

Welch Public Schools



2022-2023

Safe Return & Continuity of Services Plan

(This plan has been updated to meet the requirements of ARP/ESSER III, The Safe Return & Continuity of Service Plan)

Introduction

Welch Public Schools (WPS) is committed to implementing prevention and mitigation strategies, addressing the academic impact of lost learning time, and responding to all students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. During the 2020-2021 school year, WPS adopted and implemented this Re-Entry & Distance Learning Plan.

The following Re-Entry & Distance Learning Plan is a working document based on current guidelines and recommendations from the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \(CDC\)](#), [Oklahoma State Department of Health \(OSDH\)](#), and the [Oklahoma State Department of Education \(OSDE\)](#). It is subject to immediate change based on new information or mandates.

This plan was developed and revised through meaningful consultation with community stakeholders, including students, parents/guardians, families, teachers, school staff, principals, OPAA child nutrition food management, the special education director, and the federal programs director. Tribal representatives from the Cherokee Nation were also invited to participate in meaningful consultation and collaboration. The district engages in ongoing consultation and collaboration with our local tribe.

The Board of Education amended, updated, approved, and adopted the plan on August 9, 2021. After approval and adoption, the plan will be posted on the district's www.welchwildcats.net

The Board of Education amended, updated, approved and adopted the plan on August 8, 2022 at its regular meeting. The plan was reposted on the website.

According to the Center for Disease Control & Prevention (CDC)

COVID-19 is mostly spread by respiratory droplets released when people talk, cough, or sneeze. It is thought that the virus may spread to hands from a contaminated surface and then to the nose or mouth, causing infection. Therefore, personal prevention practices (such as hand-washing, staying home when sick) and environmental cleaning and disinfection are important principles that are covered in this guide. Fortunately, school staff can take a number of actions to help lower the risk of exposure to and the spread of COVID-19 during school sessions and activities ([Centers for Disease Control and Prevention \[CDC\], 2020](#)).

One of the actions that can be taken to help lower the risk of exposure is the use of face coverings. Face coverings may be challenging for students (especially younger students) to wear in all-day settings such as school. Face coverings should be worn by staff and students (particularly older students) as is feasible, and are most essential in times when physical distancing is difficult. Face coverings will be subject to the school dress code. Individuals should be repeatedly reminded not to touch the face covering and to wash their hands frequently. Information should be provided to staff, students, and students' families on proper use, removal, and washing of cloth face coverings ([CDC, 2020](#)).

"Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing,

except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.” ([CDC, May 2021](#))

Welch Public Schools does not currently have a mask mandate for students and staff. However, it is advisable that students and staff wear a face covering at school when social/physical distancing is not possible. Staff and students that wish to wear a mask or face covering will be allowed to continue the practice. During the 2020-2021 school year, the district purchased and acquired a surplus of masks and personal protective equipment (PPE). These items will be available to students and staff, while supplies last.

NOTE: Subject to change per future [CDC](#), [OSHD](#), & [OSDE](#) mandates.

Symptoms of COVID-19:

People with COVID-19 have reported having a wide range of symptoms – from mild symptoms to severe illness. Children have similar symptoms to adults and generally experience mild illness. Symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

- Cough
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- Fever
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- Loss of taste or smell

This list is not all-inclusive. Other symptoms have been reported, including gastrointestinal symptoms like nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea ([CDC, 2020](#)).

CDC’s Safety Recommendations:

Welch Public Schools (WPS) has developed this plan to include how WPS will maintain the health and safety of students, educators and other district staff.

Additionally, this plan serves as the adopted policy on the CDC’s safety recommendations. The CDC safety recommendations addressed in this plan are:

1. Universal and correct wearing of masks;
2. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing;
3. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;
4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;
5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments;
6. Diagnostic and screening testing;
7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;
8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and,
9. Coordination with State and local health officials.

The above-mentioned CDC Safety Recommendations are addressed in detail throughout this plan. Additionally, this plan describes how WPS will ensure a continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students’ academic needs and student’s as well as staff members’ social, emotional, mental health, and other needs.

CDC's COVID-19 Community Levels Tool:

[COVID-19 Community Levels](#) are a tool to help communities decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Take precautions to protect yourself and others from COVID-19 based on the COVID-19 Community Level in your area.

