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October 9, 2020

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WSD Schools to Move to LEVEL 1



At the Board of Education on September 17, the Board voted to move to LEVEL 1: In-person Learning beginning Monday, October 19. **This does not affect students and staff who are participating in the Virtual Academy.**

The WSD is committed to working as a team to welcome our students back in the safest manner possible, and will be reviewing and updating the [Roadmap to Reopening Plan](#) to ensure we have the appropriate precautions in place based on the latest guidance from health officials. **We will expand the mask requirement to include Pre-K, kindergarten, first and second grade students beginning October 19, so all grades Pre-K through 12 students will be required to wear a face covering when physical distancing is not feasible.**

Within our buildings, we will continue to implement the following protocols to protect the health and safety of our students, staff, and families:

- All students and staff will continue to complete a health screening before coming to school or work.
- Students and staff will be frequently reminded about the importance of proper handwashing; hand-sanitizer units have been placed in each classroom and throughout our buildings.
- Students in grades Pre-K-12 and all staff members will be required to wear face coverings when physical distancing is not feasible.
- Schools will be cleaned daily and deep cleaned when we are notified of a positive case of COVID-19.

Please refer to the dedicated page on the [District website](#) for updates related to COVID-19. It includes case and quarantine updates for students and staff as well as a link to the [St. Charles County Department of Public Health dashboard](#) that can be viewed by school district. It also includes a link to [frequently asked](#)

[questions](#), which are being updated regularly as we receive new questions.






ACCEPTABLE MASKS

In accordance with CDC guidance, a well-secured cloth or mask that fits snugly against the face, covers an individual's nose & mouth, and is secured under the chin will be accepted.

ACCEPTABLE:

- (BEST) Cloth masks that fully cover nose, mouth, and chin
- (GOOD) Disposable cloth mask
- (OKAY) Neck Gaiters (as long as they cover the nose and mouth and are secured under the chin)
- (OKAY) Bandanas (offers the least protection because they do not fully secure under the chin)

NOT ACCEPTABLE:

- Face shields (unless combined with a cloth mask)
- Masks with exhalation valve or vent
- Masks made solely of materials like mesh or lace
- Knitted masks
- Masks with profanity or imagery that violates the student dress code

PLEASE NOTE: WSD's guidelines on acceptable masks may change as the CDC and other medical organizations release new guidance.

HELPFUL MASK TIPS

- Label your student's mask with their name.
- Provide a lanyard for use during meal times or other times when the mask is off.
- Launder masks regularly.
- Let your student choose a mask color or design they like.
- Model good mask-wearing to help your student embrace the habit.

COVID-19 Updates

The WSD is committed to the health and safety of our students, staff, and community. The [COVID UPDATES page](#) on the WSD website has information related to the pandemic in our District and our community and it is updated regularly.

[This document](#) provides new guidance for families to help parents know what to do in certain scenarios related to COVID-19.

WENTZVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT | GUIDANCE FOR FAMILIES

COVID-19: WHAT TO DO IF...

PLEASE NOTE: These scenarios may be adapted for individual circumstances or to align with new health department guidance.

Scenario **01**
SELF
(Student)

**STUDENT HAS CLOSE CONTACT WITH SOMEONE WHO IS SYMPTOMATIC
(NOT POSITIVE)**

The student should come to school, self-monitor for symptoms, and continue safe hygiene and PPE practices. If the original symptomatic person receives a positive result, follow quarantine procedures outlined in Scenarios 2 and/or 3 below.

STUDENT DEVELOPS SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

A student with symptoms should stay home or go home. If symptoms develop while at home, stay home until symptom free for 24 hours without medication. If symptoms develop at school, isolate the student and send home until symptom free for 24 hours without medication. If they later test positive for COVID-19, follow the quarantine procedures below.

STUDENT IS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

A positive student should immediately isolate and stay home for a minimum of 10 calendar days after symptom onset or positive test collection, whichever is later. Return to school with a written release from the St. Charles County Department of Public Health.

