



## **CWASD Family Communication**

### **August 3, 2020**

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#### **1. Fall Reopening Planning Update**

Our district and schools continue to plan for a full return to in-person (classroom) learning for the 2020-2021 school year. Currently, the buildings are working with their building-level teams to develop plans to implement as many of the mitigation strategies as possible to reduce the exposure and spread of COVID-19 once schools reopen. This planning is an immense undertaking, but we have many dedicated and talented people working diligently to welcome back students and staff in less than a month.

As a reminder of our timeline, our buildings will provide their first draft of their building-specific reopening plans to the district leadership team during the week of August 17. The district leadership team will provide feedback on those plans during the week of August 17. The buildings will present their complete plans to the CWASD Board of Education on Monday, August 24. If the CWASD Board of Education approves the reopening plans at that meeting, we will communicate the complete plan to families that week.

#### **2. First Day of School for Students**

Many of you may have noticed that we have not released a 2020-2021 school calendar yet. We held the release of the school calendar intentionally to try to accommodate the need to make changes because of COVID-related issues. However, as we near the start of the 2020-2021 school year, we want to provide families some direction on our start date.

**Tuesday, September 1**, will be the first day of school for students in grades K-12. Students preparing to enter PreK (Bright Beginnings) will receive communications on their schedule shortly.

Building principals will provide details on other events such as open houses, orientations, etc. in the upcoming weeks.

### **3. Statewide Face-covering Order**

Many of you probably are aware of the fact that Governor Evers issued a state-wide order mandating face-coverings. We'd like to take this opportunity to make sure our school families have this critical information, so I've included some resources for families to review. Please click on the links below to read over the resources.

[Executive Order #82 - Relating to Declaring a Public Health Emergency](#)

[Emergency Order #1 Governor Evers Statewide Face-Covering Order](#)

[Emergency Order #1 FAQ Document](#)

The obvious question families have right now is how does the statewide order affect public schools' decisions on students wearing face-coverings? The advice we've received is that all public schools must comply with the statewide face-covering order. Unless something changes between now and September 1, CWASD students will be required to wear a face-covering to adhere to the rule. Medical exemptions will be allowed on a case-by-case basis.

Over the next few communications, we will provide helpful tips and resources for families to assist with preparing students to use face-coverings in schools once we begin.

### **4. New Family Survey Released Later this Week**

Later this week, we will deploy a new survey to our school families. At this point in our planning, we'd like to assess our school family's thoughts in the areas of educational options and transportation.

- a. Choice of Learning Option - As we've mentioned earlier, along with opening the 2020-2021 school year with full, in-person classroom learning, we intend to offer a virtual/remote option as well for those families that have concerns with the in-person return to school. We want to assess how many families would choose which option.
- b. Transportation - For those who typically use bus transportation to/from school, we'd like to know how many families will continue to use transportation services versus opting for private transportation such as parent pickup & drop off. Knowing the number of families that plan to use busing will assist us with spacing & capacity decisions.

## **5. Importance of Developing & Having a Backup Plan**

As we plan for our return this fall, we want to remind our school families to continue to make plans in the event of quarantine, illness, or school closure due to COVID-19 related issues. With an in-person return, students and staff may require periodic quarantining. A quarantine may occur with a few students, a classroom, a grade level, or even an entire building or district as the whole. Also, there is a possibility that there may be a countywide or statewide shutdown as well. Unfortunately, if these quarantines or closures occur, there will not be much, if any, advance notice. We want to encourage families to have plans if students are not able to attend school physically.