



2020-2021 School Reopening Plan Highlights

July 21, 2020



**WASHINGTON
TOWNSHIP**
SCHOOL DISTRICT

Important Notice

The Washington Township School District 2020-2021 Reopening Plan is in draft format. While the district continues to work toward finalizing the plan, it will remain a fluid document to integrate additional guidance from both state and county health and education departments, as needed.

The School Reopening Plan will not fit everyone's individual circumstances. Plan development has been based on survey results, parent/staff feedback and data driven research. The plan allows families one of two choices to best fit their needs, while providing a learning environment for students and staff, which follows health and education department guidelines.

Global Considerations

- “The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” -New Jersey Department of Education
- American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP)
- CDC – Considerations for Schools
- National Institute for Excellence in Education
- Warren County Health & Education Departments

District Considerations

- School Community & Staff Surveys - [Results of Family Survey](#)
 - 58% of families preferred on-site instruction
 - 48% of families preferred on-site instruction
 - 10% of families preferred on-site instruction with a modified schedule
 - 32% of families preferred a combination of in-person and remote
 - 10% of families preferred only remote learning
- Student Ages: 3 - 12
- Class Sizes: Most grade-levels range between 14-18 students.
 - Adjustments have been made to any grade-level with 20 or more students per homeroom, enabling smaller homeroom sizes.
- Social and Emotional Well-Being of Students
- Educational staff and resources to support program options, successfully – not feasible to support more than 2 options

