



Temporary Access to Classroom Instruction

The WCASD remains committed to in-person learning and we believe our current instructional model is best for our students. In addition to posting asynchronous work, we will begin offering temporary access in our classrooms **starting Tuesday, January 18, and concluding Friday, January 28, 2022.**

Temporary access will allow absent students to observe classroom instruction remotely. **This option is intended as a tool to support absent students during the current COVID surge and is not the integrated instructional model we used last year.**

How can students use the temporary access?

- Students who are absent from school for COVID-related reasons and those seeking the vaccination or booster may voluntarily log in to observe and listen to a class session.
- Students will not be actively participating during class (camera and mics will be turned off), and they will access any lesson materials through Schoology.

Are there circumstances in which this option will not be available?

- If all students are present in person, the remote camera will not be used for that session.
- Additionally, if no students are logged in within the first five minutes of class, the camera will be turned off.

How is this option different from the remote instruction offered last year?

- Teachers will not take attendance for students on Zoom. Students making use of this option will still be marked absent.
- Teachers will not directly interact with remote students. They will use a fixed camera that will not move during the lesson.
- Lesson materials will not be available through teacher screen-sharing during classroom instruction.



When will temporary camera access be offered in elementary schools?

- Cameras will only be used by the regular classroom teacher for direct instruction in ELA and Math. Cameras will not be used by substitute teachers or covering teachers.
- Temporary camera access will be available during whole group English Language Arts, Math and Special Education instruction at the elementary level.
- Students in grades K-2 will not make use of this instructional option.

When will temporary camera access be offered in secondary schools?

- Cameras will only be used by core area, World Language and Special Education classes. Cameras will not be used by substitute teachers or covering teachers.

What supports will be provided for students K-2 instead of Temporary Access to Classroom Instruction?

- As a district, we have reviewed the benefits and drawbacks of the Temporary Access to Classroom Instruction at all levels, and specifically in our primary grades. We have determined that this mode of instruction is not as effective for meeting the developmental needs of our youngest learners. As our youngest students learn best with guidance and opportunities for hands-on activities, our teachers will provide appropriate work to be done at home, and work with families to support that student while they are at home.
- While we navigate COVID-related absences, we will continue to offer tutoring at the elementary level to provide targeted support for our students. Individual or small group tutoring will be more effective than Temporary Access to Classroom Instruction for our primary students.

Will temporary access change the way students are marked absent?

- No. Students are still considered absent when they are not in school due to COVID-related reasons even if they make use of the temporary access, but these absences can be marked as a “Parent Note,” Nurse Exclusion” or “Doctor’s Note” depending on the circumstances.
- Students who return to school with proof of vaccination or a booster can have up to five days of their absences converted from a “Parent Note” to a “Nurse Exclusion.”



Where should questions regarding temporary access or technical assistance be directed?

- For general questions that do not relate to your student's specific teacher or course, please contact WCASDInstruction@wcasd.net. Please include the school your student attends and their full name so that we can best answer any questions.
- For technical questions, please visit our [technical support webpage for students and families](#).