

SCHOOL REOPENING - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What will a return in the Hybrid Model look like for your child?

Option A - Hybrid

Your child will report to school for in-person learning 2 days a week (in a cohort model) and will participate in remote learning with their WPS teachers using the WPS designed Curriculum and Instructional Model. In Grades K - 8 this will consist of a live check-in/morning connection each day for all students both remote and in-person students.

At the high school level teachers will be teaching primarily synchronously to all students live from their classrooms to both the in-person students and those learning remotely at home.

Option B - Full Remote

After reviewing all options recommended by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) we have determined that as a District we have the capability to choose one of the two partners who submitted their asynchronous platforms for review as a Learning Management System aligned with the state curriculum frameworks and populated with a full suite of grade K-12 courses. With their results we were encouraged to review all of the information and determine what will best meet the needs of our students and families. We have determined that should you choose this option for your child(ren):

Your child will participate using the [Florida Virtual School: K-12](#) (please view the website for additional information but please be aware that should you choose this option your child(ren) will be signed up through the WPS and not through FLVS directly).

FLVS develops its own rigorous, curriculum, aligned with the Massachusetts State Standards with the following features in the CORE academic areas:

- Interactive Lessons and Modules
- Videos
- Written Lessons
- Assessments, Quizzes, and Exams

2. Will there be any synchronous (live teaching) teaching in the Full Remote Learning Model?

There will not be any synchronous teaching for those that choose the Full Remote Alternative platform. There will be check-ins, monitoring and the opportunity for questions and feedback with an assigned WPS teacher on a regular/daily basis, however there will not be live teaching.

3. How will the Winthrop Public Schools be involved in the Full Remote Model?

Winthrop Public School teachers will be assigned groups of students who they will oversee and monitor during the student's time working with the Alternative Learning Platform. They

will be record student attendance, monitor workload and expectations and assist students when possible

4. **If I have chosen, the Full Remote Alternative Platform Model and I am not happy with my choice can I change to the Hybrid Model?**

Parents will have the opportunity to make their choice or change their choice until Friday August 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM. Once a student has been assigned and registered through the Alternative Platform they will be required to stay in that model until the end of December 2020 when they will be given the opportunity to request a change that will take effect in early January.

5. **Will my child have to wear a mask all day while in school on the in-person learning days?**

Yes, all students returning to in-person learning at any level will always be required to wear a mask, except during scheduled breaks where additional safety requirements will be taken. (Consideration will be given to those who produce medical documentation or have extenuating circumstances).

6. **What are the hours of the Hybrid Model?**

We are in the process of finalizing schedules which will be submitted in the final plan to DESE that will be posted for all on Wednesday, August 12, 2020.

7. **If I chose the Full Remote Option versus the Hybrid Option what will the schedule be?**

We are currently working out the logistics with FLVS but it will be modeled after the WPS Remote Learning hours for the students grade level. The Remote Learning schedules for each building will also be included in the final DESE plan that will be posted for all on Wednesday, August 12, 2020

8. **What if the entire School District decides to go to a Full District Remote Plan prior to the start of the school year, due to the ever-changing situation?**

If the decision is made to go to a full remote model district wide prior to the start of the school year, **All** students will participate in the WPS fully remote plan and there will be **No** Alternative Platform for remote learning.

9. **What will a Full Remote Model District Wide look like:**

If the decision is made to go to a full remote model district wide, teachers will be following the Remote Learning Schedules and will be teaching live, delivering both synchronous and asynchronous teaching instruction throughout the day at all levels.

If the school year has started in the Hybrid Model and the decision is made to **Then** switch to the full remote model, this will only affect students who were originally assigned the Hybrid plan. Students who chose to participate in the Alternative remote platform will remain on the Alternative remote platform until the end of December 2020 when they will have the opportunity to notify school administration of wanting to join the WPS remote plan or until the end of the school year, depending on the date at the time we move to full remote learning.

10. What are the expectations of students for All Learning Models for the 2020-2021 school year?

Students will be expected to come prepared to learn according to their daily schedule whether they are in person, remote in the hybrid plan, remote in the alternative platform plan or in the fully remote plan. Prepared to learn, means attentive and ready to learn. Attendance will be taken daily and by class at all levels. Class participation, grading and assessments will play a role in all aspects of each learning model.

11. What are my options in terms of Home Schooling or enrolling in a private or public Virtual School?

There are many options for students in the state of Massachusetts ranging from public school to charter schools to virtual schools to homeschooling. All of the above have specific requirements and steps for enrollment. The link below provides a detailed description and guide to all of the options in Massachusetts.

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/finance/schoolchoice/choice-guide.html>

12. What technology will teachers be using to deliver instruction and communicate with students?

The primary tool for *delivering synchronous instruction* in a remote setting, for students in the Hybrid Model, from classroom teachers, specialists and support staff, will be protected educational Zoom accounts. This tool provides the capacity for teachers to live stream lessons, have students participate in monitored break out sessions, and to record lessons for playback by students at a later date if they choose.

A single tool to deliver instruction has been chosen to provide consistency and continuity across grades for students and families. We have elected to use Google Classroom as a district. Other products that have been previously used by WPS teachers may also be used for particular purposes at teachers' discretion. Most families will be familiar with these products as they were used last spring during our emergency school closure.(ex.Class Dojo, Schoology)

As stated above for communicating asynchronously with students, sharing assignments, and collecting assignments, teachers will be using a variety of means including, among others, email, and Google Classroom. As Google continues to improve its products, WPS will update staff and provide professional learning to ensure teachers are maximizing its capacity.