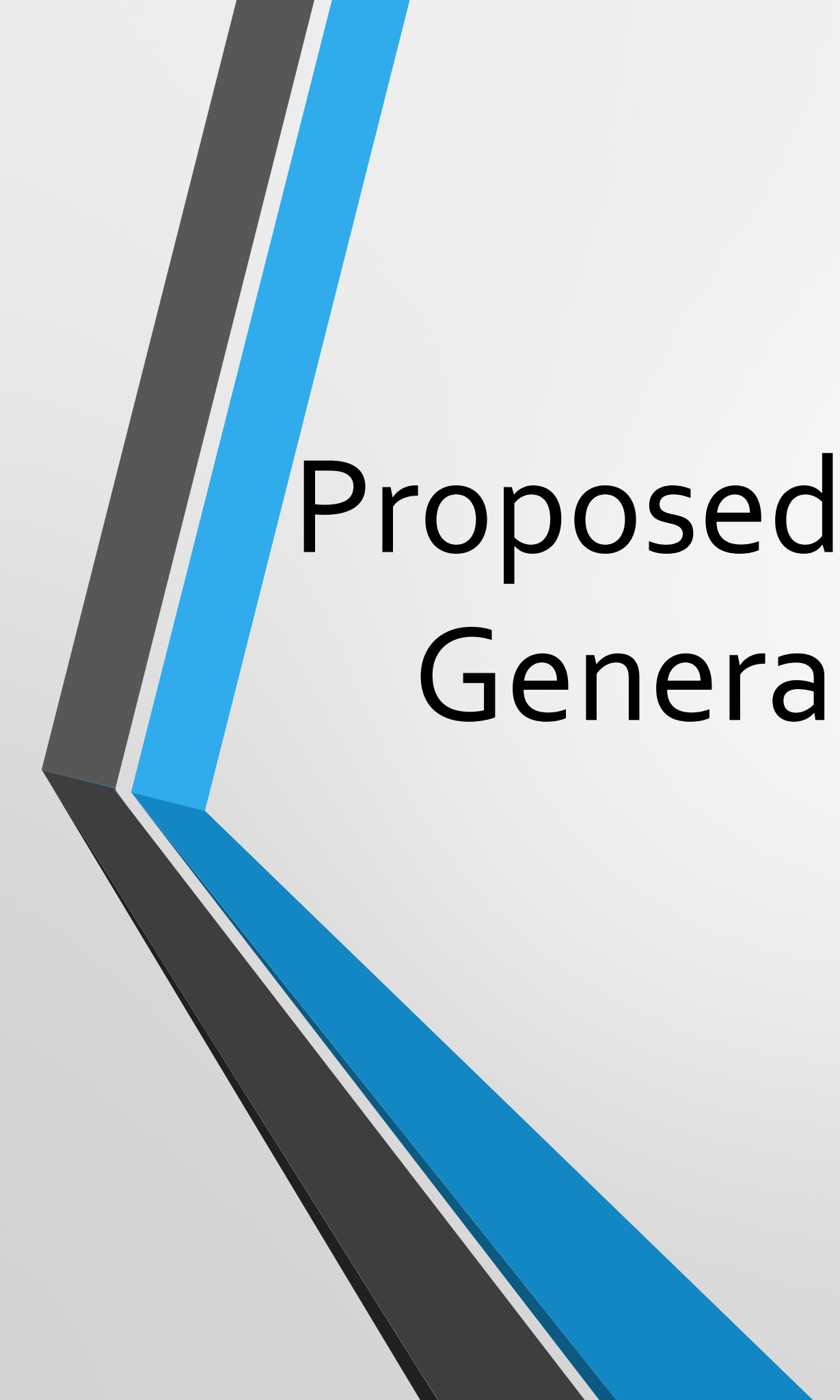
District Options

Option 1

5 days per week on-site instruction, within typical school hours; assigned homeroom; following state and health developed protocols

Option 2

5 days per week remote learning instruction; abbreviated scheduled with assigned teachers



Proposed Reopening Plan General Information for Options 1 and 2

General Schedule Items

- District will maintain the current school calendar – 1st Day for Students --- September 2, 2020
- No Childcare Program to start the school year (no before care or after care)
- No extra-curricular activities to start the school year
- Students will have 1 special area subject class per marking period (art, music, world language, media)
- No leveled Math groupings
- All students will continue to have physical education, health, and safety classes throughout the school year

General Technology Items

- All students will have an assigned iPad – devices will NOT be shared.
- iPads will go home with students each night, in case of a sudden change to remote learning for on-site learners. Students will be required to charge iPads fully, at home, for use during the school day.
- For families in need, the district will have a limited amount of smart spot WiFi devices for home use.
- Instructional staff members will have access to district devices for use at home, as needed.
- All students will be provided with a Microsoft 365 accounts
 - Microsoft Teams
 - Video-conferencing with staff members, during periods of remote learning
 - Access to all subject areas in one platform
- Students will be provided with a single sign on login. This login will allow students to access many (few exceptions) student programs using one password.

Student & Parent Training of Instructional Programs

- Students/families will receive training, via various platforms, at the beginning of the school year for utilizing technology programs and their devices.
- Students will review safety and health protocols at the beginning of the school year.
- Where possible, training webinars / reference guides will be made available to students and parents/guardians.



Reopening Plan – Option 1

On-Site Instruction

Health Screenings

- All parents should screen their children before putting them on the bus or bringing them to school
 - Temperature check
 - COVID-19 (signs to look for to be provided to families)
- Infrared touchless thermometers will be used by staff to screen student's temperature
- Students with a temperature of 100°F or greater (*temperature guidelines provided by "The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education"*)
 - Students will be directed to each building's "quarantine room" for further screening from the school nurse. If prior to entering the building, exterior door of "quarantine room" will be used, to minimize potential exposure in the school building. Students with a temperature of 100°F or greater must be sent home – no exception.

Health Screenings – Bus Riders

- Students will have a:
 - Temperature screening completed by staff, prior to entering the building
 - Designated entrance, determined by grade-level
- Students with a temperature of 100°F or greater will be directed to each building's "quarantine room" for further screening from the school nurse. Exterior door to be used. Students with a temperature of 100°F or greater must be sent home – no exception.
- Potential COVID-19 cases will be reported, as required, to the Warren County Department of Health – See Draft Guidance

Health Screenings - Parent Drop Off

- Temperature screening will be completed by staff, at parent drop off area (guidance indicates any individual with 100.0 °F or higher will not be permitted to enter the building)
- If cleared, students will be directed to enter the building at a designated location (by grade-level)
- Potential COVID-19 cases will be reported, as required, to the Warren County Department of Health – See Draft Guidance

Health Notifications / Procedures

- All determinations for notifications and procedures relating to suspected or confirmed COVID19 cases will be done in consultation with the Warren County Health Department.
- Steps to be taken by schools, individuals and/or families after suspected or confirmed COVID19 cases will be determined in consultation with the Warren County Health Department.
 - Note: If a full classroom is required to quarantine, the class will go into sudden Remote Learning instructional mode.
 - Individual students/families required to quarantine will have some form of Remote Learning available. TBD.
- The District does not have the authority to make Health notifications/determine procedures without consulting the Warren County Health Department.
- See Draft Guidance from the Warren County Health Department.