Scenario **02**
FAMILY

A FAMILY MEMBER IS A CLOSE CONTACT

If a family member in the student's home is quarantined because they were in close contact with an infected person (but the family member has not tested positive), the student should continue coming to school.

A FAMILY MEMBER IS AWAITING TEST RESULTS

If a family member is awaiting results from a COVID-19 test, the student should stay home until results are received and then follow appropriate protocol according to the results.

A FAMILY MEMBER IS POSITIVE FOR COVID-19

Stay home and quarantine for 14 calendar days after last exposure. Return to school with a written release from the St. Charles County Department of Public Health. (Please note that if the positive family member does not self-isolate within the home, the 14 day quarantine does not begin for the close contact until the positive person's quarantine concludes.)

Scenario **03**
CLASSMATES

**A STUDENT WAS IN THE SAME AREA AS A CLASSMATE, BUT IS NOT
CONSIDERED A CLOSE CONTACT**

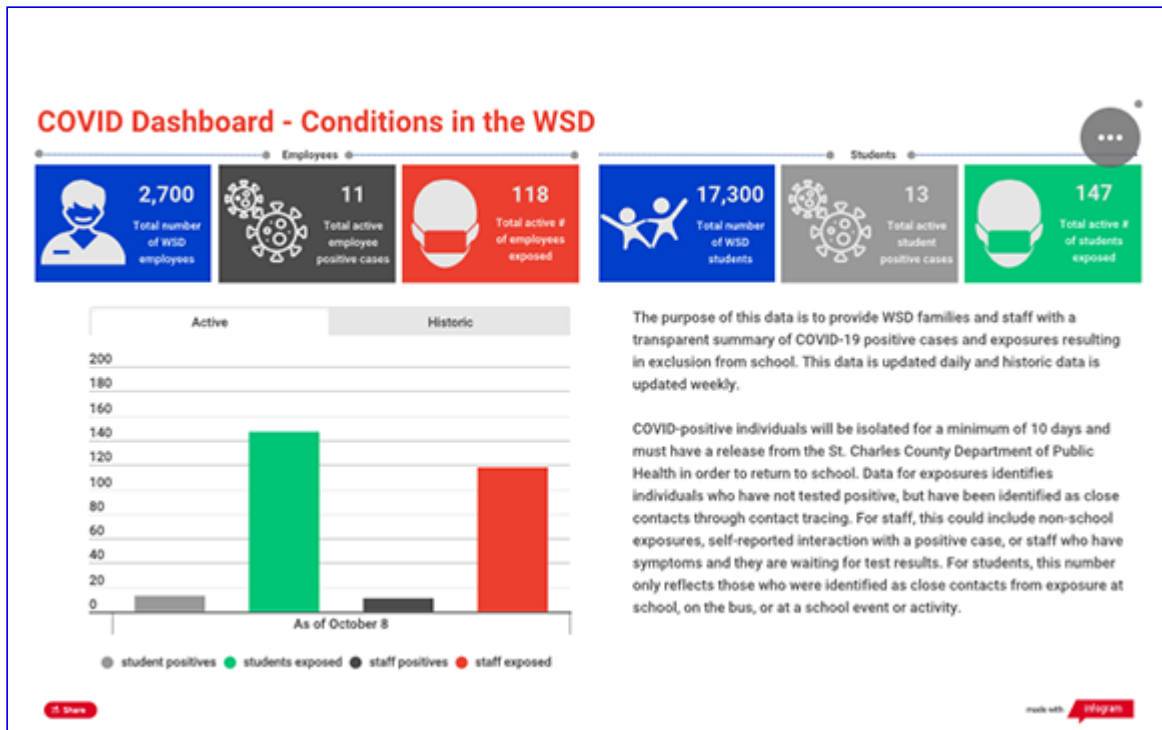
This student would be considered a contact but not a close contact. A contact means the student was in the same room or general vicinity as an infected person but not within 6 feet for more than 15 accumulated minutes. The student should continue coming to school, self-monitor for symptoms, and continue safe hygiene and PPE practices.

