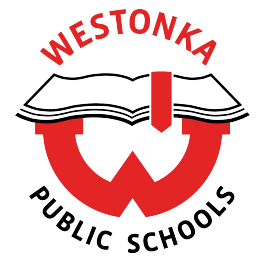


# Westonka School Board Meeting

August 10, 2020 • 7 p.m.  
Westonka Performing Arts Center



# Summer in Westonka

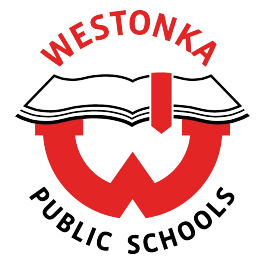


# Our Work Didn't Stop



- Graduation July 23
- Summer Adventure Club
- Summer School and ESY
- Community Ed. activities
- Free summer meals program
- Cleaning, painting, grounds
- Westonka Activity Center reopening
- Strength & Conditioning
- Youth Athletics
- Planning, planning, planning

***We gained valuable experience by opening as much as we could***



Minnesota Department of Education  
Safe Learning Plan  
2020-21



# Process for Determining a Safe Learning Model

## How do schools determine their safe learning model?

### STEP 1

Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) will use data from counties to determine a base learning model for public schools.

### STEP 2

Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) will share county data and the consultative process for public schools to engage with education and public health experts to review their county health data and safe learning plans.

### STEP 3

Public schools, with their incident command team, will evaluate their ability to implement required and recommended health best practices.

### STEP 4

Public schools, in consultation with public health, will determine a learning model to begin the school year and communicate that decision with their school community.\*

### STEP 5

Public schools and MDH will monitor the community and school-level impact of COVID-19 on a regular basis. Adjustments will be made to the learning model if needed.

## Safe learning models:



Distance learning



Hybrid learning



In-person learning

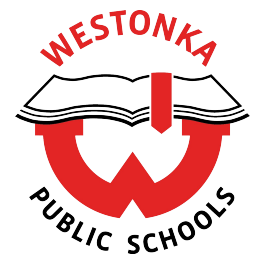
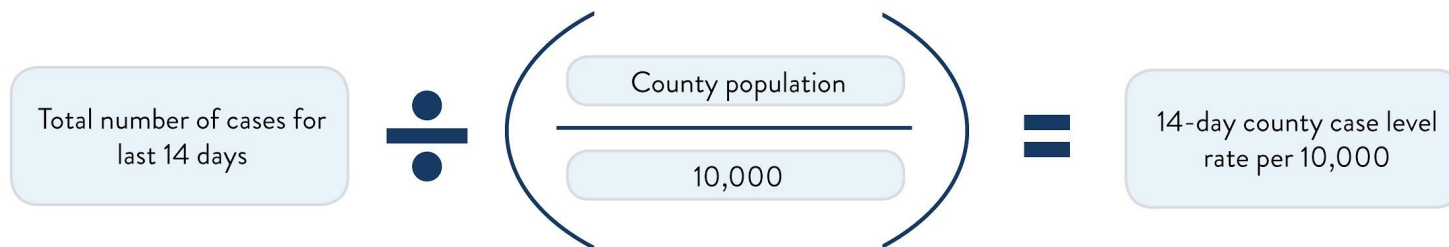
\* Regardless of learning model, all public schools must offer an equitable distance learning option to all families.



# State Data Dashboard

## Recommended policy options based on 14-day case rate range

Policy Option	Range (14-day case rate per 10,000 people)
In-person learning for all students	0 to less than 10
Elementary in-person, Middle/high school hybrid	10 to less than 20
Both hybrid	20 to less than 30
Elementary hybrid, Middle/high school distance	30 to less than 50
Both distance	50 or more



## 14-Day County Case Rates

	7/5-7/18		7/12-7/25
	Initial Rate (used in MDH consultation)	Revised Rate (released 8/6)	Initial Rate (released 8/6)
<b>Hennepin County</b>	20.93	21.37	23.24
<b>Wright County</b>	12.88	13.18	12.96
<b>Carver County</b>	20.42	20.71	17.83



# Hennepin County Recommended Model

## Recommended policy options based on 14-day case rate range

Policy Option	Range (14-day case rate per 10,000 people)
In-person learning for all students	0 to less than 10
Elementary in-person, Middle/high school hybrid	10 to less than 20
Both hybrid	20 to less than 30
Elementary hybrid, Middle/high school distance	30 to less than 50
Both distance	50 or more





## Safe Model Determination

- Schools may choose to dial back to a more restrictive learning model than what is required by the state's Safe Learning Model Guidance
- If a school is considering dialing forward to a less restrictive learning model than what is required under the state guidance, it must consult with local public health officials, MDH and MDE through the Regional Support Teams



## Aug. 3 Consultation - MDH & Hennepin County Public Health

- Reviewed local health landscape in Westonka area
- Reviewed Westonka Public Schools health and safety plans, grade configuration, student day, etc.
- MDH gave approval to consider in-person for primary schools:
  - Cohorts used to limit mixing throughout the day
  - Smaller class sizes
  - Less risk of transmission among this age group
- MDH recommended hybrid model for Grandview Middle School and Mound Westonka High School
  - Students switch rooms more frequently throughout the day
  - Schools share buses
  - Class sizes higher on average than primary school



# Road to Reopening Survey Results

- 223 staff responses; 1,248 parent/family responses
- Strong appreciation for the effort by staff to put a distance learning plan together in a short period of time last spring
- The majority of Westonka staff (71%) indicated that their first choice was to have students return to school on-site this fall (fully in-person or hybrid)
- The majority of Westonka parents (84%) indicated that their first choice was to have students return to school on-site this fall (fully in-person or hybrid)
- The ABAB hybrid schedule with Friday distance learning for all received the most support in ranked-choice voting by staff and parents
- A summary of survey results was emailed to all families and is posted on the district website