Health Screenings – Warren County Health Department Guidance

DRAFT – 7-15-20

WARREN COUNTY COVID-19 SCHOOL COMMUNITY CONTAINMENT GUIDELINES

SITUATION:	CONTAINMENT RESPONSE	NOTE
Confirmed Case (Student or Faculty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete investigation and contact tracing • All students and faculty in class or on bus with a confirmed case are quarantined for 14 days • Confirmed case will isolate as per existing guidance 	
Probable Case (Student or Faculty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May recommend school-wide virtual instruction for a day to allow health department to complete contact tracing investigation • All students and faculty in class or on bus with a probable case are quarantined for 14 days or until Probable Case tests negative • Probable Case will isolate as per existing guidance. • Probable Case is recommended for testing 	
Reported Symptoms (Student or Faculty) with no known exposure to a confirmed case	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student and faculty member with symptoms stays home until 72 hours after symptoms resolve • Testing for COVID-19 recommended but not required 	Hoping for NJDOH recommendation on how long these students should stay home. May be only 24 hours from resolution of symptoms
Close Contact (Student or Faculty)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Student or faculty that are close contacts of confirmed cases outside the school will quarantine for 14 days from exposure 	

Assumption:

- There is a low confidence that students and teachers can remain 6 feet apart during a class period
- There is a low confidence that students can be six feet apart on the school bus. (All bus trips are longer than 10 minutes)

Definitions:

- Confirmed Case: A person with a lab test confirming COVID-19
- Probable Case: A person with clinical symptoms of COVID-19 with known exposure to a confirmed case
- Close Contact: A person who was within 6 feet of a confirmed or probable COVID-19 case for at least 10 minutes

Bus Transportation

- Parents are responsible for checking their child's temperature before getting on the bus.
- Students must wear masks on the bus.
- Bus drivers will have a supply of masks available for students, if needed. Students are asked to bring a mask from home, if possible.
- When possible, bus capacity is being limited.
- The number of students at a bus stop will be reduced, if logistically possible.
- Families will be seated together on buses.
- Windows will be open on the buses as much as practical.
- Buses will be sanitized between Warren Hills and Washington Township routes.
- All buses will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of the day.

Parents may elect to waive district sponsored transportation. Waiver forms will be sent in the near future.

Protective Measures at School

- All staff and students will be required to wear a face covering in school / on buses.
 - Exception: medically documented health condition that prevents such a covering.
- Parents are asked to help their children build “mask endurance” prior to school resuming in-person by practicing new social norms in public settings.
- Students are asked to bring their own masks from home, but the school will have additional supplies available for students.
- Student lanyards will be provided to hold masks, during mask breaks/lunch/outdoor physical education.

Protective Measures at School

- All student desks will have desk shields (clear plastic dividers on student desks) and be distance-spaced, to every extent possible.
 - Note: Most classrooms do not allow for 6ft. of space between student desks.
- Students will be provided “mask breaks” during the school day (socially distanced and/or outside). This includes short breaks, behind student desk partitions (following health department guidance).



Protective Measures at School

- Students will observe social distancing guidelines whenever possible.
- Entrances to buildings will have automated hand sanitizing stations.
- Each classroom will have hand sanitizer available.



Protective Measures at School

- Students will wash hands before lunch / after lunch, recess and/or returning from other outside activities.
- All classrooms will have safe cleaning materials for students to clean their own iPads, personal area.
- Acrylic, plexi-glass and/or plastic dividers will be utilized by therapists for instruction. Cohort groupings for therapies will be limited.
- Appropriate staff will have access to N95 masks, face shields, isolation gowns and gloves, as needed.

Protective Measures at School

- Custodians will utilize electrostatic sanitizing equipment during the day to sanitize touch points throughout the building / bathrooms.
 - Enhanced cleaning of building bathrooms, throughout the day.



- Health offices and “quarantine rooms” will have Odorox Air Processing Systems in place.



General Schedule Items – Option 1

- On-site instruction within typical school hours
- Programs may transition quickly between in-person and remote learning, if required. Assigned teacher will remain the same for on-site / remote learning.
- Limited mixing of student cohorts:
 - Special area teachers will travel to student homerooms
 - Sixth grade will follow a revised classroom model; students will remain together by homeroom; teachers will travel to homeroom classroom (exception: science lab classes)
 - Special Education students will be assigned to a general education homeroom, with peers in the same special education program to every extent possible. Students will move to the designated special education teacher's assigned classroom, as needed.

