



September 18, 2020

# East Windsor Parent Update

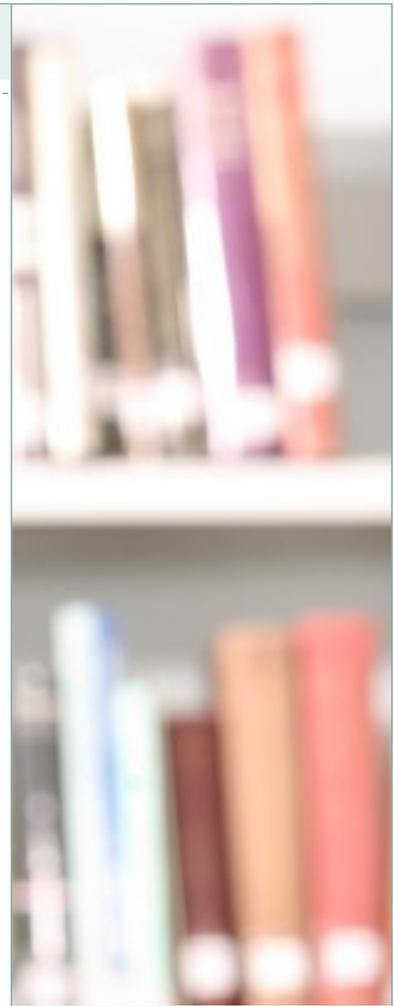
I hope everyone is enjoying the early, fall-like weather. Given our mask requirements, it is certainly easier to deal with these temperatures rather than extreme heat.

All of our students continue to do a great job following our new protocols, especially those about masks. We realize it's challenging for all of us to keep them on but appreciate how compliant everyone has been following these critical mitigation strategies.

We ask that you continue to ensure your students wear appropriate face coverings to school—including on the bus—every day. Masks with vents are not allowed. Please see the Reopening Information page of our website for more information about appropriate face coverings as provided by the Department of Public Health.

Thank you to all of our students and families for their continued patience as we work through the challenges of a new instructional model and increased load on our technology. We appreciate your sharing any issues you may encounter and thank you for understanding that we may need a few days to get things addressed.

Much of the information in this update is a repeat of last week but please check for updates especially related to our nurses office and meals!



All students in the East Windsor Public Schools are now eligible for free breakfast and lunch !!! There is nothing for families to do—just have your enrolled students come in for meals when they are in person or see page 3 for how you can get free breakfast and lunch on days you are remote—this includes our students who have opted out!! Check out the menus!

## **Students who have Opted Out**

The CSDE has allowed students to temporarily opt out of in person learning. Students who have opted out may not have the same educational experience as those attending in person classes. Some experiences, such as labs, hands on activities or elective courses, may not be available to those who have opted out.

Any students who have opted out but require a laptop must contact their child's school to request one. Our district wide distribution event has already occurred so individual families need to contact school offices.

The Department of Education will be requiring districts report the numbers of students who have opted out who are not engaged in the learning process. If your child does not log in, complete assignments or communicate with their teachers, district staff will be reaching out to families. Please ensure your child knows they must engage with instruction even though they have opted out of in person learning.

Those students who have opted out will not be able to participate in extracurricular activities or athletics at this time.

A reminder: if you have opted your child out of in person learning, we are happy to have you change your mind and decide to have them attend in person. However, do not send your child without having first contacted the school to discuss the re-entry. We are not able to allow students to remain in the building if we have not had time to adequately plan for their arrival.

Thank you for your cooperation with all of these topics.

## Meals Distribution

Students will be able to receive free breakfast and lunch on the days they are not in school—even if they opted out. Meals will be available Monday—Friday, except for school holidays (Labor Day, Columbus Day or school vacations etc...)

Meals will be available at the following on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Fridays

East Windsor High School— pick up at side door of the cafeteria in the bus loop. Hours between 7:40 am—8:40 am

East Windsor Middle School—pick up at the side door of the cafeteria in the bus loop. Hours between 8:15 am and 9:15 am

Broad Brook Elementary— pick up at the front doors in the bus loop. Hours between 9:15 am and 10:15 am

*We will have an extended pick up hours on Wednesday only from 8 am to 10 am at all schools.*

Families will be able to pick up breakfast and lunch for that day. Meals will be the same as those on the menu and will be served cold with reheating instructions included if it was a hot meal on the menu.