# Start-of-Year Proposal

## **In-Person Learning for early learning-Grade 4 (Hilltop and Shirley Hills Primary Schools)**

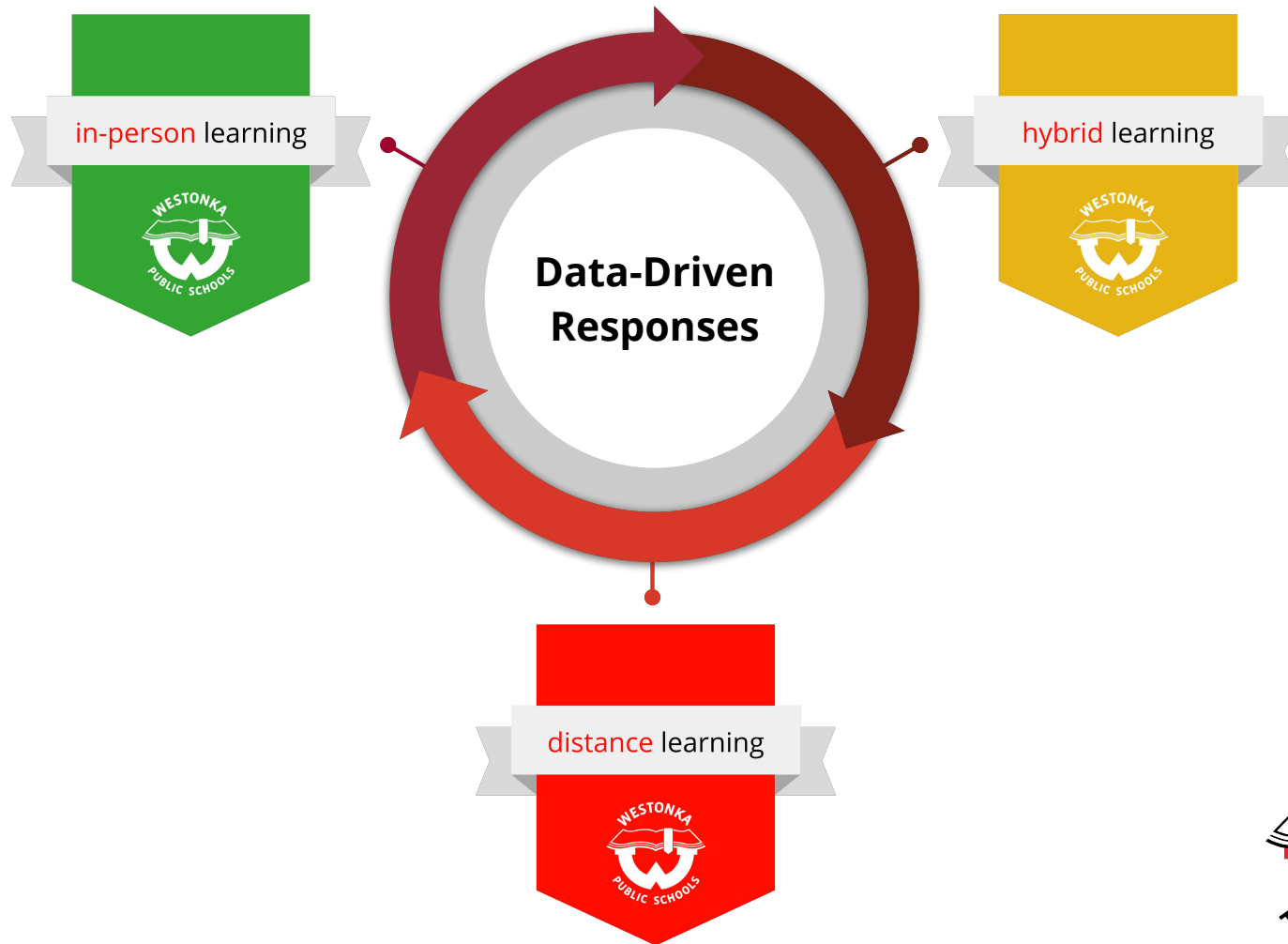
- Students will attend school in person every school day (Monday-Friday).
- Student cohorts will be used to limit mixing throughout the day, including at lunch and during recess.

## **Hybrid Learning for Grades 5-12 (Grandview Middle School and Mound Westonka High School)**

- To reduce the number of students in the school building and in classrooms at any time, each household will be assigned an A day or B day on which students will attend school in person. On opposite days, students will participate in distance learning.
- A and B days will alternate Monday through Thursday (ABAB), and every Friday will be a distance learning day.



# 2020-21 School Year Planning



# Contingency Planning

- **14-Day Case Counts:** Every 2 weeks, school districts will be given updated data on the COVID-19 impact in their counties. If the data changes, or if we learn of clusters of positive cases directly impacting our schools, we may need to pivot toward a different learning model.
- **Aug. 20 Data Release:** Data released Aug. 20 by the state will determine how we will start the year on Tuesday, Sept. 8. The school district will make a final decision in conjunction with MDH.

