

Pleasant Grove Elementary
New Family Virtual Orientation Meeting
Thursday, July 23 6:30 PM -- Google Meet

Participant Questions

[Start of School/General Questions](#)

What day is Kindergarten starting?

August 17th is the first day of school for all students. All students will begin the year with online learning.

How do we get the student ID number?

Your child's student ID number should have been provided to you by the school where you completed your registration. Please contact Pleasant Grove Elementary if you did not receive this important information. You can email Principal Batten at bbatten@wcpss.net for assistance.

Are the school supplies listed on the Pleasant Grove website required for Virtual Academy?

Yes, all students are expected to have the supplies necessary for their grade level. Lesson activities this year will include work that students complete online as well as independently at home.

Will AIG (Academically/Intellectually Gifted) testing be conducted for 3rd grade this year?

WCPSS will determine a plan for AIG testing that schools will follow. More information will be provided by the school district about this topic in the future.

When will students start in-person learning? How many days will they be required to attend?

WCPSS is monitoring data trends and consulting with state and local health officials to determine when it will be safe and practical to start in-person learning for students. The district will continue to communicate updates with families.

[Kindergarten Health Assessment/Immunization Questions](#)

Is the Health Assessment required for Kindergarten?

Yes

If students submitted the Health Assessment last year, are they required to submit it again?

The North Carolina Health Assessment is required for all students who are new to a public school in North Carolina in grades K-5. If your child attended Alston Ridge Elementary, Hortons Creek Elementary, or another North Carolina public school last year and you submitted the required Health Assessment, then the document should be included in your child's student records.

Do I need to submit the Health Assessment forms to Pleasant Grove if my base school is different?

Yes, if your family has been assigned to Pleasant Grove as an "overflow" school, you are required to submit the Health Assessment form to Pleasant Grove since that is the school your child will attend for the 2020-2021 school year.

What about families who have religious exemptions for vaccines?

Families who express religious exemption for vaccines/immunizations must submit a written statement of their religious objection to immunization, including the name and date of birth of the child for whom the exemption is being requested, to the school. If a family is requesting religious exemption for more than one child, a separate statement should be prepared for each child and submitted to the school.

How do we drop off the required Health Assessment form?

Families may drop off the required Health Assessment form at Pleasant Grove between 9 AM - 3 PM on Mondays - Fridays.

Do we need to drop off the required Health Assessment form of kindergartner before the 'VIRTUAL' classes start (i.e. Aug 17)?

Yes

Learning Environments Questions

If we had planned on doing Plan B what should we do since that will not be happening?

All WCPSS will begin school on August 17 with full online instruction. WCPSS will transition to in-person learning for students whose families are not participating in the Virtual Academy at a later date in the year when it is determined by district leaders that it is safe, and practical, to do so. The first two weeks of school for all students will focus on orientation, meet and greet opportunities, and distribution of supplies. Unless you wish to change your preferences to enroll in the Virtual Academy, you do not need to take any action at this time. WCPSS will re-open the registration window for the Virtual Academy on 12:01 AM July 27 and close it at 5:00 PM July 29 for any families who wish to change their preferences for the upcoming school year.

So if Plan B was what we wanted, we don't have to apply to virtual since everyone is starting virtually until further notice correct?

If you wanted Plan B, and you continue to want your child to have the opportunity to move back to in-person learning if it becomes possible during the 2020-2021 school year, then you do not need to take any action at this time. The WCPSS Virtual Academy provides an option for families who want their child to have a consistent, continuous, online learning experience for the entire school year. If your preferences have changed, and you wish to select the WCPSS Virtual Academy, applications will be accepted July 27-29. Visit <http://wcpss.net/virtual-academy> to register.

If your family had initially registered for the Virtual Academy and now you want to withdraw your current application or make changes to it, you should contact Pleasant Grove Elementary. You can contact Principal Batten at bbatten@wcpss.net.

Health and Safety Measures Questions

Are all kids required to wear face masks?

Yes

Who is responsible for helping sick or injured children when the School Nurse is not on site?

All WCPSS schools are assigned School Nurses who are shared between multiple schools. The School Nurse at Pleasant Grove is Jasmine Trudeau. Her contact email is jtrudeau@wcpss.net. Ms. Trudeau is typically on-site two to three days a week. All WCPSS schools follow guidelines established by the state that require specific staff members complete additional trainings each year to support students with needs ranging from diabetic care, seizures, food allergies, asthma, to other medical conditions. These trained staff assist sick or injured students as needs arise.

