

November 6, 2020

Dear WCS Parents & Students:

It's hard to believe we are already approaching the end of the 1st quarter of the school year. Our students, parents, and staff have all done an excellent job following our health and safety protocols to ensure a safe learning environment at WCS. Since so many things have been affected by COVID and may differ from previous years, I wanted to share some important updates and reminders as we get ready to enter the 2nd quarter of our school year:

Half-Day Schedule

We have several 1/2 days remaining on our school calendar this year. For this year, the 1/2 days that are left are scheduled for November 10, December 9, January 22, and April 1. On all of these days:

- PK-5 students will attend in person with dismissal at 12:10 PM
- 6-12 students will attend remotely from home with classes ending at 12:46 PM

Parent-Teacher Conferences

This year, conferences will be held via Google Meet or by phone.

- For PK-5 parents, classroom teachers should be reaching out to schedule conferences for all students in the coming weeks.
- For 6-12 parents, classroom teachers will be reaching out to schedule conferences with students that are failing or are in danger of failing the 1st quarter. However, any 6-12 parent can contact a teacher to set up a conference, even if they are not in danger of failing.

Snow Days

- While NYS schools have the option this year to have remote learning days instead of snow days, WCS will continue to utilize snow days as we have done in the past with no learning, remote or in-person, occurring on those days.
- If the district has used up all of its planned snow days for the year, remote learning days may be utilized.

2-Hour Weather Delay

Due to our split bus runs, our 2-hour weather delay schedule will be different this year. The following schedule will be utilized for 2-hour delays:

- PK-5 students will start in-person learning on a 2-hour delay at 10:00 AM. Buses will pick up students approximately 2 hours later than the normal time and parents that drive their child(ren) should drop them off at 9:55 AM on those days.
- 6-12 students will be remote on days when there is a 2-hour delay and should follow their daily schedule from home starting with 3rd period at 10:21 AM.

Bus Driver Availability

- There may be days where bus driver availability is limited to such an extent that on certain days we are not able to provide transportation for a particular bus run.
- If there is a day where transportation is not available for your child's bus run, students may attend remotely that day or attend in-person if a parent can provide transportation. We will give parents as much notice as possible if there is a day where school transportation will not be available.

Daily Health Screening

While all students have a temperature check completed by a school employee prior to them entering the building each day, it is important that all parents continue to conduct a health screening of their child before sending them to school or allowing them to board the bus. Each day, parents should ensure that students:

- do not have a temperature or any other COVID symptom,
- have not recently come into contact with anyone that has tested positive or is suspected as a positive COVID case, and
- have not recently travelled to an area with widespread community transmission of COVID.

Despite all of the safety precautions currently in place, **the best way to ensure a healthy and safe school environment is for students and staff to stay home when they are sick.**

If you have any further questions, about any of these updates or any other school issues, please contact us by phone at (518) 963-4456 or email at district@willsborocsd.org. Thank you all for your continued cooperation and support as we work together through this unique school year!

Best Regards and Take Care,



Justin M. Gardner
Superintendent of Schools