**All families are strongly encouraged to make contingency plans around all three scenarios (in-person, hybrid and distance)**



Under All Three Models,  
You Can Expect:



# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **MDH and MDE Guidelines:** Westonka Schools will follow all requirements from the Minnesota Department of Health and Minnesota Department of Education
- ❑ **District COVID-19 Health Coordinator:** Westonka Schools' COVID-19 Health Coordinator is District Nurse Kelly Mattson, BSN, RN, LSN.
- ❑ **School COVID-19 Coordinators:** School-level COVID-19 coordinators will communicate concerns, challenges, and lessons learned related to COVID-19 preventive activities as needed with staff, students/families, school and district leadership, and local health officials
- ❑ **Staff Training:** All staff will be trained on COVID-19 awareness and the proper use of cleaning materials
- ❑ **Large Group Gatherings:** Schools will discontinue activities that bring together large groups of people or activities that do not allow for social distancing, including assemblies, in-person field trips, etc.
- ❑ **Visitors and Volunteers:** Nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external groups or organizations will be restricted





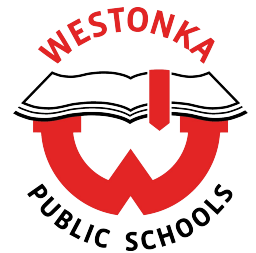
# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Arrival and Dismissal:** Staff will monitor arrival and dismissal to curtail congregating and ensure students go straight from vehicle to their classroom.
- ❑ **Social Distancing Reminders:** Schools will have new signage, floor/seating markings, spaced out or removed furniture in common areas, and clear barriers in reception areas to promote social distancing.
- ❑ **Classroom Seating:** Classroom seating arrangements will be created according to state guidelines.
- ❑ **Healthy Hygiene Reminders:**
  - Hand sanitizer stations will be placed at school entry points and high-traffic locations (e.g., lunch lines)
  - Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom
  - Teachers will encourage students to frequently wash their hands during the school day
  - Signs will be placed around the school to remind students to practice healthy habits that prevent the spread of germs



# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Face Coverings:** Per the governor's executive order, all K-12 students, staff, and other people present in school buildings and district offices or riding on school transportation vehicles are required to wear a face covering, unless they have a disability, medical or mental health condition, following public health guidance. Early learning students will be encouraged, but not required, to wear face coverings.
  - Types of allowable face coverings include: cloth face mask, paper/disposable mask, scarf, bandanna, religious face covering
  - Every K-12 student will receive one cloth face mask
  - Every school staff member will receive one cloth face mask
  - Schools and buses will have extra masks for students who forget them
  
- ❑ **Mask Removal:** Being mindful of social distancing, face coverings or face shields may be removed when eating or drinking, engaging in physical activity and in other situations, as outlined by MDH.



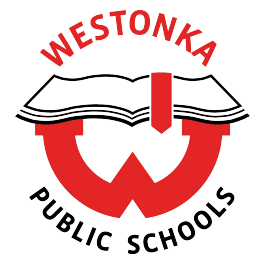
# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Face Shields:** A face shield may be used as an alternative to a face covering in the following situations:
  - ❑ Among students in grades K-8 when wearing a face covering is problematic. All K-8 students will be provided a face shield.
  - ❑ By teachers (all grades), when wearing a face covering may impede the educational process. All teachers will be provided a face shield.
  - ❑ For staff, students, or visitors who cannot tolerate a face covering due to a developmental, medical, or behavioral health condition.
  - ❑ For staff providing direct support student services, when a face covering impedes the service being provided.
  
- ❑ **Face Covering Policy:** The district is required to have a policy for face coverings. Students who are unwilling to wear a face covering or face shield with no documented health reason (e.g. health conditions, disability, etc.) will be asked to participate in distance learning.



# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Passing Times:** At the middle school and high school, passing times may be staggered and traffic patterns revised in order to reduce the number of students in hallways at the same time.
- ❑ **School Materials:** Students will be discouraged from sharing items that are difficult to clean or disinfect and classroom practices will be modified to minimize sharing.
- ❑ **Shared Supplies, Equipment and Furniture:** Some furniture, equipment and commonly shared items will be removed from use
- ❑ **Water Fountains:** Schools will encourage students to bring their own water bottles as opposed to using drinking fountains. Bottle refill stations will be available.
- ❑ **Ventilation:** Facilities staff, along with technicians and engineers, have reviewed and will continue to inspect school ventilation systems to ensure they operate properly and will increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible



# Safety Precautions

- ❑ **Recess:** Outdoor areas such as playgrounds will be open. Students will be encouraged to spread out. Student cohorts will be used to limit mixing. Additional cleaning will take place on hard surfaces.
- ❑ **Alternative Learning Spaces:** Alternate indoor spaces and outdoor areas will be used to the extent possible in order to enhance physical distancing. Outdoor classrooms, fields, courts and open areas will be used as additional learning spaces when appropriate.
- ❑ **CARES Act Funding for Additional Safety Measures:**
  - A portion of federal dollars is available for additional health and safety-related purchases related to COVID-19
  - Educators will provide input on purchases that will be most helpful in their schools and classrooms



# Teaching and Learning; Student Support

- ❑ **Responsive Instruction:** In each subject area, teachers will focus on the most essential material for students to learn, creating a core foundation of instruction to allow for more nimble transitions between models
- ❑ **Daily Attendance:** Attendance will be taken every day in each model
- ❑ **Special Ed. and EL Services:** Special education and English Learner (EL) services will be provided to all identified students. The delivery may look different, depending on the model. Careful attention will be paid to special education students in general education classes.
- ❑ **Mental Health Support:** All staff will be mindful of students' social-emotional learning needs and will work to rebuild relationships between and among students and staff. Relate Counseling will play an important role to support all students; those in-person and those in distant learning.
- ❑ **1:1 Technology:** All K-12 students will have access to a district-issued device (iPad or Chromebook) to support their in-person or distance learning. Technology support will continue; internet access will be provided to families in need.



# Teaching and Learning; Student Support

- ❑ **Distance Only Option:** A 100% distance learning option is available to students/families.
  
- ❑ **NEW Distance Learning Coordinators:** The position's responsibilities will be determined by each building's needs and will include some or all of the following job duties:
  - Serve as a distance learning teacher for students in a distance learning model.
  - Work with students that are disengaged or struggling with their learning in the distance learning or hybrid model.
  - Provide teacher support with the execution of effective distance learning lessons.
  - Serve as a contact for parents and guardians who have children learning in the distance learning or hybrid learning model.
  - Serve as contact to building principals on the status of instruction and student learning in the distance learning or hybrid learning model.



