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Learning and Leading for Tomorrow

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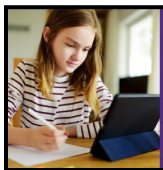
Back to School ... a New “Normal”



One thing is for certain, as WBSD students made their way back into classrooms to begin the 2020/21 school year, nothing was normal about it in any way, shape or form. With the 2019/20 school year abruptly ending in late March, COVID-19 gripped the state and shut everything down. We quickly learned that living with a pandemic would change everything, and we’d all have to embrace a new “normal”.

Once Gov. Whitmer released the MI Safe Schools: Michigan’s 2020/21 Return to School Roadmap on June 30, 2020, the WBSD began fine-tuning its return-to-learning plan that it began developing in the spring. Many hours and meetings later, on August 14, 2020, the Board of Education ultimately approved a plan which incorporated a face-to-face option as well as a remote learning option - choice for parents being a major component and an important goal of the Board of Education.

For the safety of all staff and students, a “slow, safe start” was implemented for the first three weeks of school. Students with the last names A-K attended Monday/Tuesday. Students with the last names L-Z attended Thursday/Friday. Wednesdays consisted of deep cleaning of all buildings and PLC time for teachers. On September 28, 2020, in-person learning returned at 100%.



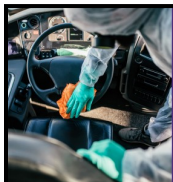
MENTAL/SOCIAL HEALTH

A screener will be sent electronically to each student to assess mental and social-emotional health



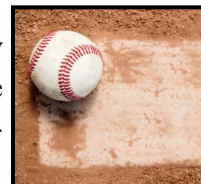
HAND SANITIZER

Students are encouraged to sanitize using provided hand sanitizer when entering and exiting classrooms



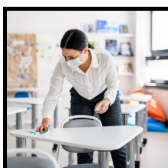
BUS SANITATION

Buses will be cleaned and disinfected throughout the day, after each route



ATHLETICS

We will continue to follow all guidance and protocols from the Michigan High School Athletic Association (MHSAA)



FREQUENT HIGH TOUCH DISINFECTION

Staff will disinfect high touch point areas 3-5 times per day



CASHLESS LUNCHES

To increase safety, new breakfast and lunch procedures will be established, such as “cash-less” lunchroom transactions

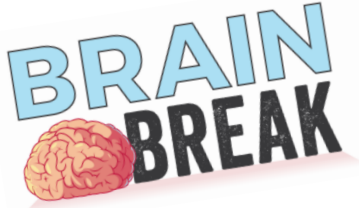


HEALTH AND SAFETY

All students and teachers are required to wear a facial covering in the classroom, hallways, common areas, and on the school bus

Keeping Students Connected

With students working within two different learning models, it has become challenging to bring all students together as one group. Staff has had to come up with creative ideas to connect face-to-face students with remote students. Thinking “outside the box” has become critical as staff struggle to bring all students together.



Wegienka Elementary School Principal Michelle Briegel has done just that. Briegel stated, “We’re trying to find ways to connect our learners both in-person and remotely.” Together with the PTO, Briegel has come up with three unique ways to keep all students connected. The first is through weekly brain breaks. Briegel said, “Wegienka students are participating in a weekly “brain break” with the entire school simultaneously, both in the building and at home.”



What is a “brain break”? Brain breaks are mental breaks designed to help students stay focused. They reduce stress and frustration and increase attention and productivity. Briegel notes that Wegienka brain breaks are hosted by comedian Cameron Zvara. Brain breaks will take place weekly for the first six weeks of school and then once a month for the remainder of the school year. See for yourself by checking them out on the Wegienka website - <http://wegienka.brainbreak.live>.



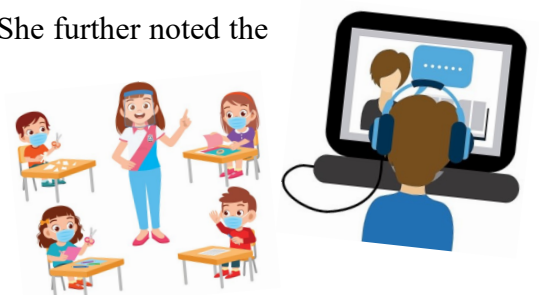
Wegienka Elementary has also partnered with Animal Magic of Belleville. Each week, all Wegienka students will learn about a different animal which is shared with the entire school in a video clip.



Finally, Briegel noted that Student of the Month celebrations now take place via Zoom with the entire student body both at home and at school. Briegel said, “Some of the students have not seen some of their friends since March . . . it has truly been emotional and exciting” for students.

At PHMS, Counselor Betsy Kanagawa said the Counseling Department has been offering a “virtual cafeteria” to students once a week. Kanagawa explained, “We invite remote students to eat lunch with each other on Zoom while participating in activities. We’ve hosted lunch-time trivia and ‘would you rather’ games.” She further noted the virtual cafeteria is being offered to both in-person and remote students to give them an opportunity to interact with each other.

One thing is for certain — the dynamic staff of the WBSD is thinking outside the box by not missing an opportunity to bring all students together. Warrior Strong — Stronger Together!



Short . . . but oh so Sweet!

Even though some fall sporting seasons were cut short this year, Woodhaven Warrior athletes still managed to shine. Both the boys and girls cross country teams completed undefeated seasons and brought home 1st place finishes in the Downriver League meet. Both teams moved on to the MHSAA regionals at Lake Erie Metro Park on October 31st.

Abi Saco became the first Lady Warriors golfer to qualify for the MHSAA state tournament. The girls golf team is a relatively newer sport for Warrior Athletics, having been formed only four years ago. Boys soccer won its third straight Downriver league championship. Shine bright Warriors!



Wait — Homecoming in the Spring??

Yep, COVID-19 strikes again. Due to the many restrictions that COVID-19 has placed on indoor and outdoor gatherings, WHS administration thought it best to postpone this year's Homecoming to the spring of 2021. Homecoming activities were to take place the week of October 16 kicking off with spirit week and rounding out the week with Warrior football and the Homecoming dance. By postponing Homecoming to the spring, administration hopes to give students, especially the Seniors, the chance to celebrate with each other and have those meaningful experiences that define high school. Student Council sponsored a Spirit Week with themed days taking place throughout the week: "Into the Wild", "Celebrity Day", "College Gear Day", "Through the Ages" and "Purple & White Day" were celebrated by staff and students.

The Warriors took the field against Trenton High School earning a 15-8 victory over the Trojans. This was Coach Christnagel's 100th career win. Way to go Coach Chris! The Warrior Marching Band, and as well as the dance team and all the cheerleaders, were able to participate in the football game activities—the first and only time these groups could take the field for the 20/21 football season.

Friday night lights, it felt "normal" being back in Frank Scarton Memorial Stadium watching the Warriors do what they do best — WIN!



A Day in the Life of a Warrior . . .



Varsity Swim making a splash.



Warriors take on the Allen Park Jags.



Tennis anyone?!



PHMS Teachers sportin' their varsity jackets.



Getting ready for assessment testing at Bates.



Erving 1st graders enjoying some recess time.



Dental Occupation students mastering the skeletal system.



Pizza Day at Wegienka Elementary!



Wegienka Young 5 students participate in the "Into the Wild" Spirit day.

Erving Elementary 1st graders using Chromebooks in the classroom.



Warrior Strong -- Stronger Together