What measures will be taken when someone is tested COVID positive -- either kids or staff

First, we will report suspected, presumptive, or positive cases of COVID-19 to Wake County Public Health and work with health officials for follow-up and contact tracing. If a person with COVID-19 was at school while infectious we will coordinate with health officials to notify employees and families while maintaining confidentiality. Second, we will close any affected areas within the school for 24 hours so these locations can be systematically disinfected according to the standards established by district leaders and health officials.

Virtual Academy (VA) Questions

Is there another opportunity for families to register for the Virtual Academy?

Families will have a second opportunity to apply for the Virtual Academy on July 27 - 29. The application will close on July 29 at 5:00 PM. Visit <http://wcpss.net/virtual-academy> to apply.

How are the specials going to be conducted for VA?

Specials classes at Pleasant Grove, such as Art, Music, and Physical Education, will be available to students in the Virtual Academy based on availability and scheduling. These opportunities will include a mix of live sessions facilitated by the Specialist teachers as well as recorded lessons that Virtual Academy students can access through a menu of choices.

Can you start with Virtual Academy and switch to in person?

Families who apply to the Virtual Academy must commit to at least one semester of participation. WCPSS recommends that families who select the Virtual Academy participate in the program for the full duration of the 2020-2021 school year.

I applied to the Virtual Academy and would like to change my application. How and when can I do that?

Families who have applied to the Virtual Academy and would like to withdraw or change their application should contact Pleasant Grove Elementary. You can email Principal Batten at bbatten@wcpss.net. Students who are currently only enrolled for the Fall semester will have the option to apply to continue in the Virtual Academy. The application window for Spring enrollment will be in late October/early November. Students enrolled in the Virtual Academy in the Fall will be granted priority to continue in the Spring.

When students will be receiving laptops for Virtual Academy and/or online learning?

WCPSS recently contacted families to survey needs for devices. The district will use the results of this survey to organize device distribution events across the county for families at the beginning of the school year. More information will be communicated to families by WCPSS in the upcoming weeks.

Will kids have a class teacher assigned for Virtual Academy?

Yes they will have an assigned teacher.

Can we change to in-person learning for the second semester (although we chose Virtual Academy for whole year) if things get better with COVID?

If families do not register for the Virtual Academy now, then they can request to change their child's learning environment at the start of the spring semester. Spring semester enrollment will be based on availability and other factors impacting schools.

Can we still contact teachers to talk to about specific needs for the kids? If so, who do we contact?

Yes, families will be encouraged to contact their child's teacher as needed during the school year. Teachers will be eager to contact families at the beginning of the school year as well. Information about the teachers who will work with your child will be communicated to families closer to the first day of school.

Are the school supplies listed on the Pleasant Grove website required for Virtual Academy?

Yes, all students are expected to have the supplies necessary for their grade level. Lesson activities this year will include work that students complete online as well as independently at home.

Digital Devices Questions

When will students receive laptops for Virtual Academy and/or online learning?

WCPSS recently contacted families to survey needs for devices. The district will use the results of this survey to organize device distribution events across the county for families at the beginning of the school year. More information will be communicated to families by WCPSS in the upcoming weeks.

Teacher/Classroom Questions

When will we know who our student's Homeroom teacher is?

Information about the teachers who will work with your child will be communicated to families closer to the first day of school.

Can we still contact teachers to talk to about specific needs for the kids? If so, who do we contact?

Yes, families will be encouraged to contact their child's teacher as needed during the school year. At Pleasant Grove we make use of Class Dojo as a convenient mobile application that allows families and

teachers to communicate through texts. Teachers will be eager to contact families at the beginning of the school year as well. Due to COVID-19, Pleasant Grove teachers will host virtual "Meet the Teacher" opportunities as the school year begins.

Before/After School Program Questions

Will an After School Program be an option once students return in person? Or are Before and After School Programs not an option this school year?

Pleasant Grove Elementary has typically worked with Raleigh Parks and Recreation during past school years to offer before and after school programs for families. Due to COVID-19, Raleigh Parks and Recreation will not be able to offer a before school program to Pleasant Grove families at this time.

Raleigh Parks and Recreation anticipates that it will be able to offer a modified After School program for families if students are allowed to return to school for in-person instruction on Plan B. However, this program would be limited to 48 students per week to support social distancing and will end at 6:00 PM each weekday in order to allow for the additional cleaning that will be required.

Raleigh Parks and Recreation also anticipates offering Virtual Learning Day Camps at regional locations throughout the county that families can register for on a weekly basis. Parks and Recreation is finalizing these details and should begin to display information on its website in August. Families are encouraged to visit the City of Raleigh Parks and Recreation School Based Programs website or call 919-996-4800 for more information.