# Teaching and Learning; Student Support

- ❑ **Staff Development:** Westonka is moving two professional days (previously scheduled for March 26 and May 7) to the beginning school year (Aug. 26 and 27) to allow more time for staff to leverage what was learned from distance learning last spring and improve our three learning models for 2020-21





# In-Person Model



# In-Person Learning Model

## All Students in School:

- Students attend school in-person 5 days a week, Monday-Friday
- Schools create as much space between students and teachers as is feasible during the day, but not held strictly to enforcing 6 feet of social distancing
- Schools will follow all MDH requirements

## Teaching & Learning:

- Students will have high-quality, research-based and engaging teacher-led instruction every day
- The first few weeks will have a strong focus on building relationships, identifying learning gaps, and helping students feel engaged and connected to their school

in-person learning



# In-Person Teaching & Learning (continued)

## Primary Schools:

- Staff will give extra attention to helping young students adjust to being back in school, interacting with friends and strengthening academic skills.

## Middle School and High School:

- Students will experience the best of blended learning instruction that incorporates direct teacher instruction enhanced by the use of technology tools like Schoology, our grades 3-12 learning management system, to engage students and deepen the learning of the content in their classes

in-person learning



# In-Person Model - Distance Only Option

## Distance Only Registration:

- A distance only option will be available to enrolled students who may be medically vulnerable or who are otherwise unwilling to return to in-person learning.
- Families choosing 100% distance learning will be asked to commit to this model for the first quarter of 2020-21. **Families must opt in for the distance only option in Skyward Family Access by Aug. 17.**

**Quarantined Students:** Students who cannot be physically present in the classroom due to illness or exposure to COVID-19 will also participate in distance learning.



# In-Person Model - Distance Only Option

## Things to Know:

- **Distance Learning Coordinator:** Buildings will have access to a coordinator to help streamline the distance learning experience.
- **Primary School Distance Learning Cohorts:** Depending on registration numbers, students at the primary school level may be placed in a distance learning cohort with instruction delivered by a distance learning teacher from one of Westonka's primary schools. Grade-level distance learning will align with in-person learning - curriculum and pacing.
- **Secondary Distance Only Option:** Middle and high school students choosing distance learning will experience teacher-facilitated remote learning 5 days a week. Schedules will be modeled on the in-person schedule.
- **Electives:** Certain elective courses may be significantly modified in the distance only option.

in-person learning



# Hybrid Learning Model



# Hybrid Learning Model

- **50% Capacity** - Schools must limit the overall number of people in school facilities and on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy.
- **Strict Social Distancing** - Schools must ensure sufficient social distancing in the school building with at least 6 feet between people at all times.
- **MDH Safety Precautions** - All MDH requirements apply from the in-person model
- **Blended Learning** - Westonka's hybrid learning model incorporates best practices of blended learning instruction.
  - In-person teacher instruction blended with the use of technology tools to provide opportunities for deeper student engagement and learning.



# Westonka's Hybrid Learning Model Determination

In determining our hybrid model, Westonka carefully reviewed:

- Access to in-person learning by all students
- Expectation to meet all MDH requirements for the hybrid model, including maintaining 6 feet of social distancing at all times
- Bus ridership counts
- Available learning spaces and classroom capacity with social distancing parameters
- Interest in Distance Only Option
- Staff and parent feedback on surveys
- Input gathered on various hybrid schedules/models from administrators, teachers, union representatives
- Available staffing to support hybrid instruction





# Hybrid Schedule

## A/B Alternating Schedule

- **Group A** students attend school in person on Mondays and Wednesdays with teacher-facilitated remote learning on Tuesdays and Thursdays
- **Group B** students will attend school in person on Tuesdays and Thursdays with teacher-facilitated remote learning on Mondays and Wednesdays.

## Friday Distance Learning for All

All students in the hybrid model will participate in distance learning on Fridays. On Friday distance learning days, students can expect some or all of the following:

- Online teacher check-ins
- Independent work time
- Project-based activities
- Pre-recorded instruction and tutorials



# Hybrid Schedule

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI
<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>A</b>	<b>B</b>	<b>DL</b>
<b>Students in the A group (last names A-K) are in school</b>	<b>Students in the B group (last names L-Z) are in school</b>	<b>Students in the A group (last names A-K) are in school</b>	<b>Students in the B group (last names L-Z) are in school</b>	<b>All students participate in distance learning from home</b>
Students in the B group (last names L-Z) participate in distance learning from home	Students in the A group (last names A-K) participate in distance learning from home	Students in the B group (last names L-Z) participate in distance learning from home	Students in the A group (last names A-K) participate in distance learning from home	Teachers connect with students on their learning and coursework.

Schools will follow the same hybrid schedule throughout the year, including during shortened weeks.

e.g., The first day of school is Tuesday, Sept. 8, and will be a B day.

hybrid learning



# Hybrid Schedule

- In general, students will be split alphabetically:
  - **Last names A-K: A Day**
  - **Last names L-Z: B Day**
- All students living in the same household, regardless of last name, will follow the same hybrid schedule
- Some students receiving English Learner (EL) services or Special Education services may qualify for additional days on-site
  - Case managers will connect with families to start developing individual plans the week of Aug. 17