Please note that this tool is for reference and recommendation only.

This tool was released during the Spring semester of 2022. The CDC updates the maps, charts, and data every Thursday. Below is the link to to the [CDC's COVID-19 Community Levels Tool](#):

- <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/your-health/covid-by-county.html>

Universal Precautions Recommended by the CDC

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Hand Washing:

Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds especially after you have been in a public place or after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not readily available, use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol. Cover all surfaces of your hands and rub them together until they feel dry. Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

Correct handwashing strategies were developed and implemented during the 2020-2021 school year. Welch Public Schools utilizes faculty and staff to train and remind students about the health benefits of proper and frequent handwashing. Additionally, signage is posted throughout facilities with reminders. Finally, hand sanitizer is available in classrooms, offices, cafeterias, and anywhere that students or patrons may pass.

Physical Distancing:

Avoid close contact by putting an appropriate distance between yourself and others. Remember that some people without symptoms may be able to spread the virus. Keeping an appropriate distance from others is especially important for people who are at higher risk of getting very sick.

Appropriate physical/social distancing strategies were developed and implemented during the 2020-2021 school year. Welch Public Schools utilizes faculty and staff to train and remind students about the health benefits of physical/social distancing. Additionally, signage is posted throughout facilities with reminders. In classrooms and other locations when physical/social distancing is not possible, students are seated in an effort to minimize exposure.

Masks and Face Shields:

Cover your mouth and nose with a cloth face cover or a clear plastic face shield when around others. You could spread COVID-19 to others even if you do not feel sick. Everyone should wear a mask or shield when they have to go out in public, for example to the grocery store or to pick up other necessities. Cloth face coverings should not be placed on young children under age 2, anyone who has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance. The cloth face cover or plastic shield is meant to protect other people in case you are infected.

“Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.” ([CDC, May 2021](#))

Welch Public Schools does not currently have a mask mandate for students and staff. However, it is advisable that students and staff wear a face covering at school when social/physical distancing is not possible. Staff and students that wish to wear a mask or face covering will be allowed to continue the practice. During the 2020-2021 school year, the district purchased and acquired a surplus of masks and personal protective equipment (PPE). These items will be available to students and staff, while supplies last.

NOTE: Subject to change per future [CDC](#), [OSHD](#), & [OSDE](#) mandates.

Cover Coughs and Sneezes:

If you are in a private setting and do not have your cloth face covering, remember to always cover your mouth and nose with a tissue when you cough or sneeze or use the inside of your elbow. Throw used tissues in the trash. Immediately wash your hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not readily available, clean your hands with a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.

Proper respiratory etiquette strategies were developed and implemented during the 2020-2021 school year. Welch Public Schools utilizes faculty and staff to train and remind students about the health benefits of proper respiratory etiquette of covering the mouth during coughs and sneezes. Additionally, signage is posted throughout facilities with reminders. Finally, hand sanitizer is available in classrooms, offices, cafeterias, and anywhere that students or patrons may pass.

Clean and Disinfect:

Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces throughout the day.

Additional cleaning and disinfecting protocols were developed and implemented during the 2020-2021 school year. Welch Public Schools utilizes multiple staff members to frequently clean and disinfect frequently touched and used surfaces throughout the school day. All teachers and support staff clean, disinfect, and sanitize throughout the school day. Additionally, deep cleaning equipment is utilized to clean, disinfect, and sanitize.

Everyone Has Responsibilities

The CDC created a checklist for parents and a checklist for teachers that list general expectations to help prevent community spread while providing an education to our students.

Parents should encourage good prevention habits with their family including:

1. avoid close contact with people who are sick,
2. cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash,
3. wash hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds,
4. keep your child at home if sick with any illness,
5. be prepared if your child's school is temporarily dismissed,
6. abiding by quarantine measures and the health guidelines put forth by the school and the county.

Teachers should:

1. encourage students to stay home when sick,
2. clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces and objects in the classroom,
3. monitor absenteeism,
4. implement a plan to continue educating students through digital remote learning when needed.

