



1200 E. Fairmount Avenue Whitefish Bay, WI 53217

P: 414-963-3921 F: 414-963-3959

www.wfbschools.com

November 15, 2020

Dear Whitefish Bay School Community,

Special Board Meeting Decision - At a special meeting on November 13, 2020, the School Board voted to transition to temporary virtual learning for all schools based upon worsening COVID-19 trends, the recent instances of instability in the blended model, and the Board's review of current data and metrics.

The School Board accepted a proposal to shift to temporary virtual learning beginning November 23, 2020 through January 8, 2021, with a data review and check-in at the Regular Board Meeting on December 9th to determine if shifting back to blended learning earlier is possible. The following are specifics related to the shift to virtual learning:

1. Cumberland Elementary School will continue in the full virtual instructional model for the week of November 16-20 due to an ongoing number of quarantines of school staff, as was previously communicated.
2. Richards, WFBMS, WFBHS will continue in the Blended AA/BB schedule for the week of Nov 16-20. We encourage those students/families that would like to transition immediately to full virtual learning to contact their school to make such arrangements.
3. Full District Virtual Learning from Nov 23, 2020 to Jan 8, 2021:
 - a. Cumberland, Richards & WFB MS Blended Classrooms will shift to VLT 2.0 - schedule and specifics to be shared with families by principals on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 18th.
 - b. Current Elementary Virtual Learning Classrooms will have no change in their schedule.
 - c. WFB High School - Implement Virtual Learning Time (VLT), which includes a 7 period a day schedule like the most recent VLT implementation - schedule and specifics to be shared with families by Principal Levek on the afternoon of Wednesday, November 18th.
4. Please notify the District Nurse, Jackie Turkal, if your child is diagnosed with COVID-19. It is important that we continue to track case trends in our student population to best inform future decisions.

All students will be participating virtually except for those students whose educational needs can not be met solely in the virtual format as determined by school-based teams. An additional special meeting of the School Board will be held on January 6, 2021 at 7 PM to review the COVID-19 data and metrics to determine if the instructional model in place at that time should be modified. or adjusted.

Engaging in the virtual modality for this time frame will maximize the health and safety of our students and staff, and stabilize school operations. Thank you for your flexibility and understanding during this transition. All staff should report to school to deliver virtual learning, unless you are under health department quarantine.

Respectfully,

Dr. John W. Thomsen - Superintendent of Schools



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Community transmission is at critical levels and increasing in the North Shore, county and state. School community members must continue to make decisions that maximize safety and COVID prevention, both inside and outside school. This is especially important as the winter weather and holidays approach. Minimize non-essential close contact with non-household members and avoid non-essential travel. Practice at least 6' physical distancing and wear masks among non-household members, both indoors and outdoors. Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette are also important strategies.

Be reminded it is essential that students and staff stay home if they feel ill; wash hands often, continue to wear a mask; and be mindful of your physical distance. Please see a practical and regularly-updated [COVID risk calculator](#) and decision-making app and the [DHS-designed decision guide](#) as references.

About COVID-19 -- COVID-19 is an illness caused by a new coronavirus. It spreads from person to person through droplets created when we cough, sneeze, talk, sing or laugh. Most people—especially young people—who get COVID-19 have mild illness, similar to having a cold or the flu. However, in others it can cause severe illness, such as pneumonia. Symptoms of COVID-19 include:

- Fever (temperature 100.4°F or higher)
- Cough
- Trouble breathing
- Chills
- Muscle/body aches
- Loss of sense of taste or smell
- Runny nose or nasal congestion
- Fatigue
- Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea

The CDC's website has good information about COVID-19: www.cdc.gov/coronavirus.

Prevent Further Spread -- The following guidelines will help to prevent further spread of illness at our school:

- Notify the school if your child is diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Notify the school if your child had contact with someone who you know was diagnosed with COVID-19.
- Keep students home from school if they are sick.
- Encourage good habits: frequent handwashing, covering coughs and sneezes, use of mask or face coverings in public, and staying home as much as possible.
- Continue to encourage your child to practice consistent mask wearing, physical distancing, and hand hygiene at school

For more information on COVID-19, visit the [District COVID-19 FAQ page](#) or the [District COVID -19 Safety & Communications page](#).