# Hybrid-Specific Safety Precautions

- ❑ **50% Capacity:** Schools will limit the overall number of people in school facilities and on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy.
- ❑ **Classroom Set-Up:** Classrooms will be arranged to maintain 6 feet social distancing at all times
- ❑ **Strict Social Distancing:** 6 feet social distancing at all times in school buildings
- ❑ **Lockers:** Grades 5-12 students will not use school lockers in the hybrid model
- ❑ **Alternative Spaces:** Alternative learning spaces (e.g., MWHS Little Theater) will be used if 6 feet social distancing is not possible in a particular classroom



hybrid learning



# Hybrid Teaching and Learning

- **Relationship Focus:** The first few weeks will have a strong focus on building relationships, identifying learning gaps, and helping students feel engaged and connected to their school.
- **Live Interactions:** Distance learners will have regular opportunities to experience live instruction, support and collaboration with peers
- **Distance Learning Coordinator:** A coordinator at each building will serve as a contact person for parents to streamline the distance learning experience
- **Technology Tools:** Classrooms have been analyzed and reviewed to ensure they are equipped with proper technologies to effectively support instruction and student learning.
  - In process of outfitting classrooms with additional:
    - sound amplification systems
    - external cameras and microphones for live streaming
  - Strategic use of current devices and technologies to deliver instruction to all students in-person and in distance learning

hybrid learning



# Hybrid Teaching and Learning

## Hilltop and Shirley Hills Primary Schools

- **Daily Classroom Connection:** Grade level classrooms will meet together in the morning (in-person and via Zoom) to focus on social-emotional learning
- **Consistent Schedules:** Schools will be improving and enhancing synchronous learning experiences based on feedback from last spring. In-person and distance learning days will follow consistent schedules to continue standards-based learning and pacing of curriculum. Schools will be sensitive to the individual needs of families.

## Grandview Middle School:

- **Daily Screencasts/Videos:** Teachers create screencast/video lessons that are delivered to students at home and in-person. In-person students and students at home receive the same lesson each day.
- **Academic Support:** At the start of each class and on Fridays during office hours.

hybrid learning



# Hybrid Teaching and Learning

## Mound Westonka High School:

- **In-Person Days:** In-person schedules will be revised to best meet the needs of students; Classes will minimize movement through the building
- **Distance Learning Days:** Distance learners receive instruction during regular class times via live streaming and through online pathways like Schoology
- **What I Need (WIN) Time:** WIN time will be utilized more effectively
- **Academic Support:** During WIN time and on Fridays during office hours.

hybrid learning



# Hybrid Model - Distance Only Option

## Distance Only Registration:

- A distance only option will be available to enrolled students who may be medically vulnerable or who are otherwise unwilling to return to in-person learning.
- Families choosing 100% distance learning will be asked to commit to this model for the first quarter of 2020-21. **Families must opt in for the distance only option in Skyward Family Access by Aug. 17.**

**Quarantined Students:** Students who cannot be physically present in the classroom due to illness or exposure to COVID-19 will also participate in distance learning.





# Hybrid Model - Distance Only Option

## Things to Know:

- **Distance Learning Coordinator:** Each building will have access to a coordinator to help streamline the distance learning experience
- **Primary School Distance Learning Cohorts:** Depending on registration numbers, students at the primary school level may be placed in a distance learning cohort with instruction delivered by a distance learning teacher from one of Westonka's primary schools. Grade-level distance learning will align with in-person learning - curriculum and pacing.
- **Secondary Distance Only Option:** Middle and high school students choosing distance learning will experience teacher-facilitated remote learning 5 days a week. Schedules will be modeled on the in-person schedule.
- **Electives:** Certain elective courses may be significantly modified in the distance only option.

hybrid learning



# Distance Learning Model





## Key Lessons Learned from Spring 2020

1. Staff rose to the challenge last spring, and the district needs to provide them with support and professional development to continue to improve
2. Relationships are key in motivating students in distance learning
3. Schools need to be sensitive to the needs of working families
4. Families are looking for increased structure with daily schedules at all levels and streamlined communication between school and home
5. Curriculum and instruction should focus on the most essential material for students to learn, creating a core foundation of instruction to allow for a nimble transitions between models
6. Addressing student mental health needs is critical in all learning models

distance learning





## Westonka's Commitment to All Families

- School will be held 5 days a week, with clearly articulated student schedules and teacher-directed remote learning every day
- All K-12 students will have a district-issued device (iPad or Chromebook) to support their learning. We will work with families to troubleshoot technology issues and ensure reliable Internet access.
- There will be consistent use of technology tools across school sites
- Students will have full access to grade-level and subject content delivered through remote instruction
- Staff schedules and regular office hours will be provided to families
- Students will have more opportunities to experience live instruction, support and collaboration with peers
- The district will work to ensure that every student has the supports and resources they need to be successful, regardless of circumstance or special needs

distance learning





**Staff Development:** Westonka is moving two professional days to the beginning school year (Aug. 26 and 27) to allow more time for staff to leverage what was learned from distance learning last spring and improve the edge21 distance program.

**Distance Learning Coordinators:** Buildings will have access to a distance learning coordinator to help streamline the remote learning experience





**Student Day:** Students can expect some or all of the following:

- Live online instruction by their teacher
- Independent work, online check-ins
- Pre-recorded instruction and tutorials

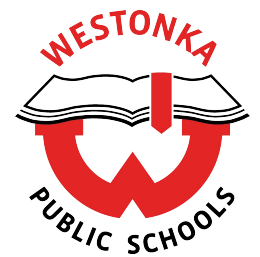
**Hands-on Electives:** Electives will be significantly modified in order to run in a distance learning model. School leaders around the metro area are collaborating on solutions

**Accountability:** Families will see more accountability for class engagement and completion of learning assignments and projects

distance learning



# Health Services



# Prevention Practices

- Staff and students must stay home if:
  - They have tested positive for COVID-19 until they meet criteria for return
  - They are showing COVID-19 symptoms, until they meet criteria for return
  - They have recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19, until they meet criteria for return
- Students and staff will be educated on and reminded of proper prevention techniques, including:
  - handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and increase monitoring to ensure adherence among students and staff. (If soap and water are not readily available, hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol can be used.)
  - covering coughs and sneezes with a tissue, throwing used tissues in the trash and washing hands immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.