Additional and updated information will be posted on the [WPS website](#), [Facebook page](#), our One Call Message Notification System and as it becomes available. Continue to visit our social media sites frequently as we will modify our procedures/protocols as guidance is updated from the [Oklahoma State Department of Education \(OSDE\)](#) and [Oklahoma Department of Health \(OSDH\)](#).

This plan has been written in collaboration with and follows the guidance provided by the local, tribal, and State health departments. The district will engage in coordination with the previously mentioned health departments to address the need for diagnostic and screening testing, and efforts to provide vaccinations to the school community.

- [Oklahoma Department of Health \(OSDH\)](#)
- [Craig County Health Department](#)
- [Cherokee Nation Health Services](#)

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year Welch Public Schools (WPS) worked with the Craig County Health Department and Cherokee Nation Health Services to provide diagnostic and screening testing to the school community, when necessary and appropriate.

School Operations

Transportation:

1. All bus drivers will be strongly recommended to wear a face-covering if the county infection color code changes to a non-green color indicator.
 - “Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing themselves, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.” ([CDC, May 2021](#))
2. It is strongly recommended that all student bus riders wear a face covering if the county infection color code changes to a non-green color indicator.
 - “Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing themselves, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.” ([CDC, May 2021](#))
3. Bus windows to be left open for airflow, weather permitting. (*Not applicable to air-conditioned equipped buses.*)
4. Daily cleaning of buses will be mandatory after each route.
5. Seating assignments:
 - Students will be assigned to sit in seats with members of their households.
 - The first students on the bus will sit in the back seat; the last students on the bus will sit in the front seat. This will help prevent students from having to walk past each other.
6. *NO changes will be made to afternoon transportation after 1:30 pm on the same day.*

Site Screenings:

Staff/Student:

1. Staff will screen themselves by asking the following questions. If they come to school, they are certifying they have passed the checklist.
 - Temperature of less than 100 degrees without fever-reducing medications.
 - No sore throat
 - No shortness of breath
 - No cough
 - No loss of smell or taste
 - No close contact with a positive covid person
2. Guardians will screen students with the same checklist. Guardians will certify their children have passed the checklist if they send them to school.
3. Welch Public Schools does not currently have a mask mandate for students and staff. However, it is advisable that students and staff wear a face covering at school when social/physical distancing is not possible. Staff and students that wish to wear a mask or face covering will be allowed to continue the practice. During the 2020-2021 school year, the district purchased and acquired a surplus of masks and personal protective equipment (PPE). These items will be available to students and staff, while supplies last.

“Fully vaccinated people can resume activities without wearing a mask or physically distancing, except where required by federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance.” ([CDC, May 2021](#))

NOTE: *Subject to change per future [CDC](#), [OSHD](#), & [OSDE](#) mandates.*

4. Teachers will have thermometers available in their classrooms to take temperatures throughout the day, as needed.
5. Locations will be established to house students who may have symptoms or a temperature of 100 degrees or greater. Disinfection will occur upon the exit of the student.
6. Parents will be notified if the student is symptomatic and schedule a pick-up time and location.
7. At the time of pick-up, isolation/quarantine measures will be explained. (See **Return to School or School Activities Criteria**)
8. Once a student is confirmed as a positive case of COVID-19, the site shall immediately inform the Administration Office. A representative from the Administration Office will then notify all appropriate agencies (Delaware County Health Department and State Infection Reporting System- OSDE) and begin the contact tracing process.
9. Visitor/Parents:
Visitors/Parents at each site will be by appointment only.

Child Nutrition:

1. Breakfast/lunch locations will be determined by each site.
2. Eating areas will be sanitized after each meal.
3. No outside food deliveries will be allowed during the school day, but staff may bring lunch to school. Students may bring lunch.
4. Sending snacks for class parties or snack time for early childhood will be determined by each

site.

*** High School Students may be permitted to eat outside, weather permitting.*

Cafeteria Recommendations - Students may have assigned seats or social distance as is possible.

Classroom Procedures:

1. Procedures will be adopted at each site for classroom sanitization.
2. Classroom design will be created to establish social distancing as much as possible.
3. Promote good hygiene practices, handwashing, and respiratory etiquette.

