal barriers/screens.

Face Coverings: Wearing [face coverings](#) is especially important during times of elevated community spread, particularly when social distancing is not possible. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recommended that Americans wear cloth face coverings in public to help slow the spread of COVID-19. This requirement is being made based on studies that show a significant proportion of people with COVID-19 lack symptoms and can transmit the virus to others in close proximity, through speaking, coughing, sneezing or other means. This is especially important since some carriers of COVID-19 may not have any symptoms. Children, despite being generally less affected by COVID-19, expose school staff and adults at home who may be more at risk.

Students in grades K-12 will be required to wear a cloth face covering¹ at all times unless they are unable to do so due to [exemptions identified by the Ohio Department of Health](#). These times include entering and exiting the school building, movement within the building during the day, recess, while picking up food in the cafeteria line, during passing periods, and classroom instruction. Teachers may provide breaks from facial coverings at times when students are at least 6 feet apart from one another.

Students should plan to have three cloth face coverings as part of their back-to-school supplies. If you need assistance obtaining face coverings, please contact your school counselor.

School staff will wear cloth facial coverings. The Ohio Department of Health recognizes a few exceptions to this requirement. If any exception is present

in our schools, necessary public health reporting will take place.

There should be no stigma associated with wearing a mask on school property. Likewise, any individual who cannot wear a mask for recognized reasons should not be stigmatized.

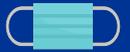
Hand Hygiene: Handwashing and other common prevention methods are some of the most effective ways to reduce the spread of infectious disease. Students and staff will practice frequent handwashing for at least 20 seconds when hands are dirty, before and after eating, after using the restroom, and at other times throughout the day. To supplement handwashing, hand sanitizer will be located in high traffic areas including entrances to buildings and classrooms. Additionally, staff and students will be instructed to avoid touching their mouths, noses, and eyes since the virus easily enters the body through these membranes.

Social and Physical Distancing: We are making efforts to provide as much social distancing as possible in all areas of the building with a goal of maintaining 6-foot social distancing among students and staff in all school environments, including classrooms, hallways, restrooms, cafeteria, playground, drop-off and pick-up locations, and school buses. We will reinforce distancing with visual cues such as floor markings and signs.

In classrooms, extra furniture has been removed to allow desks and tables to be spread throughout the space with student seating at least 3 feet apart. Student seating may be arranged to all face in the same direction, when possible, while being spaced as far apart as possible. In some buildings, physical barriers will be utilized on desks to provide separation between students, where possible. Older students will be offered personal, portable barriers/shields. While our goal is for all students to be seated at least 6 feet from one another in classrooms, it is important to note that may not always be possible depending on the number of students in each class/course.

¹ At minimum, facial coverings (masks) should be cloth/fabric and cover an individual's nose, mouth, and chin, per ODH.

Health & Safety: Multiple Layers of Protection



Measures for the routines at the beginning and ending of the school day will be communicated by each building. Some of these routines will include the use of multiple entry and exit doors, staggered arrival/dismissal times, and specific walking directions for student movement at the beginning and ending of the day.

Signage will be in each building indicating 6-foot social distancing in spaces such as main office and lobby areas. Additionally, signage will be in each building to remind all about handwashing, social distancing, use of masks, and other best practices.

Assessment of Symptoms: Since COVID-19 spreads so rapidly, it is essential that students and their caregivers conduct daily health checks prior to going to school, which include taking temperatures and assessing all symptoms. Anyone with symptoms or a temperature above 100°F should stay home. Symptoms may include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea. Symptoms range from mild to severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus. A daily check-in process with parent signoff will be mandatory for all students coming onto campus.

Cleaning & Disinfecting: COVID-19 can spread by a person touching a contaminated surface, and then touching the mouth, nose, or eyes. Use of disinfectants in facilities reduces the spread of infectious disease. We've stocked up on personal protective equipment, hand washing materials, and cleaning supplies. In addition to our regular cleaning, we'll be disinfecting more often in common areas like hallways, cafeterias, bathrooms, playgrounds, and buses, as well as high-touch surfaces like door handles and desks. Deep cleaning, including the use of safe electrostatic sprayers, foggers, and the like will be used as recommended in common areas and classrooms.

Protocol for COVID-19 Diagnosis: If we have a confirmed case of COVID-19, we will follow direction from the Hamilton County Public Health Department (HCPH) regarding specific instructions to the impacted student/family, contact tracing for staff and other students, actions regarding our school facilities, and communication protocols. This may include closing a classroom, school, or schools for a period of time and may require shifting quickly to remote learning at home for students who are impacted. The structure of our plan should allow students to make this transition without loss of instructional time. [The most current direction from HCPH can be found here.](#)

Building Operations & Transportation



Busing: Students are eligible for transportation services if they reside outside of 1.25 miles from the school they attend. We will be asking each family that is eligible for transportation services to notify us if they indeed plan to utilize this service. This will enable us to be prepared for the health and safety plans for all students on buses.

On buses, we will have consistent, reserved seating with two students per seat (siblings may sit together). Other school bus health and safety protocols will include using hand sanitizer before getting on the school bus and providing personal protective devices for buses and bus drivers.

Field Trips: There will be no in-person field trips (overnight or otherwise) during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year. There will be no dances during the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year. All other events are under consideration at this time.

