

From the Principal....

July 8, 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you and your families are healthy and enjoying the summer. The purpose of this letter is to recap the important school reopening information you received from Wake County Public Schools on July 2, 2020.

Last week, two things happened regarding school reopening for the 2020-2021 school year:

1. Governor Cooper postponed his announcement of the school reopening plan (A, B, or C).



*School districts may choose to implement a more restrictive plan, but may not choose to implement a less restrictive plan than determined by NCDHHS, NCSBE, NCDPI

2. WCPSS Board of Ed approved the framework for Plan B (blended model) should Governor Cooper announce public schools open under Plan B.

Hopefully by mid-July, Governor Cooper will announce the reopening plan for public schools - Plan A, B, or C. Please refer to the <u>Return-to-Campus Guide for Families</u> (p. 5) to read WCPSS's descriptions of Plans A, B, & C. Please note that Wake County Schools (and all districts) has the option to open on a more restrictive plan than what Governor Cooper announces. For example, if he announces schools open under Plan A, Wake County may choose to open with the more restrictive Plan B or Plan C. *In my opinion*, it is highly unlikely WCPSS will open under Plan A even if the Governor announces schools open under Plan A.

Plan B is only an option at this time, <u>albeit the most likely option</u>. The purpose of getting Board approval and releasing the details of Plan B last Thursday was to give families and employees time to start planning should Plan B become a reality. For quick reference, I have listed the details of Plan B below as written in the <u>Return-to-Campus Guide for Families</u>.

<u>Plan B</u>

K-12 students will experience a combination of in-person learning in the school building with their teachers and classmates and online instruction through an online platform. Both learning environments will have high expectations and will result in work that contributes to the student's overall grade. Teachers will strategically place learning opportunities in each environment to create an overall experience that aligns to rigorous state standards for the grade level or course. Experiences during online instruction will be a combination of recorded and live instructional sessions. We are exploring options for PreK students to attend school on a daily basis as soon as is feasible.



<u>Plan B Details</u>

- The three-week rotation being recommended by the district is the safest for students and staff while still allowing for in-person instruction for all students.
- In Plan B, students will be assigned to groups (1, 2 or 3). **Siblings will be in the same groups**. Groups will attend school in an ongoing rotation by attending school in-person for one week and receiving online instruction for two weeks.
- The three student groupings will first be made by the transportation department based on bus routes, and then the office of student assignment will ensure siblings are in the same group. Lastly, principals will review student groupings and make class assignments.

Families Not Ready or Able to Return to Campus

K-12 families will have the option to choose the WCPSS Virtual Academy for fully online instruction in the 2020-2021 school year if they are not ready or able to return to a school campus. Details can be found on page 6 of the <u>Return-to-Campus Guide for Families</u>.

- Families must commit to at least one semester, with a recommendation of a one-year commitment.
- More information can be found at https://www.wcpss.net/Virtual-Academy.
- Students can apply to WCPSS Virtual Academy beginning the Week of July 13.

<u>Timeline</u>

- Week of July 6: parents will receive more information about Virtual Academy
- July 13: Application window opens for WCPSS Virtual Academy
- Mid-July: Governor will announce his plan for reopening schools

The <u>Return-to-Campus Guide for Families</u> outlines everything the district is doing, along with what we need families to do, to maximize a safe and healthy environment for your child. Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the important information contained in this guide and on WCPSS's Return-to-Campus website: <u>https://www.wcpss.net/returntocampus</u>. As I receive additional information from the county and state, I will pass it along to you.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me. Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Michael Regan Principal