A STUDENT IS IDENTIFIED AS A CLOSE CONTACT TO A CLASSMATE

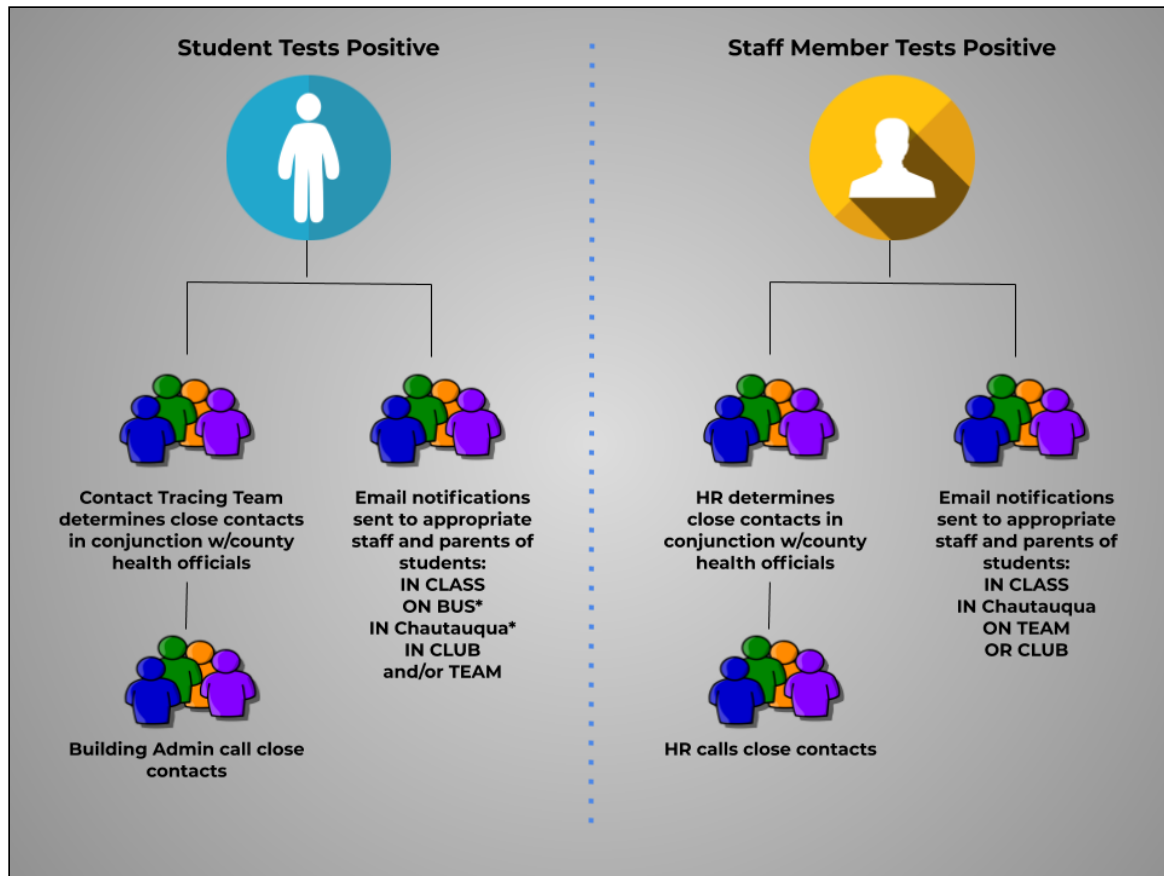
A close contact is any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes (accumulated over the course of a day), starting from 2 days before illness onset (or, for asymptomatic patients, 2 days prior to positive specimen collection) until the time the patient is isolated. Close contacts must stay home and quarantine for 14 calendar days after last exposure. Students may return to school with a written release from the St. Charles County Department of Public Health.