Athletics and Extracurricular Activities:

1. Guidelines for practice will be determined by the athletic director.
2. Event guidelines will be determined by the current recommendations of the OSSAA/CDC.

Site Use by Non-School Entities/Visitor and Volunteer Protocols:

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Indoor facilities will be closed if the administration determines it to be appropriate.

Facility Cleaning and Sanitization:

Facility Cleaning and Sanitation:

Wellness

1. Each site will practice daily sanitization.

Health Concerning COVID-19:

Exposures & Contact Tracing

Should the school be made aware of a possible COVID-19 exposure in a building, the school administrators will contact trace as was practiced during the 2020-21 school year. The end result of that contact tracing will be a notification to the appropriate parents stating that their student had close contact with an individual who has since tested positive for COVID-19. We ask that parents who receive such a notification monitor their child's health and contact their family physician should the child develop symptoms.

Close contact is defined as being less than 6 feet for at least 15 cumulative minutes within a 24-hour period, kissing, hugging, or sharing food or drink with a person with COVID-19 within 48-hours prior to his/her onset of COVID-19 symptoms and/or for 10 days following onset of symptoms.

In regard to communication regarding contact tracing:

- If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 with a staff member, parents of students at that school building will be notified ONLY in the event their child has had possible close contact with the affected staff member.
- If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 with a student, parents will be notified ONLY in the event their child has had possible close contact with the affected student.
- If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19 with a student or staff member within an extracurricular activity, parents will be notified ONLY in the event their child has had possible close contact with the affected individual.

Return to School or School Activities Criteria:

- 1) If a student/staff exhibits a fever of at least 100 degrees, he/she must:
 - a) be fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications; OR
 - b) obtain a medical release from a certified physician.
- 2) The following is the updated guidance from the CDC, as of December 27, 2021, in regards to recommended isolation and quarantine periods. The district recommends the following CDC guidance be adhered to before returning to school and/or school activities:

Given what we currently know about COVID-19 and the Omicron variant, CDC is shortening the recommended time for isolation for the public. People with COVID-19 should isolate for 5 days and if they are asymptomatic or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours), follow that by 5 days of wearing a mask when around others to minimize the risk of infecting people they encounter. The change is motivated by science demonstrating that the majority of SARS-CoV-2 transmission occurs early in the course of illness, generally in the 1-2 days prior to onset of symptoms and the 2-3 days after.

Additionally, CDC is updating the recommended quarantine period for anyone in the general public who is [exposed to COVID-19](#). For people who are unvaccinated or are more than six months out from their second mRNA dose (or more than 2 months after the J&J vaccine) and not yet boosted, CDC now recommends quarantine for 5 days followed by strict mask use for an additional 5 days. Alternatively, if a 5-day quarantine is not feasible, it is imperative that an exposed person [wear a well-fitting mask](#) at all times when around others for 10 days after exposure. Individuals who have received their booster shot do not need to quarantine following an exposure, but should wear a mask for 10 days after the exposure. For all those exposed, best practice would also include a test for SARS-CoV-2 at day 5 after exposure. If symptoms occur, individuals should immediately quarantine until a negative test confirms symptoms are not attributable to COVID-19.

Isolation relates to behavior after a confirmed infection. Isolation for 5 days followed by wearing a well-fitting mask will minimize the risk of spreading the virus to others. Quarantine refers to the time following exposure to the virus or close contact with someone known to have COVID-19. Both updates come as the Omicron variant continues to spread throughout the U.S. and reflects the current science on when and for how long a person is maximally infectious. These recommendations do not supersede state, local, tribal, or territorial laws, rules, and regulations, nor do they apply to healthcare workers for whom CDC has [updated guidance](#).

