

Washington County Public Schools

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October 5, 2020

Dear Washington County Public School Families:

We remain appreciative of your continued patience, support, and overall resolve in working together as we continue to experience uncertain times with unpredictable challenges in our school community related to COVID-19. Here are a few important information highlights prior to next Monday:

1. **Monday, October 12 marks the first day of measured in-person learning.** As a reminder, Grades 4-12 will follow the Hybrid Model of Instruction (Group A on Mondays and Tuesdays and Group B on Thursday and Fridays). Grades PK-3 will attend school in-person 4 days per week (M, Tu, Th, and F). Here is the link to the amended *Return to In-Person Learning Plan* effective October 12:
https://www.wcs.k12.va.us/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1792014&type=d&pREC_ID=1982065
2. **Pupil Transportation** –The operation of school buses, and transportation routes/routines requires an adjustment period at the start of every school year. This school year is especially challenging in terms of routines and logistics. As we begin limited in-person learning and bus ridership, our partnership with all stakeholders needs to be as cooperative, patient, flexible and organized as possible. With limited seating, altered bus routes to include possible double routes, and the addition of required mitigation strategies on every bus; potential need for earlier pick-up times and/or later than normal drop-off times exist on many bus routes until we have established routines. Please arrange for your child(ren) to be at the bus stop 10 minutes earlier than normal and be prepared for comparable time delays during drop-offs in the afternoons. We will work as diligently and efficiently as possible to establish bus routines during this time. In the meantime, we appreciate your help and support in doing so. In like manner, we request your patience as we establish routines with car ridership.
3. **Child Nutrition Program** - For those students participating in In-person Hybrid Learning starting Monday, October 12, meals will be served on-site during their days of in-person attendance.

Beginning October 14, 2020, meal distribution will be as follows:

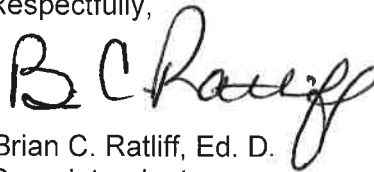
- Virtual/Remote Learning Students will be able to pick up meals for five days from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on Wednesdays only. Pick-up service at Mendota Community Center and Hayter's Gap Community Center has been discontinued.
- Hybrid Model Students attending two days a week will be able to pick up meals for three days from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on Wednesdays only. Pick-up service at Mendota Community Center and Hayter's Gap Community Center has been discontinued.
- PK-3 Students attending four days a week will be able to pick up meals for one day from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on Wednesdays only. Pick-up service at Mendota Community Center and Hayter's Gap Community Center has been discontinued.

Note: In the event we return all students to Virtual/Remote Learning meal distribution service will remain on Wednesdays with a pick-up time of 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm.

Please contact your child's individual school, and/or click on the following link for more information: <https://www.wcpsvacncafe.com/>

4. **Mitigation expectations** – Please read very carefully all mitigation expectations found in the *Return to In-Person Learning Plan* to be observed and practiced in schools during this time. These mitigations are required by all stakeholders in the school community while on-site in any school facility. Additionally, for the overall benefit of the entire community, we respectfully ask everyone to follow these same strategies outside the school settings as well.

Respectfully,



Brian C. Ratliff, Ed. D.
Superintendent