#StopTheSpread

This is an update to the number of COVID positive cases and quarantines for both staff and students over the last two weeks. Please note the number of staff quarantines include non-school exposures, but the number of student quarantines are only those who were exposed at school. This information is updated regularly and it is posted under the [COVID updates on the WSD website](#).



As outlined in the [Roadmap to Reopening Plan](#), when the District is notified of a positive test with a staff member or student, we initiate an investigation and contact tracing in conjunction with the St. Charles County Department of Public Health. Anyone determined to be a close contact* with the COVID-positive staff member or student **is called** and instructed to self-isolate and contact their physician. We also notify them that we have shared their contact information with the St. Charles County Department of Public Health and that they will be hearing from County Health with further instructions (typically between 24-48 hours). Parents of students in the class, on the bus, and on the team or in the club/activity (if applicable) who are **not** close contacts receive an email notification that there was a positive case in their child's class (or on their child's bus/team) and they should watch for symptoms. Our school buildings are cleaned nightly and deep cleaned and sanitized weekly on Wednesdays. When there is a student or staff positive case identified, a team of custodians is dispatched to that building to deep clean that day.



COVID-19 is thought to be spread via person-to-person contact through contaminated air droplets from coughing and sneezing by an infected person. As with controlling the spread of other viruses, we urge everyone to take the following preventive measures:

- Stay home when you are sick.
- Wash your hands regularly, especially after using the restroom and before preparing or consuming food. Using soap and hot water, wash for at least 20 seconds.
- Avoid coughing or sneezing into your hands or in the air. Always try to cough or sneeze into a tissue, then throw the tissue away. If you don't have a tissue, cough/sneeze into your arm.
- As much as you can, avoid touching your eyes, mouth, and nose.
- Maintain at least six feet away from those who do not live with you or wear a face covering.

The WSD will continue to work with the St. Charles County Department of Public Health to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff and families. If parents have any questions about the protocols related to positive cases in our schools, please contact your school nurse or the Director of Health Services, Laurie Castiaux.

*A *close contact*, [as defined by the CDC](#), is someone who has been within six feet of the positive person while they were infectious for 15 cumulative minutes or more, even if one or both people were wearing face coverings. COVID-19 positive individuals are considered infectious from 48 hours before their symptoms began (or 48 hours before they were tested for COVID if they never had symptoms).

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Lower Risk Trick-or-Treating Tips

Like other activities, Halloween celebrations may look a little different this year because of COVID-19. To help little ghouls and goblins enjoy the festivities safely, the St. Charles County Department of Public Health joins the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in issuing recommendations focused on reducing the risks for spreading illness. [For Lower Risk Trick-or-Treating Tips](#), as well as additional considerations for fall festivities and community gatherings, visit the St. Charles County website.



Faces of the WSD – Kolleen Schulte and Jeremy Boesch



In honor of World Teachers' Day, October 5, 2020, the WSD celebrates all of our amazing educators! Our teachers, in partnership with our dedicated parents, are navigating this new world of virtual learning and in-person instruction during a worldwide pandemic with the same approach they always have: with student success first in their minds. Meet Virtual Academy Teacher Kolleen Schulte, who is housed at Journey Elementary and teaches students from both Stone Creek and Journey online. Schulte has found ways to create a sense of family for her students even though they're not in the same classroom every day. Also meet Timberland High School Communications Arts Teacher Jeremy Boesch, whose classroom is a bastion of support and a safe place for diverse opinions. These are just two examples of the outstanding 1,200+ teachers in the WSD who continue

to put students first, regardless of circumstances. [Watch the video](#) on WSD YouTube.

WSD Providing Free Meals with COVID Funds

The WSD has announced that it will provide free meals for all students in the District through December 31, 2020, or until available federal funding runs out. The meals are being provided regardless of eligibility as a result of the extension of waivers by the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) related to the Seamless Summer Option program. For more information, [read the full article](#) on the WSD website.