Drinking Fountains, Lockers & Hallways: All water fountains will be turned off and where applicable, we will be using water bottle filling stations and sinks to provide students with access to water throughout the day. Arrows will indicate foot traffic flow in hallways. Locker usage will be determined at the building level. One-way hallways will be used in areas in which we have higher volumes of foot traffic and can have a circle pattern.

Lunch, Recess & Playgrounds: At lunch, we will maximize available spaces for social distancing and use additional spaces within the building for

lunch periods. Milford Food Service will also be providing pre-packaged lunch options for students to efficiently and safely go through the lunch line.

Students may be assigned seating and will be socially distanced as far apart as possible. Masks will be required while picking up food in the cafeteria line. All students will be washing hands prior to entering the cafeteria.

Students will be assisted by food services staff in the cafeteria line rather than picking up their own items. Food selections will be pre-packaged and choices will be reduced.

Recess time is a critical component for the social and emotional growth of our students and will be incorporated. To limit exposure, classroom groups will play at recess within playground zones and will rotate through different play zones throughout the week.

School Clinics: There will be separate areas created adjacent to our health clinics to separate and isolate anyone who presents signs or symptoms of illness from those visiting the clinic for routine care. Please reach out to the school clinic if you have specific concerns regarding your child's medical care.

Visitors: Unfortunately, we must restrict all school visitors to promote health, safety and social distancing.

Equity & Access



Devices: All students in grades 5-12 will receive a Chromebook or laptop device as part of the Wyoming City Schools one-to-one technology structure in these grades. Students in grades K-4 (participating in in-school or all-online learning) will be able to request a device as part of the survey attached to this document.

Individualized Needs: Equitable access to instruction and educational tools for students with individualized needs will be addressed before school starts.

This may include the children of essential workers.

Internet Connectivity: Our goal is 100% connectivity for every Wyoming City Schools student. Any student/family without internet service is asked to contact their principal or counselor.

Student Nutrition: We will be working to continue filling all student nutrition services requests for all students, in-school or online.

Social & Emotional Health



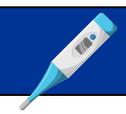
Activities & Student Wellness Screener: We recognize the importance of providing students and staff with extra social and emotional support as they return to school this year. Expect to see special welcome activities, extra time for building relationships and establishing new routines, and a focus on coping strategies. In August, a student wellness screener will be sent to parents to complete for each of their children. This screener will give Wyoming staff helpful information for acclimating your child back into the school routine.

Individual Connection While Learning Remotely: A designated staff

member will be assigned and responsible for checking in with students that are participating in remote learning multiple times per week. The purpose of these check-ins are to identify any concerns related to academic and/or social-emotional needs for students and families.

Wellness Support Services: Our counselors and psychologists will be ready to assist students and staff in need of support. Additionally, school-based mental health professionals through Cincinnati Children's Home will continue to be available. We'll be sharing additional resources throughout the year and you can find resources on the [Mental Wellness Support Services](#) website.

Parent Partnership



Daily Health Assessment: Since COVID-19 spreads so rapidly, it is essential that students and their caregivers conduct daily health checks prior to going to school, which include taking temperatures and assessing all symptoms. Anyone with symptoms or a temperature above 100°F should stay home. Symptoms may include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and/or diarrhea. Symptoms range from mild to severe and may appear two to 14 days after exposure to the virus. A daily check-in process with parent signoff will be mandatory for all students coming onto campus.

Helping Students to Be Successful: We encourage parents to talk with, reassure and support their children about these changes, and the importance of social distancing and wearing face coverings.

- Allow your child to ask questions and answer them to the best of your ability. [Find guidance here](#).
- Communicate questions and concerns to staff.
- Develop a “school schedule” with your child or for your child to keep routines in place when working from home.
- Explain the [why behind wearing a mask](#) and have your child practice wearing their mask.
- For younger grades, read a story about returning to school such as [Going Back to School](#) or [Welcome Back to School](#).

- Follow recommended guidelines regarding face coverings and social distancing this summer to help prevent a future surge in cases that might impact the start of school.
- Help reinforce social distancing at the bus stop.
- Help students get back into a normal schedule at least a week before school begins, such as reinstating bedtime and wake up routines and wearing a mask.
- Help students travel with a charged device to and from school each day to allow for learning routines to develop utilizing the technology we are using for online and in-person instruction.
- Stay in close communication with your school should your health situation or return plans change and be sure that all your child’s immunizations are up to date.
- Support your child’s attendance in synchronous learning activities as scheduled by their teachers.

Online Lesson Use: Information about student and parent use of recorded instructional videos will be shared with families at a later date.

Return to School Form: Answer this [Return To School Form](#) by Friday, July 31.

School Building Visits: Limit visits to school as much as possible, including visits to drop off forgotten items. Do not enter the building when picking up or dropping off students. Ensure multiple, prearranged methods for picking up your child in the event they become ill at school.

Plans for back-to-school events are still being evaluated. More information on these events will be coming at a later date, as will additional details of the plan.

The pandemic shifts rapidly and we don’t know what the rest of the school year may bring. We will continually reevaluate our procedures and may make changes based upon current conditions.

Please complete and submit this [Return To School Form](#) by Friday, July 31. We MUST have your response to prepare for the new school year.

Please share your questions with us here: [2020-2021 Plan for Return Questions](#).

