



# White County School System

**Reopening Plan  
for 2020-2021 School Year**

# Overview

WCSS plans to begin the 2020-21 school year for teachers and staff as scheduled on August 3, 2020 and students will return **August 14, 2020**. *Please note that this is a change from our approved calendar.* Our reopening plan reflects guidance from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), Georgia Department of Education (GADOE), state and local health officials, and input from the community. As we approach the start of a new year, our team is emphasizing flexibility while still maintaining high-quality educational opportunities for all students. Information is rapidly changing and we are doing our best to prepare for the upcoming year with the information we have available at this time.

As a result of our collaborative efforts, we are pleased to share the following Reopening Resource Guide with our community. This is designed to provide our staff, students, parents/guardians and other stakeholders with plans for the upcoming year.



# Practicing Prevention



# Practicing Prevention

***WCSS believes that educating our staff and students in disease prevention and healthy hygiene are important steps to preventing the spread of any sickness, including COVID-19. We will promote the following behaviors:***

- CDC signage will be uniformly placed in designated areas in all of our schools.
- The importance of healthy hygiene practices will be reinforced by classroom teachers through lessons, videos and morning announcements.
- Cloth face coverings (Buff or Neck gaiter style) will be provided by WCSS. Students and staff will be strongly encouraged (but not required) to wear these or other face coverings when physical distancing is difficult.
- Touchless hand sanitizer stations have been added throughout each building.



# Enhanced Safety



# Enhanced Safety

**WCSS will strive to maintain healthy environments  
in our schools by:**

- Regular application of Ecovasive electrostatic EPA registered botanical disinfectant treatment throughout all schools.
- Deep cleaning of all schools prior to student/staff return.
- Increased cleaning routine of all high-touch classroom areas/spaces daily.
- Additional cleaning measures in high-traffic areas of schools.
- Conducting routine daily checks to ensure that cleaning supplies (soap, sanitizer, paper towels, etc.) are adequately stocked.
- Touchless water bottle filling stations installed in all schools.



# Enhanced Safety

WCSS will strive to maintain healthy environments in the common spaces by:

- Assigning activity zones at recess in elementary schools and limiting the intermingling of classes.
- Preventing and/or limiting large gathering opportunities during the day.
- Restricting the use of locker rooms for PE classes.
- Managing traffic flow throughout the buildings.



# Enhanced Safety

**WCSS will strive to maintain healthy environments in our classrooms by:**

- Increase routine cleaning of all classroom spaces daily.
- Limiting the use of high-touch materials; cleaning after each use.
- Assigning students individual Chromebooks.
- Modifying classroom layouts to maximize square footage to maintain spacing.
- Arranging classrooms such that students will sit facing the same direction.
- Individually labeling desk, containers, supplies and cubbies.
- Removing soft-surfaces as appropriate.





# Enhanced Safety

***The entry of other non-essential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external groups or organizations will be limited.***

- Virtual Open Houses for all grade levels will be scheduled.
- Small group school and classroom visits for Students in K, 6th, 9th and students new to WCSS will be scheduled (More information from individual schools forthcoming).
- Visitor access beyond the lobby areas of our buildings will be limited to essential individuals only.
- Parents will be asked to stay in their cars as they drop students in the morning, and pick them in the afternoons.
- At this time, no in-person school wide events or large gatherings will be scheduled.



# Transportation



# Transporting Students

- Quarterly application Ecovasive electrostatic EPA registered botanical disinfectant treatment on all buses.
- Assigned seating to minimize student contact.
- Stagger arrival and departure times of buses per building.
- Increased daily cleaning routine after each route.
- Bus routes will be adjusted to decrease the number of students per bus.
- Increased circulation of outdoor air by keeping windows down on buses when possible.



# Food Service



# Serving Meals

- Breakfast will be served “grab-and-go” style and students will eat in the classroom.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available to students prior to entering the cafeteria and upon leaving cafeteria.
- Self-serve options will be removed from lunch service.
- Guides will be used on the floor and in the seating area to keep students separated while in line and while seated.
- Scanners will be used at point of sale and pin pads have been removed.
- Tables and high-touch surfaces will be sanitized after each use.
- Pre-wrapped utensils will be used.



# Athletics and Extracurricular Activities



# Athletics and Extracurricular Activities

- **Athletics:** WCSS will follow the guidelines from the Georgia High School Association (GHSA) regarding all athletic practices and competitions.
- **Field Trips:** Only competition-based field trips will be scheduled following guidance at this time (Band, FFA, Sports, etc.).
- **Clubs:** When allowed to resume, club sponsors will be required to read, sign and comply with school health prevention and safety guidance for all after-school meetings.

*Students who participate in Digital/Distance Learning options will be allowed to participate in athletics and extracurricular activities.*



# Supporting Teaching and Learning





# Instructional Models

The well-being and safety of our students while providing a quality education is our primary goal. In response to feedback from our community, WCSS will be offering two instructional models for the 2020-21 school year.



## TRADITIONAL FACE-TO-FACE

WCSS is excited to offer a face-to-face option for our students. We have implemented additional procedures, precautions and safety measures in order to create a positive, safe and healthy environment. See the following pages for more details.



## DIGITAL/DISTANCE LEARNING

All students will be offered a virtual option. Students who select this option will work with district and school administrators to develop an individualized learning plan and will complete courses via an online platform. See the following pages for more details.



# Supporting Teaching and Learning

## *Traditional Face-to-Face Instruction*

We recognize that students will have varying needs when they return to school. WCSS will:

- Establish an academic baseline for students upon returning.
- Provide targeted interventions, enrichment and supports to students who need it.
- Provide support to students as they learn coping and resilience skills through our school counselors and student services team.
- Provide resources to our staff and families as needed.



# Supporting Teaching and Learning

## *Digital/Distance Learning*

### General Information:

- Digital/distance learning for the 2020-21 school year will not look like the online learning from the past spring.
- Expectations in terms of participation, attendance, grading and accountability will be the same for students participating digitally and in person.
- A significant commitment will be needed by both students and parents in order to facilitate successful virtual/distance learning.
- Students must be motivated, organized, self-disciplined and supported. Parent involvement is key to successful digital/distance learning.



# Supporting Teaching and Learning

## *Digital/Distance Learning*

- There is a semester-long commitment for digital/distance learning
- Students will be taught according to the Georgia Standards of Excellence and grades will be based on academic performance
- Core academic courses will be available for all grade levels
- The school district will remain responsible for the free appropriate public education of students eligible for special education services with an individualized education program (IEP) that opt for digital/distance learning. Because online learning may affect how special education and related services are provided, the student's IEP team will work to ensure that the student receives services to the most appropriate extent possible.
- Digital/distance learning will take place Monday through Friday. Students will be expected to participate, complete assignments, quizzes and tests on a daily basis.



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# Digital/Distance Learning Participation

- If you are interested in pursuing the Digital/Distance Learning option, a form will be emailed to all parent/guardian contacts in Infinite Campus next week, as well as shared through our district website and social media outlets.
- Please completely fill out this form and a WCSS representative will follow-up with you based on the contact information provided in the form.

**For additional information please visit:**

<https://www.white.k12.ga.us/>



**We are Warrior Strong  
and  
We're BACK!**

