

Dear Wildcat Families,

This week was filled with many exciting moments that marked the beginning of another wonderful school year. I would like to say “thank you” to the entire Wilburn community for welcoming me with open arms into an environment that feels like family. I am truly honored to lead such a strong and vibrant community and I look forward to serving you this school year.

Tomorrow marks the start of a new and very unique school year. Although we are not able to welcome students on campus, teachers and staff have worked diligently to create meaningful ways to make the start of the new school year nothing short of amazing! In spite of the different setting for learning, students can expect to receive high quality learning experiences, targeted support, and ample opportunity to nourish their social and emotional needs.

Please know that as we embark on this new journey, a great deal of time, energy, effort, thought and care has been put forth by your Wilburn family to ensure that each and every student succeeds.

To view this week’s video message, please click [here](#).

Updates for this Week:

- **Welcome Emails**

- All parents should have received a welcome email on Thursday from their child's homeroom teacher. If you did not receive any correspondence from your child's teacher, please email our data manager, Cindy Parry (cparry@wpcss.net). We would like to make sure Powerschool information is accurate so that you do not miss future communications.

- **WakeID Portal and Google Classroom Login**

- Please practice with your child logging into the Wake ID Portal and Google Classroom. If your child needs their account to be reset, please reach out directly to your child's teacher.

- **Orientation**

- The first two weeks of this year will be an orientation period. At Wilburn, during the first two weeks, we will focus on **Building Relationships and Promoting Connectedness**.
- There will be a tremendous amount of flexibility involved during these two weeks, as students settle into this new learning environment and teachers work to prepare students for everything they need to do so.

- Teachers will not deliver the full two to three hours of live instruction during weeks 1 and 2 due to orientation events, such as student and family conferences . If your child is having issues with scheduling and/or other needs, we will work with your child to ensure their learning is progressing appropriately.
- **Expectations, Attendance and Scheduling**
 - What will be different this year than from when we switched to remote learning in March, is that we have a completely new set of expectations. This will be school as we know it for the time being. As such, expectations for attendance and participation will be as if students are attending school in person.
 - [Attendance](#) will be taken - again with flexibility as key. Students who have a two-way interaction with a teacher such as a virtual classroom meeting, email or phone call, and/or are turning in daily assignments will be counted present.
- **Technology**
 - We know that not every student will have connectivity the first day of school. The district has hundreds of employees and volunteers who will be devoting the next two weeks to reach out to families who need it and support them in getting it.
 - It is very important that families do not come to the school to try to secure a device. There are five high schools serving as distribution sites. If you submitted a device request in our recent tech survey, you will be notified by email soon when your device will be ready for pick-up. Please wait until you receive notification before going to a distribution site to pick up your device. If you go to a distribution site before receiving notification, there will not be a device available for you.
 - Again, teachers and support staff will work with students to catch them up once they are connected. Your child will **not** be penalized for getting started later than others.
- **Back to School Website**
 - The district has developed resources to help you with the back to school transition. We encourage you to visit the Back to School website at wcpss.net.
- **Tech Support**
 - Information about how to support online learning is available at wcpss.net/techguides. The resources on this site show students how to log into their Wake IDs and student email, how to set up and use Chromebooks and Internet hotspots, how to connect to WiFi, how to use learning systems such as Google Classroom and Canvas, and much more. You can also find how to contact the Help Desk for direct support.

- **Food Services**

- Meals will be served at no cost to students at food distribution sites across Wake County through Monday, Aug. 31. Beginning Tuesday, Sept. 1, students will pay for meals based on their [meal benefits eligibility](#). In addition, a student's ID number will need to be provided in order to receive meals beginning September 1. Parents/guardians may pick up meals without a student present if they can provide the ID number of the student. For more information and a list of all community distribution sites, visit wcpss.net/food. See [more information](#) regarding [meal service options](#).
- **Free/Reduced Meals**--To apply for free or reduced-price meals, you can do so online by visiting www.MySchoolApps.com. Paper applications will always be made available throughout ALL Wake County Public Schools, Crossroads, and at Central Office. For more information, please visit this [site](#).

- **Extension of Deadline for Immunizations and Health Assessments**

- A new Executive Order issued by Governor Roy Cooper suspends but does not waive documentation deadlines for proof-of-immunization and health assessment requirements for school. In typical years, proof of required immunizations and health assessments were required within 30 days of the first date of attendance of school. After the 30 days, children are to be excluded from school until the family provides documentation of requirements. All immunization requirements and health assessments are now due by September 30th, 2020. Students will be granted a 30-day grace period which expires on October 30th, 2020. Learn more on NCHHS's website.

- **Childcare and Support During Remote Learning**

- Families looking for a program to supervise their children during remote learning can view available options at www.wakeed.org/fast. Organizations across Wake County have worked together to provide locations convenient to most families that provide affordable supervision during the day. Financial assistance is offered by individual providers.
- **YMCA Scholastic Support Centers**--The YMCA of the Triangle has been working diligently, and in collaboration with local school systems, to develop supplemental learning programs that align with educational requirements while also supporting out-of-school time and child care needs of students. We're happy to introduce YMCA Scholastic Support Centers. YMCA Scholastic Support Centers are a place where your K –8 students can go to participate in their online school or Virtual Academy classes. The program is offered either Monday – Friday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. with an extended day option for those who need

full-day care, or as a full-day program from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Hours vary by location. To learn more or register for YMCA Scholastic Support Centers, [visit the website today](#).

PTA News

- **August Newsletter**--Please check out the newsletter for next month: [August 2020 2021 PTA parent__family letter](#)

With Wildcat Pride,

Dominique Teasley

Lead Learner/ Chief Energy Officer