Data from South Africa and the United Kingdom demonstrate that vaccine effectiveness against infection for two doses of an mRNA vaccine is approximately 35%. A COVID-19 vaccine booster dose restores vaccine effectiveness against infection to 75%. COVID-19 vaccination decreases the risk of severe disease, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19. CDC strongly encourages COVID-19 vaccination for everyone 5 and older and boosters for everyone 16 and older. Vaccination is the best way to protect yourself and reduce the impact of COVID-19 on our communities. ([CDC, December 2021](#))

If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate)

<p>Everyone, regardless of vaccination status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for 5 days. • If you have no symptoms or your symptoms are resolving after 5 days, you can leave your house. • Continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days. <p><i>If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.</i></p>
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If You Were Exposed to Someone with COVID-19 (Quarantine)

<p>If you: Have been boosted <u>OR</u> Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine within the last 6 months <u>OR</u> Completed the primary series of J&J vaccine within the last 2 months</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wear a mask around others for 10 days. • Test on day 5, if possible. <p><i>If you develop symptoms, get a test and stay home.</i></p>
<p>If you: Completed the primary series of Pfizer or Moderna vaccine over 6 months ago and are not boosted <u>OR</u> Completed the primary series of J&J over 2 months ago and are not boosted <u>OR</u> Are unvaccinated</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stay home for 5 days. After that continue to wear a mask around others for 5 additional days. • If you can't quarantine you must wear a mask for 10 days. • Test on day 5 if possible. <p><i>If you develop symptoms get a test and stay home</i></p>

[\(CDC, December 2021\)](#)

Mental Health & Wellness:

1. The school counselor will be available to students throughout the school day.
2. Additionally, behavioral health aides will be available at each site. This is in partnership with [Grand Lake Mental Health](#) (GLMH).
3. Each site will continue monthly meetings with mental health professionals to discuss students receiving services, referrals, and students needing mental health support.
4. Continuation of the following:
 - a. Collaboration with GLMH.
 - b. Safe and Healthy School Committee site meetings.
 - c. Utilize the district counselor.
5. Provide resources for staff self-care:
 - a. Health Choice insurance benefits for mental health services.
 - b. Professional Development for stress and mental health.

Physical Health:

1. Student Hydration

- Every school building is equipped with one or more hydration bottle-filling stations.
- Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, the district made clean drinking water available and accessible to students at every district facility.

2. Mask Recommendations & Accommodations

Welch Public Schools does not currently have a mask mandate for students and staff. However, it is advisable that students and staff wear a face covering at school when social/physical distancing is not possible. Staff and students that wish to wear a mask or face covering will be allowed to continue the practice. During the 2020-2021 school year, the district purchased and acquired a surplus of masks and personal protective equipment (PPE). These items will be available to students and staff, while supplies last.

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NOTE: Subject to change per future [CDC](#), [OSHD](#), & [OSDE](#) mandates.

Academics & Growth

During the 2020-2021 school year, Welch Public Schools (WPS) adopted and implemented this Re-Entry & Distance Learning Plan. It is noteworthy to mention that during the 2021-2022 school year, WPS was only forced into a COVID-19 related closure for a few days in September 2021 and a few days in November 2021.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, WPS has been and continues to be committed to ensuring that the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students are met. The academic and growth section of this plan takes the following student groups into special consideration: economically disadvantaged, Native American, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, and children in foster care. During the development of this plan, the district engaged in meaningful consultation with representatives of each of the above-mentioned student groups.

Student Enrollment:

1. All enrollment at WPS will be online or in person.
2. New & Re-Entering Students Enrollment will be available throughout the school year.
3. Student Enrollment Updates will take place at the end of the spring semester to update currently enrolled students' information in preparation for the fall semester.

4. Pre-Kindergarten & Kindergarten Early Enrollment will take place at the end of the spring semester for new PK & K students in preparation for the fall semester.

Calendar:

Welch Public Schools (WPS) has adopted a calendar that includes the following:

- Front-loaded professional development to address the following virtual curriculum development needs:
 1. Reading Eggs (PK-2)
 2. Google Classroom (3-12)
 3. GoGuardian
 4. Supplemental resources for online learning
- Ability to pivot to distance learning, when necessary, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Intervention/Remediation Plan:

Welch Public Schools (WPS) will leverage several funding sources to address the academic impact of lost instructional time through the implementation of evidence-based interventions. The district is committed to closing the learning gaps created by the COVID-19 pandemic.

