

Whitefish Bay School District K-12 Update - March 19, 2020
Family Frequently Asked Questions

Please read our updated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) and responses as we continue to navigate the ever-changing factors during this pandemic. Our teachers, administrators and staff hope your families are safe and healthy.

What is WFB’s plan now that the Governor announced on March 17, 2020 an extended closure?

Based on our current understanding of COVID-19 and CDC recommendations, we have been preparing for an extended time off from school and the implementation of Virtual Learning Time (VLT).

What is the timeline for WFB starting a Virtual Learning Time (VLT) Environment?

Virtual learning will be in place for the duration of the public health emergency and no students will report to school. Below delineates the anticipated timeline based on our current understanding of COVID-19, CDC recommendations, and the Governor’s orders.

Dates	Elementary K-5	Secondary 6-12
<p>March 30 - April 3</p>	<p>Elementary staff will receive virtual training on technology tools and collaboratively plan between Cumberland and Richards grade level curriculum targets that can be met in a VLT environment.</p> <p>Teachers may begin to send review activities for units that were in process via Google Classroom or email. These activities are not considered VLT.</p>	<p>Secondary staff will receive virtual training on the learning management system and identify curriculum targets that can be met in a VLT environment.</p> <p>Starting April 1, 2020, secondary staff will send review and/or preview activities for units that were in process via Google Classroom or email. These activities are not technically considered VLT but will allow for continuity of learning.</p>
<p>April 6 - April 9</p>	<p>April 6 and April 8 District Technology Staff, LMC and Counselors will be sending training videos, along with some lessons regarding digital citizenship and social-emotional well-being to be completed by students via Google Classroom or email. Students will receive training tools on Google Classroom.</p> <p>April 7 and April 9 will be Virtual Learning Time days. These are trial dates for staff and students to ensure they can successfully access and navigate in the new environment.</p>	<p>April 6 and April 8 Students will continue to engage in the review and preview activities for units that were in process sent from their teachers via Google Classroom or email. Students will receive training tools on our Canvas, the learning management system for grades 6-12.</p> <p>April 7 and April 9 will be Virtual Learning Time days. These are trial dates for staff and students to ensure they can successfully access and navigate in the new environment.</p>
<p>April 13</p>	<p>Begin daily Virtual Learning Time with required attendance.</p>	<p>Begin daily Virtual Learning Time with required attendance.</p>

Why is WFB not able to launch VLT before the week of April 6, 2020?

Virtual coursework, including curriculum, resources and materials, are designed for the virtual experience from the very beginning. We have high standards for our curriculum and instruction, and our teachers need to work together to identify those priority standards which can be successfully implemented in a VLT format. Not all standards and curriculum can and will be able to be met in a virtual environment. Our current WFB curriculum is designed for face-to-face instruction, and we do not have a virtual learning school. The District has procured a learning management system, Canvas, and it is on an expedited track to be operational by March 30, 2020 for grades 6-12. In preparation for VLT, we have already deployed the necessary technology to our students and staff to ensure access from home.

Based on the anticipated timeline noted above, our teachers require time to learn the technology platform and tools to deliver VLT. Our educators will be planning how their curriculum needs to be modified in order for it to be delivered effectively in VLT format.

What is social-distancing? How can it help stop the spread of COVID-19?

The Governor's decision to take the drastic step of closing schools indefinitely is to slow the spread of COVID-19 by practicing social distancing. For it to be effective, families should avoid gathering with others in homes or other places during this school closure. We have included a link from Dr. Hall, who is a biology instructor from UW Stout and uses a white board for a simple explanation for kids AND parents. [How to Flatten the Curve \(Dr. Hall from UW-Stout\)](#)

What conversations should parents have with their children at home?

Feel free to review the resources below with your family to help your student(s) understand the precautions and behaviors during the Governor's ban on social gatherings. These resources, shared on the next page, are for students and families and focus on the following Health curriculum standards:

- **Standard 1-** Students will comprehend concepts related to health promotion and disease prevention to enhance health.
- **Standard 1A.** Develop age-appropriate cognitive understanding of health promotion concepts to improve health behaviors and prevent disease.
- **Standard1:2:A3** Explain ways to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.
- The importance of social distancing and it's impact of slowing the spread of disease during a pandemic

Grade Level	Resources for Students	Resources for Families
Elementary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PDF- Little Puddins IE: Social Story ● Video- NPR: Just for Kids: a comic book for talking to kids about Coronavirus. ● Video- BrainPop Coronavirus Video 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Boston Children’s Museum: Cover Your Cough and Sneeze! How to Teach Kids to Cough/Sneeze into Their Sleeves ● Article from 3.13.20 with great suggestions- Social Distancing: This is Not a Snow Day ● Article- Child Mind Institute: Talking to Kids about the Coronavirus
Secondary Grades 6-12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CBC Canada Video - What is Social Distancing? ● USA Today Video - Just the FAQs ● Time Magazine: What is Social Distancing? Here’s How to Best Practice It as Coronavirus Spreads ● How to Flatten the Curve (Dr. Hall from UW-Stout) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CDCs FAQ Document for COVID-19 and Children ● Vermont Public Radio Article: Explaining Coronavirus to Kids, and the Science of Soap ● Article- Child Mind Institute: Talking to Kids about the Coronavirus

In closing, we will continue to be in regular communication via email, school messenger, and our website as we move forward. Thank you for your patience and understanding during these unprecedented times.

Additional, specific information regarding the expectations for virtual learning at each level will be communicated to you from the principal at each building.

The School District of Whitefish Bay is working closely with federal, state, and local leaders to provide information to our system to ensure the health and safety of their students and educators in creating this ever evolving guiding document. The School District of Whitefish Bay



shall be held harmless from and against any and all suits, actions, damages, claims, costs, losses or liability of whatsoever kind or character arising from the use of this guiding document by other agencies.