# MDH Decision Tree

For people who received a laboratory test for COVID-19

[What to do if you're waiting for COVID-19 test results \(PDF\)](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/waiting.pdf)  
([www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/waiting.pdf](http://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/waiting.pdf))

**Positive test result:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.

**Negative test result but symptoms with no other diagnosis:** Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.

For people with a COVID-19 diagnosis *without* a lab test OR people with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 *without* a medical evaluation (e.g., monitoring symptoms at home)

Stay home at least 10 days since symptoms first appeared AND until no fever for at least 3 days without medication AND improvement of other symptoms.

Siblings and household members also stay home for 14 days.



For people with other diagnoses (e.g., norovirus, strep throat) that explain the symptoms, or when a health care provider says symptoms are connected to a pre-existing condition

Stay home until symptoms have improved. Follow specific return guidance from the health care provider or follow the [Infectious Diseases in Childcare Settings and Schools Manual](http://www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual) ([www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual](http://www.hennepin.us/daycaremanual)).

If symptoms related to a pre-existing condition change or worsen, talk to a health care provider to determine next steps.

Siblings and household members **do not** need to stay home.

# Daily Symptom Self-Screening

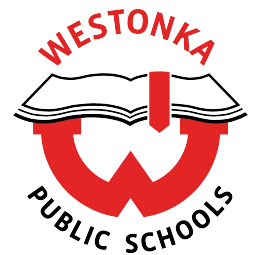
- All students and staff who will be learning/working in person will conduct a required daily self-screen (series of questions). Students and staff must stay home if they reply YES to any of the following:
  - Do you have a **new onset cough or shortness of breath** by themselves **OR at least two of the following?**
    - A **Fever** (temperature 100.4°F or higher) without having taken any fever reducing medications
    - A **Loss of Smell or Taste**
    - **Muscle Aches**
    - A **Sore Throat**
    - **Chills**
    - Gastrointestinal symptoms (e.g., **nausea/vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite**)
  - Do you have a new **onset of any symptom listed above** (for example, new loss of smell only) with no other diagnosis to explain it?
  - Have you, or anyone you have been in **close contact** with been diagnosed with COVID-19, or been placed on quarantine for possible contact with COVID-19?
  - Have you been asked to **self-isolate or quarantine** by a medical professional or a local public health official?



# Why Self-Screen?

## Why is Westonka choosing to have students/families and staff self-screen, rather than screen at the door?

- Based on the best available evidence at this time:
  - CDC does not currently recommend universal symptom screenings (i.e., screening all K-12 students) be conducted by schools.
  - Parents or caregivers should be strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of infectious illness every day.
  - Students who are sick should not attend school in-person.
- Screening temperatures at the door may not be accurate depending on weather, activity or faulty equipment.
- Staff will monitor students' symptoms. Children who appear to be symptomatic will be referred to the school nurse or health specialist.



# Symptomatic Individuals

- **COVID-19 Health Coordinator:** The Westonka Public Schools COVID-19 Health Coordinator is District Nurse Kelly Mattson, BSN, RN, LSN.
- **Reporting Symptoms to the School:** Families are asked to indicate reasons for student absence in Skyward Family Access or via the school attendance line. Parents will be asked to indicate symptoms of illness.
- **Reporting a Positive COVID-19 Test or COVID-19 Close Contact:** Families and staff are asked to directly contact District Nurse Kelly Mattson if a student or staff member has tested positive for COVID-19 or if they recently had close contact with a person with COVID-19. Families can also report this in Skyward Family Access.
- **Isolation Rooms:** During the school day, symptomatic students and staff will be referred to the school nurse or health specialist. School health office protocols will create a separate, dedicated space for the care of students who are ill, while having another space to serve the general health and medication needs of students. Students will be isolated until they can be picked up.



# Reports of Positive Tests

- **Scenario 1: MDH contacts Westonka with report of positive case(s) in the school community**
  - Westonka works directly with Regional Support Team comprised of MDE and MDH staff on contact tracing
  - Regional Support Team directs communication to families, quarantine process and testing activities
  - Clusters of positive cases could warrant learning model change. The decision would be made by the District COVID-19 Support Team in consultation with the Regional Support Team.
  - Prior to the start of the school year, all staff will be provided with a saliva test that can be conducted at home and utilizes a courier for transport



# Reports of Positive Tests

- **Scenario 2: Westonka learns of positive case(s) in the school community prior to being contacted by MDH**
  - Westonka reports positive case to MDH
  - Westonka immediately begins contact tracing
  - Regional Support Team (MDE/MDH) will support district in contract tracing and directs communication to families, quarantine process and testing activities
  - If clusters of positive cases exist, it could warrant a learning model change. The decision would be made by the District COVID-19 Support Team, with or without consultation by the Regional Support Team.

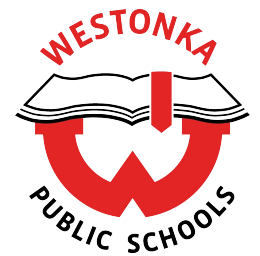


# Responding to Positive Cases in School Community

- **District COVID-19 Support Team:** Decisions about school learning model changes during the year will be made by a District COVID-19 Support Team made up of:
  - Superintendent
  - Committee of the school board
  - District nurse
- **Data Privacy:** Due to data privacy laws, we are not allowed to share any names or personally identifiable information of individuals identified to have the virus. We recognize this can be frustrating. If there is a positive case of COVID-19 in our school community, anyone who is affected will be contacted by MDH.