[Read More](#)

October is National Principals Month

In honor of National Principals Month, the WSD would like to highlight all the hardworking principals who keep our schools safe and welcoming places for students and staff to learn and work. These professionals are essential to student success, as well as that of our staff. Principals serve as a lighthouse in our District and in our community, helping to keep our future moving in the right direction. Thank you to all our principals who give so much of themselves to inspire our kids, and to support our staff and District in reaching collective goals. Please take a moment to say hello and thank your principal this month!



National Custodian Appreciation Day



October 2 was National Custodian Appreciation Day and what a great opportunity it was to thank the very special, hard-working staff who are on the front lines of the pandemic ensuring our schools and buildings are clean and safe. The WSD currently employs over 150 custodians who quietly go about their critical job with little fanfare. Today we are reminded of how much we need and respect them and the work they do. So take a moment to thank a custodian for their role in keeping us all healthy and safe.

Friendly Reminders

This is a friendly reminder about upcoming days where there will be early releases and days with no classes.

October 23
Early Release Day K-12

October 29
No Classes - Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 30
No Classes - Professional Development Day

November 2
No Classes

November 3
No Classes - Election Day



WSD/Lou Fusz Student-Athlete of the Month



The WSD/Lou Fusz Student-Athlete of the Month aims to recognize varsity student-athletes for their achievements in the classroom, commitment, sportsmanship, and teamwork. These student-athletes were honored for their performances during September 2020. For the full write-ups on these students, visit the [WSD Marketing Webpage](#).

100 Days of Hope



September 22 marked 100 days left in 2020, so we are kicking off "100 Days of Hope" and inviting staff, students, families and our community to join us in our #hopehandoff as we spread hope, positivity, gratitude, inspiration and more to our #WSDfamily. What will you do to spread hope?

Join the WSD Finance Committee

Would you like to learn more about District finances? For instance, where does District revenue come from? How is the tax rate calculated? What is the largest District expenditure?

These are just a few of the items the Finance Committee will analyze. The committee will also work to answer any questions you may have about school finance. There will be three meetings throughout the school year. If you are interested in being involved, please contact [Pat Jolley](#) in the WSD Finance Department





Connect with the WSD

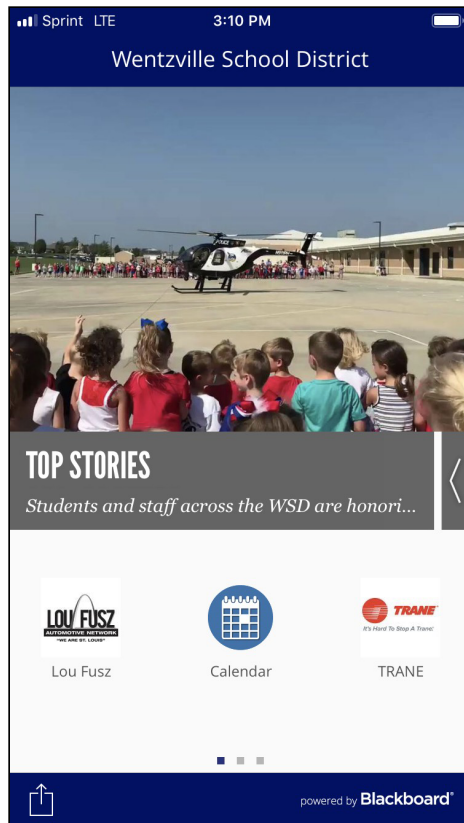




Have You Downloaded the WSD App?

Are you new to the WSD? Be sure to download the app to have important information right at your fingertips. The app is available for both android devices and iPhones. On the app, you can:

- View news stories
- View calendar info
- View lunch menus
- Access school and staff info
- Receive important alerts
- View sports scores
- Locate Directory Information



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