1. Assessments-
 - a. K-5 reading - FAST benchmark RSA plans
 - b. 6-12 – USA Test Prep
 - c. PK- ELQA
2. Remediation-
 - a. PLCs will work to restructure pacing for the remainder of the school year. Power standards will be a focus while designing the pacing.
 - b. K-3 Skill and intervention groups will be established based on BoY assessments and held during scheduled intervention times.
 - c. 4-12 interventions will be provided during flex time.
3. Most Vulnerable Populations- Welch Public Schools (WPS) will respond to the academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs of all students, and particularly those students disproportionately impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, including students from low-income families, students of color, English learners, children with disabilities, students experiencing homelessness, children in foster care, and migratory students.

The following will be utilized as resources for evidence-based interventions:

- The What Works Clearinghouse (WWC)- <https://ies.ed.gov/ncee/wwc/>
- Hattie Ranking: 252 Influences And Effect Sizes Related To Student Achievement-
➤ <https://visible-learning.org/hattie-ranking-influences-effect-sizes-learning-achievement/>
- OSDE Guides to Selecting and Applying Evidence-Based Practices-
 - <https://sde.ok.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Reading%20Guide%202-26-20.pdf>
 - <https://sde.ok.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Mathematics%20Guide%202-26-20.pdf>
 - <https://sde.ok.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/English%20Language%20Proficiency%20Guide%202-26-20.pdf>
 - <https://sde.ok.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Parent%20Family%20Engagement%20Guide%202-26-20.pdf>

➤ <https://sde.ok.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/Safe%20and%20Healthy%20Schools%20Guide%202-26-20.pdf>

Most Vulnerable Populations	Academic Needs	Social Needs	Emotional Needs	Mental Health Needs
All Students	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide devices and connectivity for virtual learning, as needed. -Implement evidence-based Tier 1 instruction. -Provide Tier 2 evidence-based support for unfinished learning. -Provide Tier 3 tutoring, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to school's programs, clubs, and activities. -Engage parents and families in the school's programs, academics, and activities. -Access to added nutrition, if necessary. -Establish opportunities for the diversity of cultures to be highlighted, celebrated, and respected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.
Students of Low-Socioeconomics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide devices and connectivity for virtual learning, as needed. -Implement evidence-based Tier 1 instruction. -Provide Tier 2 evidence-based support for unfinished learning. -Provide Tier 3 tutoring, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to school's programs, clubs, and activities. -Engage parents and families in the school's programs, academics, and activities. -Access to added nutrition, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.
English Learners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide devices and connectivity for virtual learning, as needed. -Implement evidence-based Tier 1 instruction. -Provide Tier 2 evidence-based support for unfinished learning. -Provide Tier 3 tutoring, if necessary. -Access to the school's Title III program and resources, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to school's programs, clubs, and activities. -Engage parents and families in the school's programs, academics, and activities. -Access to added nutrition, if necessary. -Provide translation services, if necessary. -Establish opportunities for the diversity of cultures to be highlighted, celebrated, and respected. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.
Students with Disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide devices and connectivity for virtual learning, as needed. -Provide adaptive technology to close the gap. -Provide in-person learning during distant learning days, if necessary. -Implement evidence-based Tier 1 instruction. -Provide Tier 2 evidence-based support for unfinished learning. -Provide Tier 3 tutoring, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to school's programs, clubs, and activities. -Engage parents and families in the school's programs, academics, and activities. -Access to added nutrition, if necessary. -Promote the inclusion of students with disabilities in the school's culture and activities. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.
Students Experiencing Homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Provide devices and connectivity for virtual learning, as needed. -Implement evidence-based Tier 1 instruction. -Provide Tier 2 evidence-based support for unfinished learning. -Provide Tier 3 tutoring, if necessary. -Make every effort to receive school records from previous schools. -Full or partial credit will be awarded to students for coursework completed before enrollment, if necessary. -Online coursework will be used to recover credits, if necessary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to school's programs, clubs, and activities. -Engage parents and families in the school's programs, academics, and activities. -Access to added nutrition, if necessary. -Remove barriers to participation in programs, clubs, activities, and organizations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.

