

August 27, 2020

East Windsor Parent Update

Students will attend school on the following dates for the first two weeks of school.

After the first two weeks, attendance in person will follow the schedule for students with last name A-K on Mondays and Tuesdays; students with last names L–M on Thursdays and Fridays.

Students with last names A–K grades 1-12

- Sept 8, 14, 15

Students with last names L–Z grades 1-12

- Sept 3, 4, 10, 11

Students in Kindergarten last names A–K

- Sept 14, 15

Students in Kindergarten last names L–Z

- Sept 10, 11, 17, 18

Students in preschool—all students

- Sept 10 and attend Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday either morning or afternoon based on individual student assignments

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WHAT IF MY CHILD OPTED OUT?

All students will receive classroom assignments or schedules for middle and high schools. Teachers will provide students with the assignments, access to online resources, synchronous learning times and any other learning expectation as those attending in person. However, some experiences will not be available to those students who have opted out—such as hands on experiments, team activities through physical education and similar. Based on the state

guidelines, it is up to parents to ensure that children who have opted out continue to engage in an educational program. If you are struggling with getting your child to participate, please reach out to the teacher or building administrator and we are happy to problem solve with you. Please help us by making sure your children understand they are required to participate in their school work, even if they opted out.

LAPTOP DISTRIBUTION

The first few days/weeks of instruction will be focused on getting students familiar with the technology they will be using, the new routines in the classroom and getting to know their teacher and the other students in their class or cohort.

We are planning to provide laptops for all students in grades K–12 which will be used both at school and taken home. This will be for students who attend in school and those who opted out.

Students in school will receive their laptops during the first week or so of instruction. Those opting out will be able to pick up laptops at each school on Sept 9 from 12 pm–6 pm. It will be a drive up system. If you are not able to attend on Sept 9 during those hours, please contact your child's school to make arrangements. Because devices are inventoried and signed out to individual students, parents will have to stop by each school if they have children in more than one school. We apologize for this inconvenience and thank you for understanding.

If you do not want a laptop taken home by your child or you have opted out and do not want a laptop for home use from the district, please watch for a Laptop Distribution and Food Selection form that will be uploaded to the Portal early next week.

ASTHMA AND MASK WEARING

Many of you have had questions regarding asthma and mask wearing. It is actually very important during these times for your asthmatic child to wear their mask. Asthma does not put any individual at higher risk for complications if infected with Covid 19 therefore it is extremely important for asthmatics to wear their masks to prevent the transmission of Covid 19. Asthma students should be well controlled on their daily medications at home. Rescue inhalers will be given at school but the nursing staff will be giving them either outside with nursing supervision or close to a window because of the chances of respiratory droplets going into the air. Under the advisement of our medical advisor we will not be administering nebulizer treatments this year. If your child is following their sick asthma plan which requires a nebulizer treatment, your child should be kept home. Students who self-carry their inhaler must go to the nurse's office this year to self-administer their inhalers. This is to protect others from the potential transmission of their respiratory droplets during the administration of their inhaler. If you have any questions please call your school nurse. Below is helpful link related to asthma and children during Covid 19.

<https://www.connecticutchildrens.org/ask-a-pediatrician/ask-a-pediatrician-is-it-a-good-idea-for-my-child-with-asthma-to-go-back-to-school-or-day-care-during-covid-19/>.

VISITORS TO THE BUILDINGS

Due to the possible spread of COVID 19, we will not be allowing visitors to enter our school buildings. You are invited to ring the buzzer at any of our schools or Central Office and someone will try to assist you. Central Office has a locked drop box if you need to leave forms or payment.

If we are unable to assist you outside of the building, any visitor will be required to wear a mask at all times inside our buildings.

Parent meetings will be scheduled remotely when at all possible.

We appreciate your understanding with this change of process.

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.

We also have hints about getting your child used to wearing face coverings, which are required for all students at school and on the bus.

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

<https://reopening.eastwindsork12.org>

SPORTS UPDATE AS OF AUG 27, 2020

Start dates and times for 8/31/2020 to
9/12/2020

Girls Soccer:

Monday 8/31/2020: 2:30-3:30 Soccer field

Boys Soccer:

Monday 8/31/2020: 4:30-5:30 Soccer field

Cross Country:

Monday 8/31/2020: 3-4 @ Reservoir

Volleyball:

Thursday 9/3/2020: 3-4 (Outside)

Swim: TBA

FOOD SERVICE UPDATE

East Windsor's application for community eligibility for free breakfast and lunch for all students has been approved. More information will be coming about what this means for our students. We just received notification and continue to finalize the paperwork needed.



Students will be asked to identify if they will access school meals the days they are in school and on the days they are remote learning. The option to choose will be included on the same form at the laptop selection. By choosing meals, it allows us to plan better—students may change their minds day to day—but we ask families who are making a long term change of plan to notify us.

MORE ABOUT ATHLETICS

Any student-athlete interested in a fall sport MUST sign up online at <https://www.familyid.com/programs/east-windsor-high-school-fall-2020>

All student-athletes must show proof of physical within the last 15 months

Any student who does not complete or hand in the paper work CANNOT SHOW UP TO PRACTICE unless already approved.

Any student-athlete waiting for practice to begin or use the locker room to change MUST REPORT TO THE CAFETERIA until directed to locker room, court or field.

Time slots for locker room access:

Girls Soccer: 2:06-2:25

Volleyball: 2:30-2:50

Boys Soccer: 3:45-4:15

Locker room access will be for all student-athletes who are attending school that day.

Locker rooms will not be available for students coming from home

All student-athletes MUST remove all belongings from the locker room once they are done changing. Locker rooms will NOT BE AVAILABLE after practices, matches or games.

Players must wear a mask while waiting for practice to begin, once they begin their warm ups, players may remove their mask.

Players will be assigned to a group for the first two weeks of practices

Players CANNOT switch groups during those two weeks.

Players CANNOT socialize or interact with the other groups.

Players must remain socially distant during warm ups and drills.

Teams are allowed 60 minute practices for the first two weeks. (30 min conditioning/30 min skill work)



REOPENING INFORMATION ON WEBSITE

I encourage all families to check the East Windsor Public School website under Reopening Information. This site is updated weekly or more often and includes all of the information sent out in the Parent Updates.

I encourage families to reach out with questions but you may find answers more quickly by using the search function on the Reopening Information page.

We have updated the site to include supply list suggestions and arrival and dismissal procedures for all three schools.

Please continue checking as we go through the first weeks of school.

Thank you so much for all of the wonderful questions and feedback regarding our plan. I know there are more and more questions so please keep sending them!!

I wish you all a healthy and happy week ahead.

Christine

