



WAYSIDE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

Learn. Love. Serve.

Covid-19 Reopening Plans

2020-2021

Updated 8/20/2020



Letter from the Administrators

As we look forward to the beginning of the 2020/2021 school year, the health and safety of students, their families, and our staff is of great importance. While there are many disagreements with regards to the “facts” about Covid-19 and the severity of this virus, we want to do what we can to put reasonable precautions in place to be sure that we can have a safe and effective school year.

Children rely on schools for academic and social development and in the case of WCS that includes spiritual development as well. With that in mind, Wayside Christian School has developed a re-entry strategy that allows flexibility, transparency, and prioritizes the health and safety of our school community while maintaining in-classroom instruction five days a week. The administration, school board, and staff of WCS is preparing for on-site learning operations to resume on August 31, 2020. We will follow specific health precautions which will be in accordance with our local, state, and federal requirements to the best of our ability.

This booklet is meant to inform you of the framework that we are putting in place as we look forward to opening in the fall. Please understand that what you read in this booklet can change as guidelines and regulations change. We look forward to having you back in the classrooms soon.

Pastor Timothy Compton

Pastor Donald Helman

Hygiene/Cleanliness

Expectations of Parents

The support of parents is vital to us being able to minimize the spread of sickness throughout the school year and maintain in-classroom instruction. A student that comes to school sick, whether it be with coronavirus or any other sickness, is likely to spread that illness to others in their class and the school. We are asking that parents do the following for this upcoming school year...

- Check your student's temperature prior to sending them to school. Students with temperatures of 100.4 degrees or higher should stay home until fever free for at least 72 hours (without the use of any medication to control fever).
- In addition to a temperature over 100.4 degrees, students who experience two or more COVID symptoms (diarrhea, cough, widespread rash, earache, headache, chills, muscle pain, sore throat, loss of taste or smell, nasal congestion, etc.) that are not otherwise explained should be kept home until symptoms have not been present for at least 72 hours.
- Individuals with COVID symptoms may return to school 24 hours after recovery with an alternate diagnosis (i.e. strep throat) and approval in writing by their healthcare provider.
- Teach your student the importance of hand washing or use of hand sanitizer before eating, after using the restroom, after coughing/sneezing, or after blowing his/her nose. Students should also be taught to cover their mouths with a tissue or the inside of their elbow if they need to cough or sneeze, and to avoid touching their mouths, noses, and eyes with their hands whenever possible.
- Send a water bottle with your students name written on it to be used throughout the day.
- Be sure that all contact information is up to date in MySchoolWorx and that multiple methods of getting a student home from school are available should they become ill or exhibit symptoms.

We believe all of these expectations are extremely reasonable and really should be followed even if we were not dealing with the effects of Covid-19. If your student is sick and needs to miss some school, our teachers will work with you to do whatever

we can to make sure your student does not fall behind.

Expectations of Teachers and Staff

All of the things that we are asking parents to do before sending their kids to school, we are also asking of our teachers and staff.

Teachers and staff will not be permitted to travel to states that have been placed on the governors recommended quarantine list while school is in session unless it is for a family emergency (death in family, wedding of immediate family member, etc.). If a teacher must make a trip to one of these states, a period of quarantine will be required before returning to the classroom.

Teachers will also be expected to maintain a high level of cleanliness in their classroom and to be reminding students to wash their hands and to practice proper hygiene.

School Actions to Help with Proper Hygiene

In order to assist our students and staff with practicing proper hygiene the school will do the following...

- Reminders of proper hygiene will be placed in bathrooms, lunch areas, and classrooms.
- All classrooms will be stocked with supplies needed for daily cleaning.
- Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of common areas and frequently touched surfaces (door handles, handrails, toilets, etc.).
- Desks will be sanitized between each class period in the Jr/Sr High. All desks will be sanitized at the end of each school day.
- Sharing of materials and supplies will be minimized in the classrooms as much as possible.
- Hand sanitizer will be placed at the entrance of each building, classroom, and the lunch areas.

Drop Off, Pick Up, & Visitors

Student Arrivals

Students should arrive at the school no earlier than 7:45 AM and no later than 8:00 AM. Upon arrival elementary students should proceed directly to their classroom. Jr/Sr High students, upon arrival, may head to their lockers and then should proceed directly to their homerooms. The teachers will be present in their classroom beginning at 7:45 AM. Any students that arrive after 8:00 AM will need to check-in at the office prior to heading to their classroom.