Children in Foster Care	-Provide devices and connectivity for virtual learning, as needed. -Implement evidence-based Tier 1 instruction. -Provide Tier 2 evidence-based support for unfinished learning. -Provide Tier 3 tutoring, if necessary.	-Access to school's programs, clubs, and activities. -Engage parents and families in the school's programs, academics, and activities. -Access to added nutrition, if necessary.	-Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.	-Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.
Migratory Students <i>(NOTE: WPS does not have migratory students, as of 5/18/2022.)</i>	-Identify any migratory students at the point of enrollment. -Provide devices and connectivity for virtual learning, as needed. -Implement evidence-based Tier 1 instruction. -Provide Tier 2 evidence-based support for unfinished learning. -Provide Tier 3 tutoring, if necessary.	-Access to school's programs, clubs, and activities. -Engage parents and families in the school's programs, academics, and activities. -Access to added nutrition, if necessary.	-Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.	-Access to the school counselor. -Access to the embedded Grand Lake Mental Health -Refer to professional support through outside agencies.

4. Retention and Remediation (PK-6): The creation of a transitional 2nd-grade classroom. Students will also have a small group or individualized reading remediation time throughout the week.
5. Alternative Education (7-12): Alternative Education will be available for students in need, based upon the application process outlined in the district policy.
6. Before/After/Summer Program (PK-8): remediation is available to students daily, as well as homework assistance.

Response:

[Oklahoma State Department of Health \(OSDH\)](#) has developed the Oklahoma COVID-19 Alert System, a multitiered risk measurement tool with corresponding **color categories** that identify the **current COVID-19 risk level on a county-by-county basis**. These designations, as modified below for purposes of school operations and which, at a minimum, all public schools shall conduct activities under, will be updated weekly each Friday based on updates to the Oklahoma COVID-19 Alert System. This School Safety Response document must not be interpreted as a substitute for close consultation with local, regional, and state health agencies and experts. Scientific understanding of the novel coronavirus is increasing rapidly, so efforts to mitigate transmission of COVID-19 will necessarily evolve with additional research and experience.

Craig County ~~GREEN LEVEL~~ (Fewer than 1.43 cases per 100,000)

Craig County ~~YELLOW LEVEL~~ (More than 1.43 but fewer than 14.39 cases per 100,000)

Craig County ~~ORANGE LEVEL~~ (More than 14.39 but fewer than 50 cases per 100,000)

Craig County ~~RED LEVEL~~ (50 or more cases per 100,000)

GREEN LEVEL: Anticipate opening at this level on August 18th and reassessing conditions after Labor Day.

- No positive cases of COVID-19 on campus.
- No directives from local and/or state agencies to reduce capacities.
- The school is fully open with COVID-19 well-being protocols in place.
- See Mask Recommendations and Accommodations in the Physical Health section for more information.

- Parents who have concerns about their student being in a traditional classroom setting may complete an application to have their student served by alternate methods, upon approval.

Welch Public Schools will base its decision to move to distance learning on local community infection rates. If the county goes to red, WPS will evaluate whether it is also at **RED LEVEL** in our local community before moving to virtual learning.

RED LEVEL: Virtual learning for all students due to the increased threat of COVID-19 and/or mandated closure.

- 100% virtual learning platform will be implemented if (Exceptions for Special Education, English learners (ELs), Alternative Education, and non-readers--includes Pre-k and Kindergarten)
 - Health or government officials direct schools to close in order to mitigate COVID-19 transmission, OR
 - WPS officials determine that closure is needed.
- **Instruction:** Welch Public Schools will close buildings and provide distance learning until community transmission declines to **ORANGE LEVEL** on the COVID-19 Alert System or as advised by local and state health officials and OSDE. Students with disabilities who are unable to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) solely through a distance learning environment (as determined by the IEP team) and those students who are unable to receive instructional services through distance learning, not to exceed thirty percent (30%) of students enrolled at a site, may receive certain services at a school site that is closed or at an alternate school site or other location. Teachers and staff may be on campus as assigned.
- **Special Education Classrooms:** Teachers and staff in special education classrooms are required to wear protective face shields and/or masks when social distancing cannot be practiced or students are without masks. In addition, gloves and gowns are recommended for special education staff when providing services for medically vulnerable students.
- **Visitors and Service Providers:** It is required that school visitations be restricted and that any visitors allowed on premises wear masks at all times. Temperature checks and symptom checks should be required for all visitors. In cases where schools and districts have partnerships with community organizations, health care providers, and local government agencies that provide additional educational and wraparound services to students, the staff of such partners should be allowed into buildings following the same procedures as for school personnel.
- **Child Nutrition:** Provisions for school meal programs should continue. Welch Public Schools will begin the pick-up line and deliveries during the closure.
- **Extracurricular Activities and Group Assemblies may or may not be suspended:** It will be the decision of the District Administration if buildings and campuses may be used for extracurricular activities, including spectator sports, or other group activities such as assemblies and performances during district distance learning school days. Buildings and campuses **may not be** utilized by the public for rental during distance learning school days. Welch Public School extracurricular activities and group assemblies will follow Oklahoma State Health Department Indoor Activities protocols.