# Facility Cleaning





# Facility Cleaning & Disinfecting

- **Additional Custodial Staff:** District is adding two custodians to help manage:
  - Increased daily cleaning schedule for common touch surfaces
  - Additional lunch duties
  - Frequent inventory checks and refilling of cleaning supplies throughout the buildings
  - The equipment and time necessary to provide deep cleaning in reaction to a COVID-19 case in the building
- **Staff Cleaning Responsibilities:**
  - Teaching staff will be trained on the proper use of cleaning materials in their classrooms
  - Nurses and health specialists will implement cleaning and disinfecting procedures for equipment and school isolation rooms

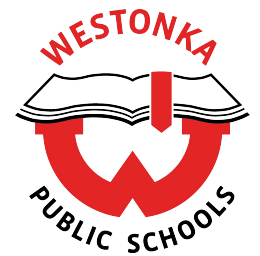


# Facility Cleaning & Disinfecting

- **Routine Cleaning:** Custodians will perform routine environmental cleaning and disinfection of high-touch surfaces and shared equipment throughout the day
- **Supplies Checks:** Schools will ensure the availability of appropriate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors. Custodians will frequently check and refill supplies (e.g., hand sanitizer, soap, disinfectant wipes)
- **Ventilation:** Facilities staff, along with technicians and engineers, will review school ventilation systems to ensure they operate properly and will increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible



# Food Service



# Flexible Food Service Planning

- We will feed the kids, no matter what!
- We will serve students their favorites
- A variety of fruits and vegetables will continue to be served
- Meals will be priced according to the student's eligibility starting Sept. 8
- Distance learners will still be able to benefit from the comfort of a school meal
- In all three models, meals will be individually packaged
- Processes are being implemented to move students through lunch lines with minimal congregating
- Staff have been trained and will continue to be trained on necessary operating procedures related to COVID-19 and typical food service requirements related to health and safety



# Food Service Delivery Models

## In-Person Model

- Schools will follow the [MDH Restaurant Guidance](#)
- Students will eat in cafeteria, classrooms and other spaces. Outdoor eating areas will be utilized when appropriate.
- Meals will be available to students participating in distance learning via curbside pick-up

## Hybrid Model

- Schools will ensure sufficient social distancing during lunch with at least 6 feet between people at all times. Students will eat in cafeteria, classrooms and other spaces. Outdoor eating areas will be utilized when appropriate.
- Meals will be available to students participating in distance learning via curbside pick-up and bus stop delivery on a case by case basis for students with a medical necessity

## Distance Model

- Meals will be available to students via curbside pick-up and bus stop delivery



# Childcare



# Adventure Club Childcare

- Childcare survey sent to all families August 3
- Westonka Adventure Club will be providing school day, before- and after-school childcare in both of the primary schools under all three scenarios.
- We will also be offering school day care for Tier 1 families at Grandview Middle School for children ages 12 and under.
- Social distancing will reduce our normal capacity.
- Under all scenarios, we will continue to follow the guidance of MDH and MDE.



## Preschool Childcare (ages 3-5)

- Preschool students will stay in their “preschool cohorts” and Adventure Club staff will push into some classrooms at both Shirley Hills and the Early Learning Center.

Preschool Care Option	Hours	Cost
In Person & Hybrid Model	7 am - start of preschool End of preschool - 5 pm Monday - Thursday	\$29/day per child
Distance Learning Model (Tier 1 families only)	7 am - 5 pm Monday - Thursday	\$42/day per child





# Primary School Childcare (grades K-4)

- **In-Person Learning Model:**

- Adventure Club will utilize as many common spaces in Hilltop & Shirley Hills before and after school as possible to allow for more distance between children than previous school years.
- The number of children we can provide care for will be dependent on staffing to maintain a safe environment under current conditions, keeping children in groups of no more than 15.
- Families whose registrations were approved for the 20-21 school year will be notified by Aug. 17 if we have space to provide care for your child(ren) before and after school. Priority will be given to families in the order registrations were originally received in May. All hours and rates will remain the same as when you registered in this model.
- Before school hours: 6:30 - 9:05 a.m.
- After school hours: 3:45 - 6 p.m.



# Primary School Childcare (grades K-4)

- **Hybrid and Distance Learning Models:**

- On distance learning days, children of Tier 1 critical workers (as outlined by the state) only will be cared for at no cost during the typical school hours.
- If space allows, we will provide care for as many children as possible on their distance learning days based on the order we received current 20-21 Adventure Club registrations in our online system in May. Critical workers receive first priority, all other current families will be accepted on a first come, first served basis.

<b>K-4 Care Option</b>	<b>Hours</b>	<b>Cost</b>
School Day for Tier 1 workers (Distance Learning Day)	9 am - 4 pm	Free
Extended Day for Tier 1 workers (Distance Learning Day or In Person Day)	7 - 9 am 4 - 5 pm	\$15/day per child (includes all hours listed)
Full day care for families outside of Tier 1 (Distance Learning Day)	7 am - 5 pm	\$42/day per child



# Middle School Childcare (grades 5-7, age 12 and under)

- **Hybrid and Distance Learning Models:**

- On distance learning days, children of Tier 1 critical workers (as outlined by the state) will be cared for at no cost during the typical school hours (8 a.m. to 3 p.m.)
- We will provide care for as many children of Tier 1 workers as possible on their distance learning day, based on available space and staffing

5-7 Care Option	Hours	Cost
School Day for Tier 1 workers (Distance Learning Day)	8 am - 3 pm	Free



# Transportation



# Transportation - UPDATED GUIDELINES

## In-Person - Normal Bus Schedule

- We will ensure 6 feet of distancing between driver and all riders.
- We will create as much space between riders as possible. Buses will load from back to front. Siblings will be asked to sit together whenever possible.
  - Bus loads last year ranged from 50-65 (capacity is 77)
  - Two per seat is 52 students

## Hybrid - Normal Bus Schedule

- We will ensure 50% maximum occupancy (capacity is 38).
- We will ensure 6 feet of distancing between driver and all riders.
- We will create as much space between riders as possible. Buses will load from back to front. Siblings will be asked to sit together whenever possible.



