



October 2, 2020

East Windsor Parent Update

We have completed the first month 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.

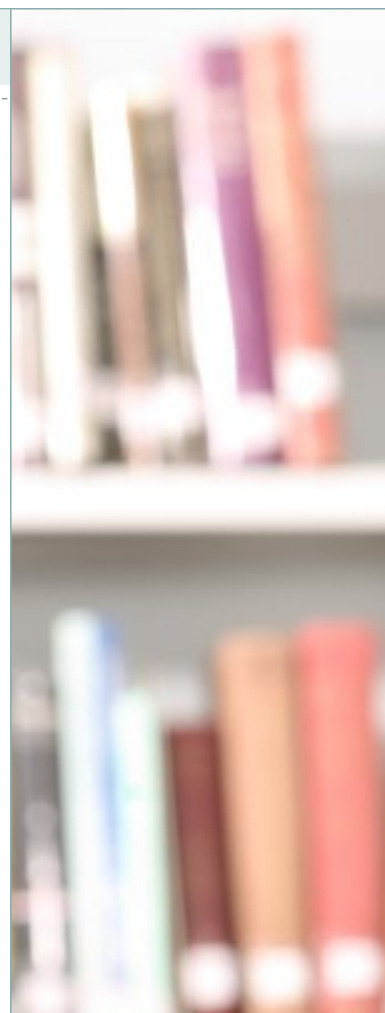
We are seeing some students come to school with vented masks. Please be reminded about appropriate face coverings. This is from a previous update and can be found on the Reopening Information page:

All staff and students (including Pre-K students) are required to wear face coverings in school buses and in school buildings —except for specific exemptions.

- Face coverings must cover nose and mouth completely and be closed under the chin
- Vented masks are not allowed
- Neck gaiters require a student to fold the material over so it is doubled
- Bandanas must be secured under the chin, like a mask
- Bandanas that are open under the chin will not be allowed
- Students who do not have masks will be provided them on the bus or in the school

Below is guidance from the Connecticut State Department of Education regarding masks and face coverings:

[Interim Guidance for the Use of Face Coverings in Schools during COVID-19](#)



Please check the Re-Opening Information page of the East Windsor Public School website at 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.

RETURNING TO “NORMAL”

As we look to increase the number of students in our buildings each day and consider what our schedule will look like going forward, our class sizes will increase. With increased class size, our ability to maintain social distancing will be reduced. The Department of Public Health has reminded us that as one mitigation factor becomes more challenging, the others become that much more important. Hand washing and mask wearing will be critical strategies for us as the distance between school community members decreases.

We also need to be aware that the number of close contacts from one case would likely be higher with increased numbers of students—the result would be a higher number of students or staff requiring quarantine for 14 days. Families would need to identify a plan in case your child has to quarantine or be part of a whole class that must be home for a period of time.

A two question survey will be sent home next week asking families to identify if their children will attend in person when we have students in the buildings for more days. We realize the factors associated with increased numbers may result in some families students at home now and others choosing to “opt out” when they have attended in the hybrid model. Your response to the survey will help us plan more effectively.

Thank you in advance for your help.

OPEN HOUSE

Please check the parent newsletters that will be going out from each school for more information about Open House. A reminder that Open House will be virtual this year!

Information was included in last week's Parent Update and can be found on the Re-opening Information Page

FREE THERMOMETERS!

If a family would like a free digital thermometer please email or call your school nurse and we will send them home with their child!!

Mary Jo Lamas RN East Windsor High School - 860-627-0169

mlamas@ewct.org

Mary Ann Stroiney RN BSN East Windsor Middle School – 860-654-0094

mstroiney@ewct.org

Christie Michaud RN BSN/ Mystica Davis, LPN

Broad Brook Elementary School – 860-627-4986

cmichaud@ewct.org or mdavis @ewct.org

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. 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

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