In order to limit the number of people coming in and out of the buildings in the morning, we ask that parents remain in their cars unless they need to talk to a teacher or visit the school office.

Doors should be propped open by teacher on duty from 7:45 AM until 8:00 AM whenever the weather allows in order to reduce the need to touch door handles.

Student Pick Up

Pick up for Elementary students will begin at 3:00 PM. Parents should line up, in their cars, in a single-file line just like normal pick-up procedures. When the weather allows, students will line up outside in groups by classroom and will be called to come to the car by a teacher when it is their parents turn in line to pick them up. In the case of inclement weather that would not allow students to line-up outside, students will remain in their classrooms. The teacher on duty will call to the classrooms for students to come out as parents arrive.

Jr/Sr High pick-up will begin at 3:05 PM. Parents that arrive early to pick-up their Jr/Sr High students should allow those picking up Elementary students to line-up ahead of them. Jr/Sr High students will wait outside to be picked up when the weather allows. In the case of inclement weather, students will wait in lobby for parents to arrive to pick them up.

As with arrival, in order to limit the number of people coming in and out of the buildings, we would ask that parents remain in their cars unless they need to talk to a teacher or visit the school office.

Visitors in Buildings

In order to limit the amount of people coming in and out of the classrooms throughout the day, all visitors, including parents, should check-in at the school office prior to going to any classrooms. Only parents or legal guardians will be permitted to enter student classrooms on an as-needed basis. All guests, parents, and visitors will be required to wear a mask and have temperature taken in order to enter school buildings during school hours.

If something needs to be dropped off for a student, it can be dropped off at the office and we will make sure that the student receives the item.

Face Mask Policy

Students

All students will be required to wear a mask when times of physical distancing can not be maintained. This means that when students are seated at their desks they will not need to keep their masks on since desks will be appropriately distanced. However, students will need to wear a mask when moving through the hallways and classrooms. Masks will not be required while eating or during recess/gym class times.

Staff

In order to both comply with the guidelines published by the Governor's office and to provide our teachers with the professional freedom to determine when the coverings interfere with the learning process, we will ask our teachers to wear face masks in the common areas where intentional distancing may not be possible such as in the hallways and cafeteria. We will also ask that teachers wear face masks when working within 3-6 feet of the students or providing individual instruction. Teachers will be permitted to wear a face shield instead of mask when upfront teaching.

General Procedures

Classrooms

- In WCS classrooms, desks will be setup for as much distancing as possible and not be clustered together with students facing one another.
- Shared classroom materials will be eliminated as much as possible.
- All classrooms will be stocked with supplies needed for daily cleaning and wiping of surfaces.
- Doors will be propped open as often as possible to maximize airflow and to reduce the need to touch door handles.
- Jr/Sr High classrooms will have desks wiped down between each class period.
- Choir practices will be moved to a larger room where more physical distance can be placed between student chairs.
- For handbells and handchimes, each student will have his own pair of gloves to use throughout the school year. Gloves should not be shared with other students.
- “Boomwhackers” will be sanitized after each use.
- Classrooms will be limited to a maximum of 15 students.

Recess/Lunch

When weather permits, all recess time will be spent outdoors. In order to help maintain smaller group sizes, recess time and lunch time will be scheduled by classroom for elementary students. Once a class finishes their lunch time, the tables will be sanitized prior to the next class coming into the cafeteria area.

On hot lunch days, anyone preparing food and serving food to the students will be required to wear a mask and gloves. If condiments are needed for the hot lunch meal, individual packets will be provided or a staff member will handle the condiments.

Library

Books that are checked-out and then returned to the library will be not be re-shelved and placed back into distribution for at least 3 days

Exposure/Positive Testing Protocol

A COVID-positive student, faculty, or staff member may not return to school until 10 days have passed since the symptoms first appeared (or 10 days from the positive test if asymptomatic) AND at least 72 hours have passed since recovery (defined as resolution of fever without the use of medications and improvement in respiratory symptoms).