Technology Plan

1. District-wide one-to-one (1:1) technology
 - Chromebooks/Tablets for grades PK-12
2. Connectivity
 - a. Increased wifi expansion
 - b. All students that do not have access to the internet may request a hot spot.
 - c. Hot spots are provided based on district-established criteria for need. Hot Spots provided by Welch Public Schools will have access to educational sites only. Social media and non-educational sites will not be accessible.
3. Technology Fee
 - a. **Repair/Replacement:**

If a device is unintentionally damaged, lost, or stolen, a report must be filed with the building principal within one school day.

 - The student and/or parent/guardian may pay a yearly device user fee to avoid paying financial restitution to the district if a device is stolen, lost, or unintentionally damaged. The yearly device fee is \$25 per device to be paid to Welch Public Schools. This fee is nonrefundable. Students are only allowed one incident throughout the entire school year. After one incident, the student and/or parent/guardian is responsible for paying financial restitution to the district so the district can repair or replace the device.
 - The yearly device user fee does not cover intentional damage. Any intentional damage to a device will require a student and/or parent/guardian to pay financial restitution to the district.
 - A student will not be denied access to a device for failure to pay the yearly user fee. However, failure to pay the yearly user fee will result in the student and/or parent/guardian paying financial restitution to the district if a device is stolen, lost, or unintentionally damaged.
 - In case of theft, a police report must be filed prior to a new device being issued. Documentation of the police report must be submitted to the building principal.
 - At the end of the school year, the student and/or parent/guardian is responsible for returning all devices and chargers in undamaged and in good working order to the district. Failure to do so will result in financial paying restitution to the district by the student and/or parents/guardians. Please be aware that students will not be issued another device or awarded a diploma until all financial restitution has been reconciled.
 - Once a student is no longer attending Welch Public Schools, the device(s) must be immediately returned to the district. Any device(s) not returned to the district will be considered stolen property.

Instructional Models:

Table of Contents

<p>Option #1 ALL ON-SITE Traditional Classroom Setting</p>	<p>Option #2 ONLINE & ON-SITE Distance Learning</p>	<p>Option #3 ALL ONLINE Virtual/Online Education</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain a WPS student • In-person learning, conversations, and engagement • Social interaction with peers and staff for preparation of living in a connected world • Immediate access to learning commons (library/media center) • Learning Management System (LMS) - Google Classroom and Meet all teachers, students, and parents for seamless learning transitions • 24-7 online access to submitted and/or graded assignments • Technology provided • Participate in school-sponsored activities and programs <p>All students are automatically enrolled in Option #1.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain a WPS student • Content Management System (CMS) used for easy transition between a traditional classroom setting and distance learning • Google Classroom and Edgenuity Imagin connects all teachers, students, and parents for seamless learning transitions • 24-7 online access to submitted and/or graded assignments • Technology and internet provided, as needed • Participate in school-sponsored activities and programs <p><i>*This option is for short-term illness/absence due to a health-related reason. Doctor documentation must be provided and parents must contact the site for further instruction.</i></p> <p>Contact your building principal for more info on Option #2.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remain a WPS student • Available for all students, grades PreK-12th • Accessible anywhere • 24-7 online access to submitted and/or graded assignments • Supervised by WPS Distance Learning Coordinator and certified teachers • Communication between teacher and parent, with regular updates provided • Technology and *internet provided, as needed • Participate in school-sponsored activities and programs, <i>as long as the student is enrolled in one hour during the regular school day and physically on campus during the class period.</i> <p>Contact your building principal for more info on Option #3.</p>