

August 11, 2021

Dear WCSD Families:

Welcome to the 2021-22 School Year! Perhaps more so than ever, we are looking forward to throwing open our doors and welcoming students back into our schools for an exciting year of learning!

I know that I've shared this before, but it's worth repeating. Our main goal this year is to keep children attending school and receiving their instruction, in person, from one of our outstanding teachers. It's no secret that last year's remote instruction wasn't ideal for our families or our students. It wasn't ideal for our educators, either. However, taking that conservative approach at the outset of the year did allow us to get children back into their classrooms, at first through our blended model, and finally through our all-in model.

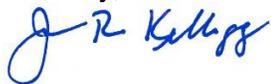
We're starting this year with everyone at school, engaged in learning and experiencing the social benefits of being with their friends, meeting new classmates, and interacting with the many caring adults who make up our staff. We want kids to remain in school this year, but we can only achieve this goal by working together to provide learning environments that keep our students, as well as our staff, healthy and safe while at school.

Masks remain required for students when they're riding on our buses or vans and while they're in our schools. If they forget to bring one, we'll have masks available for everyone to use. If your student has reusable cloth masks, please make sure they are washed frequently and kept clean. We'll also continue practicing physical distancing throughout the day, have hand sanitizer available to anyone who wants to use it, and following best practices to keep our buildings clean. Here are two important documents that we would like to share with families. One has information about [monitoring your children's health each day](#), and the other is about the [quarantine procedures](#) that we will be following.

I'd like to share with you an important message that I've been delivering to our teachers, administrators, and support staff who work closest with your children. I wholeheartedly believe that if we are going to make strides academically this year, we have to begin with "How are you doing?" and not "Open your books." Our children have been through a lot these past couple of years. It's absolutely critical that we first care for students' general well-being if we hope to have any chance of reaching, let alone growing, their minds.

Finally, please know that we want this year to be as traditional as possible, complete with a full slate of academic opportunities, athletic contests, extracurricular clubs and activities, school dances, concerts, plays, musicals, family fun nights, awards and recognitions, graduation ceremonies, and everything else that makes a Westerville City Schools education special. We can do our best to make sure these things happen for your children, but our greatest chance for success happens only if our entire learning community is willing to move forward together. Once again, welcome to the 2021-22 School Year!

Sincerely,



Dr. John R. Kellogg  
Superintendent

SPANISH

Informacion importante de la escuela -- por favor que alguien traduzca.

NEPALI

स्कूलको महत्वपूर्ण जानकारी हो- कृपया कसैलाई अनुवाद गर्न लगाउनुहोस्

SOMALI

Akhbaar muhiim ah oo ka socdaa dugsiiga. Fadlan qof haa ku turjumo.