If you have questions about this please reach out to Greg at [gpowers@ewct.org](mailto:gpowers@ewct.org).

We had a significant number of families respond to our survey, indicating they wanted meals on days the students were not in school but very few families have been coming to get them. Please drop Greg a note if you are experiencing challenges—we are open to making changes to our process to help. We apologize but delivery of meals is not available.

Please remember: we have resources on our Reopening Information page on the East Windsor Public Schools website to help you address your child's questions and anxiety about COVID 19.

Information from each Parent Update is incorporated into the Reopening Information page weekly.

Please contact your child's school if you have any questions or need assistance in helping your child transition back to school.

[https://  
reopen-  
ing.eastwindsork12.org  
/](https://reopen-ing.eastwindsork12.org/)

## SPORTS UPDATE AS OF SEPT 18, 2020

As of now, the status of our swim team is still to be determined.

Schedules are currently available on the CIAC website at [www.ciacsports.com](http://www.ciacsports.com)

Full contact, 11 v 11 football has been cancelled by CIAC in accordance with DPH recommendations.

Spectators will not be allowed at any East Windsor Public School athletic activities, including those scheduled outside. We are investigating the possibility of adding cameras to our outdoor field and gym to allow live streaming of our athletic events. More information to come when a final decision has been made.

### **ATTENDANCE**

If you have decided to have your child attend in person classes, they need to attend school on their designated days unless they are ill or have been asked to stay home due to COVID exposure. Students are not able to change their minds day to day and decide to just “stay home” to do in person learning rather than coming in to school as scheduled.

If students are home and are supposed to be home doing distance learning they need to check in for their distance learning days by completing the attendance form in the morning for our secondary students (no form for elementary students).

### **CONTACT TRACING SCENARIOS IN SCHOOLS**

Districts have received guidance from DPH regarding possible responses to positive cases of COVID 19 in schools.

Decisions about classroom and school closures are made based on the specific circumstances of each case and one case does not automatically mean a classroom or school will be closed.

Any staff or student who is a contact as defined by DPH in Addendum 9, will be contacted directly by the school. If you do not receive a call, that will mean that neither you nor your child is a close contact.

## CHC AND COVID TESTING

The School Based Health Center (SBHC) will be offering Covid 19 testing for students who have Covid 19 symptoms. The test is a rapid antigen test. It done by the student or the parent of the student who would place a swab in the nose. Families would receive results in approximately 15 minutes by phone. If a student does test negative the recommendation would be that the student still go for a PCR nasal swab. This test typically takes 2 days for the results to return.

In order for a student to be tested for Covid 19 through the School Based Health Center, students must be enrolled in the SBHC. Here is the link for enrollment [www.sbhct.com](http://www.sbhct.com). A flyer is included in this message as well.

All students in the district can be tested if enrolled.

Middle School students would go to go to Broad Brook School for testing.

If you have any questions you can call the SBHC at East Windsor High School (860)623-3361 (Ext:7246) or at Broad Brook School (860) 623-2433 (ext:5172)

### **IF YOUR CHILD IS ILL:**

If your child is home sick with COVID type symptoms, it is imperative that you contact your child's school nurse.

The school nurses will need to follow the district's health protocols regarding possible illness and provide a procedure of care for your child. This will also assist with contact tracing conducted with the Health District

should the need arise.

Thank you for helping us with this critical process.

## **SEE SAW HELP**

Broad Brook families—there is a very helpful video about how to use See-Saw on the Broad Brook page of the East Windsor Public Schools website.

Please check it out!

## **HOW TO CONTACT I.T.**

If families are experiencing technical issues, please contact the IT department directly at

[Distancetech@ewct.org](mailto:Distancetech@ewct.org)

A reminder, our IT staff will exhaust all remote options to assist with technical difficulties before assisting in person—this is to maintain our social distancing and to reduce having many hands touching a device.

Thank you