



September 25 2020

# East Windsor Parent Update

We have completed three weeks of school so far and thank everyone for continuing to support the school community with mask wearing, hand washing and following our COVID 19 related school protocols.

I know that some parents are anxious to have students return to school on a more traditional schedule. Other parents may be just as anxious at the prospect of having students return. The Department of Public Health and our local health district have shared some suggestions for districts to consider when we discuss increasing our daily student population.

Some of these considerations include our ability to maintain social distancing at different levels between people in the buildings and in various locations—such as the cafeteria, hallways and classrooms. We also need to consider our ability to maintain the cleaning and disinfecting protocols we have in place following state guidance. In addition, the ability to cohort is also important as that impacts the numbers of staff or students who may be involved when we have a positive case and conduct contact tracing in conjunction with the health district.

The administrative team is working on the plan to increase student numbers following the timeline I had shared at the beginning of school—that we would reevaluate the situation in October and make determinations from there.

We all agree that in person learning is the best way for our students to be “in school” but we are also trying to balance health and safety at this time.



Please check the Re-Opening Information page of the East Windsor Public School website at [www.eastwindsork12.org](http://www.eastwindsork12.org) for updated resources related to COVID 19 and other issues related to the start of the new year.

Thank you

## 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).

## A FEW REMINDERS:

- If your child is sick, they need to stay home and we ask you to contact their school nurse.
- The Connecticut State Department of Education requires the district to monitor and report attendance for all students, including those learning remotely or have opted out. Please continue to follow the procedures for each school. If you have questions, please contact the school office.
- Please check the website for the most recent information—this will be included on the Reopening Information page. Information from the updates gets added to that page

# OPEN HOUSE

We are pleased to share our dates for Open House!

East Windsor High School Tuesday October 6 from 6 pm—7:30 pm

East Windsor Middle School Wednesday October 7 from 6 pm—7:30 pm

Broad Brook Elementary School Thursday October 8 from 6 pm—7:00 pm

Each teacher will post a brief, introductory video for their class on the Parent Portal by the morning of October 6 .

There are three ways to access Open House during scheduled hours:

1. Each teacher will have a link on the Portal to a Microsoft Team meeting. Parents will click into each class through the Portal to access the individual classes—much like walking from one classroom to another.
2. Parents can use their child's school issued computer to access Microsoft Teams and log in using your child's log in information
3. Go to [www.Eastwindsork12.org](http://www.Eastwindsork12.org) then the Student page, click Office 365 and enter your child's log in information.

The most important part to access the Open House is that parents must log in using their child's log in credentials.

Broad Brook staff will be available for parents to log in at any time during the Open House hours and Middle School and High School families will receive a schedule to follow, much like in previous years.

More information will be provided by each school prior to Open House dates.

## 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.sbhci.com](http://www.sbhci.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 you have concerns:**

We realize that this is a very stressful time for families. We also know that all of the pieces of schooling—whether your child attends in person or has opted out— do not always work perfectly or create frustration.

We encourage parents to share concerns with their child’s teacher or the building administrator. We want to thank all the parents who have called or emailed expressing concerns. This helps us to review and improve our supports to our students.

Right now, all families and school staff are working very hard to make things as positive as possible and your ongoing understanding and continued respectful communication is greatly appreciated. All staff want to maintain collaborative relationships with families so making a call or sending an email will help us continue to problem solve with you.

Thank you so much for your continued support of the East Windsor staff!

## **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. This can include support for accessing Portals or Teams. We will also include video tutorials for parents on the Reopening page.

Thank you