



782 Springdale Drive, Exton, Pennsylvania 19341 • Phone: 484-266-1000 • [www.wcasd.net](http://www.wcasd.net)

June 29, 2021

Dear WCASD Community,

I am writing to inform you that the WCASD School Board of Directors approved a revised [Health and Safety Plan](#) at last night's monthly board meeting, effective immediately. We will use this updated guidance as we plan for the opening of the 2021-22 school year.

**Key components of our plan include:**

- Masks will be optional for all staff and students in school and at all WCASD events and activities.
- Students will have assigned seats on school buses, but masks will be optional.
- Parents will have the option to choose either:
  - Traditional in-person learning - OR -
  - Enroll in the K - 12 West Chester Cyber Program (virtual learning). Our cyber program was in development before the pandemic, and is a very robust program, taught by WCASD teachers, using WCASD curriculum. It offers flexibility for students and parents to access education from anywhere there is internet access. The district can help to secure internet access for families who may not have it.
- The district is **not planning to operate a hybrid learning model** (where students zoom in from home)
- Routine cleaning will continue to be implemented, as well as regular hand washing and use of hand sanitizer stations before lunch and throughout the day.
- Drinking fountains will be turned off, but water filling stations will be available in each school.
- We are also preparing to welcome back our parent volunteers. We appreciate all the support we received from our parents during the pandemic, and we can't wait to see you back in our schools.
- Each school will be developing a Social and Emotional Learning Plan to address student needs.
- For our summer programs, we will still be contact tracing if a child or staff member tests positive for COVID-19. We have not received any guidance from the Chester County Health Department for the fall. If guidance changes, we will let our community know. We don't yet know if we will be asked to quarantine students.
- As the number of positive COVID-19 cases in Chester County continues to trend downward, we will suspend the use of our COVID-19 dashboard for the time being. Previous data will be archived on our website. We will contact parents directly if we have a positive case in our schools over the summer that requires contact tracing.

We will continue to monitor COVID-19 metrics as we prepare for the next school year, adjust our health and safety plan if necessary, and communicate important information with staff and families over the summer as needed.

Thanks for everyone's patience as we prepare for a more normal start to the school year.

Sincerely,

Jim Scanlon  
Superintendent