If a student, faculty, or staff member tests positive for COVID-19, the school office must be notified as soon as possible. In the event of a positive case within the school, we will respond quickly. The administration will contact the local health department for guidance regarding possible closure, cleaning, and parent notification. WCS will consult with the local health department to assess factors such as exposure to students or employees and the ongoing status of school activities. The school buildings will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.

If an individual in one's home tests positive for COVID-19, students or employees in the household should also stay home (i.e., self-quarantine) for a minimum of fourteen days.

Orientation and First Day of School

In order to help maintain smaller group sizes we will be splitting our orientation time into two separate days. Those with **ONLY** K-6th grade students should plan to attend orientation on Thursday, August 27th at 6:30 pm. Those with students in **BOTH** elementary and Jr/Sr High or just Jr/Sr High should plan to attend on Friday, August 28th at 6:30 pm. At least one parent **MUST** be present at one of these orientation times. Teachers will be available to meet with after orientation, however, the school buildings will only be open for families that are new to the school this school year.

Please understand that in order to limit the number of people going in and out of the building we will only be allowing K4-K5 parents to enter the building during drop-off on the first day of school. Please plan on taking any pictures outside the school buildings.

School Interruptions/Closure

It is the hope and prayer of WCS that we will be able to complete the entire 2020/2021 school year with on-site instruction. However, in the event that our local community experiences a spike in Covid-19 cases and an interruption of physical operations occurs, WCS will be prepared to shift to off-campus instruction. The use of take-home packets and digital platforms will play a heavy role if any off-campus instruction is needed to take place.

Elementary

In the event of school interruption, WCS intends to use a combination of weekly take-home packets as well as pre-recorded or live lectures by our teachers in order for students to continue with their education. The pre-recorded lectures will be made available on Youtube or can be placed on a flash drive for students to take home with the weekly packets. Parents would need to pick up the weekly packet on the scheduled day while at the same time dropping off the completed work from the previous week.

Elementary teachers will also be made available throughout the week to schedule online tutoring sessions with your students as needed.

Jr/Sr High

In the event of school interruption, WCS intends to use an all-digital platform with our Jr/Sr High students. Students will be permitted to take home chrome-books during this time. The digital platforms used would be a combination of Google Classroom (where all assignments, tests, and quizzes would be completed and submitted), as well as either GoGuardian, Google Meet, or Zoom for live classes with their teachers.

More details with regards to these plans will be explained and made available if needed during the school year.

Appendix A: COVID Screening Tool

COVID-19 Screening for Parents

Every morning before you send your child to school please check the following:

- 1 Your student does **NOT** have a fever greater than 100.4 degrees (*may be lower based on your school's policy*) OR lower if your child is not feeling well.
- 2 Other signs of illness such as:



CONGESTION
OR RUNNY NOSE



FEVER 100.4*
*or school board policy
if threshold is lower



COUGH



SHORTNESS OF BREATH OR
DIFFICULTY BREATHING



DIARRHEA



HEADACHE



NAUSEA
OR VOMITING



SORE THROAT



MUSCLE PAIN
AND FATIGUE



CHILLS



NEW LOSS OF TASTE
OR SMELL

- 3 Were you in close contact (within 6 feet for more than 15 minutes) with anyone confirmed with COVID-19 within the last two weeks?
- If the answer is **YES** to any of the questions, **DO NOT** send your student to school. Instead, begin quarantine of your child and contact your healthcare provider. Strongly consider COVID-19 testing.

Appendix B: When a student or staff member can return to school

Individual	Return to school
Fever of 100.4°F or greater, or two or more COVID symptoms (cough, difficulty breathing, chills, muscle pain, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, nasal congestion, diarrhea, etc.) that are not otherwise explained.	May return to school after 72 hours have passed since recovery (defined as resolution of fever without the use of medications and/or improvement in symptoms).
Low-grade fever below 100.4°F without other COVID related symptoms, OR alternate diagnosis (strep, etc.) as determined by a medical provider.	May return to school after 24 hours have passed since recovery.
COVID positive, symptomatic	May return to school after 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared AND at least 72 hours have passed since recovery.
COVID positive, asymptomatic	May return to school after 10 days have passed since the positive test. If the individual develops symptoms, the 10-day Isolation period restarts (see above).
Family member or close contact with confirmed COVID-19	May return to school after a 10-day quarantine after contact with the COVID-19 positive person.