# Transportation Registration

- **Every Student Must Register:** In order to plan for bus capacity, families will be requested to opt in for bus transportation for their student(s) in Skyward Family Access **no later than Aug. 17.**
- **Please Drive Your Student(s) if Possible:** Parents are strongly encouraged to drive their child(ren) to and from school if they have the ability to do so. Fewer riders will help limit potential exposures to COVID-19 and allow more room for those who are in need of transportation.
- **Stops Limited to Home, Daycare:** If students have activities after school such as appointments or play date with friends, it is the responsibility of parents to drive them there after they arrive home at their regularly scheduled bus stop.



# Transportation Health & Safety Precautions

- **Face Coverings:** Students must wear a face covering through the duration of their bus ride (Executive Order 20-81). Failure to abide by this rule will result in transportation privileges being revoked. Buses will have an extra supply of face masks for riders who forget one.
- **No Food or Drink:** No food or drink is allowed on the bus.
- **Cleaning & Disinfecting:**
  - Transportation vehicles will be cleaned and disinfected regularly, focusing on frequent cleaning of touched surfaces (e.g., railings, hard seats, etc.) between routes.
  - Doors and windows will be kept open when cleaning the vehicles and between trips to let the vehicles thoroughly air out.



# Staffing





# Increasing Sub Pool

- **Subs Needed:** We anticipate that we will be in need of a larger pool of substitutes this school year in order to keep school operational. Please consider supporting your local schools by becoming a sub.
- **Substitute Teachers:**
  - We have increased the Short Call Substitute Teacher rate of pay to \$175.00/day during the COVID-19 pandemic.
  - Westonka will reimburse the PELSB licensure fee (\$91.95) once you have subbed for five full days in a Westonka assignment.
  - We have also contracted with an agency who can provide short-call substitutes (and others) if needed. This agency would supplement our current sub pool, not replace it.
- **Additional Substitutes:** We are also actively seeking paraprofessional & health services subs and school bus/van drivers



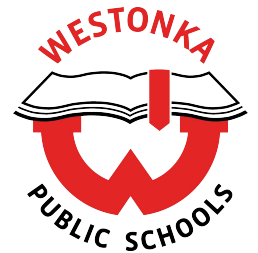
# Increasing Sub Pool

- Advertising on the Westonka website under Job Openings
- Advertising (for free) on Teachers-Teachers.com, K12JobSpot.com and Educate Minnesota web page
- Posted to social networks (Facebook and LinkedIn)
- Posted to EdPost at St. Cloud State (visible to all college/university students, alumni - free)
- Sent Certificates of Appreciation to 2019-20 Substitute Teachers at the end of the school year and sent a “Save the Date” email for the Back-To-School Substitute Teacher Workshop in August
- In May, a plea for community members to consider being a Substitute Teacher appeared in each of the school newsletters and on the district’s website.



# Staff Leaves of Absence

- Board is taking action on general and medical leaves
- District is in process of filling open positions
- District is working with staff on medical leave to potentially work remotely where possible and qualified



# Activities



# Minnesota State High School League Decision

- Seasons are reduced 30% from a schedule perspective at the C, JV and Varsity levels
- Postseason for all sports is TBD
- Football and volleyball seasons have been moved to March-May schedule
- Boys and girls soccer, girls swim and dive, girls tennis, boys and girls cross country will remain in the fall
- To help reduce exposure, all middle school programming will run through Community Ed. as training opportunities only
- Bowling and trap shooting will have the opportunity to run as school-sponsored activities



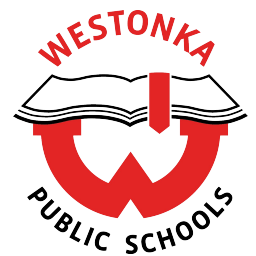
# Girls Tennis

- **Start Date:** August 17
- **End Date:** October 17
- **First Competition Date:** August 24
- **Last Date of Reg. Season:** October 3
- **Total Weeks Including Postseason:** 9
- **Max. Number of Contests:** 11
- **Dual Meets Only** - no tournaments/invites
- **Crowd Size:** 25% seating capacity
- **Transportation:** 50% capacity



# Boys and Girls Soccer

- **Start Date:** August 17
- **End Date:** October 24
- **First Competition Date:** August 27
- **Last Date of Reg. Season:** October 10
- **Total Weeks Including Postseason:** 10
- **Max. Number of Contests:** 11
- **Crowd Size:** Up to 250
- **Transportation:** 50% capacity
- **Pods:** 20-25 Max (by level)
- **Current Conference Schedule:** 8 games for boys, 9 games for girls



# Girls Swim & Dive

- **Start Date:** August 17
- **End Date:** October 31
- **First Competition Date:** August 27
- **Last Date of Reg. Season:** October 17
- **Total Weeks Including Postseason:** 10
- **Max Number of Contests:** 11
- **Dual Meets Only or Virtual**
- **Crowd Size:** NONE
- **Transportation:** 50% capacity
- **Facility:** 4 per lane max (32 swimmers), 6 divers per session, keep in pods of 4





# Boys and Girls Cross Country

- **Start Date:** August 17
- **End Date:** October 24
- **First Competition date:** August 27
- **Last Date of Reg. Season:** October 10
- **Total Weeks Including Postseason:** 10
- **Max. Number of Contests:** 7
- **Dual Meets or Triangular Only**
- **Crowd Size:** Up to 250
- **Transportation:** 50% capacity
- **Pods:** Up to 25 athletes



# Moving Forward



# Key Dates

## **August 11**

Distance Only Option Registration Opens in Skyward Family Access  
Transportation Registration Opens in Skyward Family Access

## **August 17**

Distance Only Option Registration Closes  
Transportation Registration Closes

## **August 20**

14-Day State Data Release

## **August 24**

Substitute Teacher Workshop

## **August 24 and 25**

New Teacher Orientation

## **August 26 and 27**

Moved Professional Days

## **August 31-September 4**

Staff Workshop Week

## **September 8**

First Day of School