General Schedule Items – Option 1

- Gym/Health/Safety
 - Students will have Gym, Health & Safety classes scheduled 3 x weekly. When weather permits, teachers will take classes outside for physical education (at minimum 1 x weekly). Health & Safety Classes will take place in the homeroom classroom setting. Schedule will maintain this flexibility between physical education, health, and safety.
- Recess
 - Recess times will be staggered and outdoor areas, assigned by grade-level and homeroom.

General Schedule Items – Option 1

- Lunch periods
 - Lunchroom tables will have large trifold acrylic screens and no more than 3 students, spaced out per table.
 - One grade level at a time; distanced table settings; large trifold acrylic screens; students sitting by homeroom; grab-and-go style lunches
 - Exception: Kindergarten Classes – Lunch in the classroom
 - Additional time between lunches to allow for enhanced sanitizing



Sudden Remote Learning for On-Site Students

- At some point, students may need to transition from on-site learning to remote learning. Situations that may cause a change to remote learning:
 - Executive Order from the Governor
 - Local outbreak of COVID-19 requiring closure of school buildings
 - Staffing Issues – if the district cannot safely provide for student health and / or supervision, the district may need to switch to remote learning.
 - Individual Classes or Cohorts of Students may need to switch to remote learning pending the review of suspected COVID-19 cases.
 - Determinations to close on-site school instruction will be made in consultation with the Warren County Health Department.
- Families & Staff will need to be prepared to change to remote with little notice. The District will make announcements regarding sudden remote learning days, via Honeywell Instant Alerts and social media platforms.
- Sudden Remote Learning for on-site students will follow a similar schedule to full-time remote learning students. *Schedule TBD.*



Reopening Plan – Option 2 Full-Time Remote Learners

Note: On July 20, 2020, the Governor released an alert indicating guidance regarding a Full-Time Remote Learning Option would be released later this week. The following plan will be adjusted, as needed, based on future guidelines.

Full-Time Remote Learning Students

- Families choosing remote learning instruction will be asked to submit their request by **Friday, July 31st**. This will allow the district to develop appropriate grade-level schedules for remote instruction. View the link to submit a form request: [WTSD Remote Learning Option Form 2020-2021](#).
- Families choosing remote learning instruction understand this schedule will be in effect through the end of the school year. However, families may make a request to change back to on-site learning, at various times throughout the school year. Additional guidance regarding this process will be detailed in the final reopening plan.
- Remote Learners will follow the appropriate grade-level curriculum. As with any classroom, activities and lessons may vary, based on teacher facilitation of the lesson. The curriculum remains the same.
- Families of students with Individualized Education Programs in place may choose the full-time remote learning option but understand related services may look different than an in-person option.
- Students participating in remote learning must be able to maintain good attendance, keep up with required assignments, etc.

General Schedule Items – Option 2

- Minimum 4 hours of instruction, daily (combination of video-conferencing sessions and independent work)
- Students will be required to sign on to TEAMS, daily, and attend scheduled video conferencing sessions
 - Schedule will be determined by grade-level/program. Most sessions will take place between 9am – 1pm.
- Students will be assigned a remote learning instructor, by grade-level/program. *Note: If on-site learners have a sudden change to remote learning, students already participating in remote learning should not be impacted.*

Miscellaneous

- Back-to-School Nights will be conducted remotely (Microsoft Teams and / or Zoom)
- Visitor entry to the building will be very limited. Visitors will be screened and will be required to wear a face covering.
- No large gatherings or assemblies.
- Outside organizations will not be permitted to utilize buildings for meetings / events.
- Outside organizations may utilize district fields, using established procedures.
- Class Trips will not take place in the fall. We will re-evaluate trips in the future.

Reminder/General Information

- Plan will be revised based on additional guidance provided by the NJDOE and Health Department (expect additional updates.)
- Additional revisions may be based on staff, community and Board recommendations.
- School Reopening Committee will review final plan.
- School Reopening Plan will be sent to the Warren County Department of Education for review.
- Finalized plan will be shared with parents / guardians by July 30, 2020.
- The School Reopening Plan is a fluid document and will continually be updated, as guidance emerges from both state and local health and education departments.

Questions?

WTSD appreciates your feedback and support, as we focus on both the social and emotional well being of our students and providing a healthy and safe learning environment.

We strongly encourage our school community to contact a school administrator for the most current/accurate information and to clarify concerns. Please remember, we are all working toward developing an unprecedented plan to best support our Washington Township school community.

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