

## Town Hall Questions and Answers

The district will be starting school on August 24th in a Hybrid Model. Family units will attend school together. Group 1 “Trojan” will be on Monday and Tuesday; Group 2 “Power” will be on Thursday and Friday. Wednesdays the groups will alternate between the weeks with Group 1 the first week and Group 2 the second week.

The first letter of your last name will designate your day or days of school **Family units will attend on the same day. We will work with families and their needs.**

Students attend two full days a week and a ½ day on alternative Wednesdays.

School Attendance Centers Operating at 50% Capacity					
50% Hybrid- Groups 1 & 3, Groups 2 & 4					
Schools	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Washington, Pence, Middle School, and High School	Group 1 (Trojans) attends all-day  A-F M-R	Group 1 (Trojans) attends all-day  A-F M-R	Group 1 (Trojans) attendance half the day (AM) alternating weeks with Group 2  Group 2 (Power) attendance half-day (AM) The alternative week with Group 1  Teacher Learning, Collaboration, & Planning	Group 2 (Power) attends all-day  G-L S-Z	Group 2 (Power) attends all-day  G-L S-Z

The following items are in each building to be distributed to students and staff. There will be a choice as to which one works for each person. Families are welcome to bring their own mask or shield. School guidance as for the masks are the same as tshirt and logos.

	Disposable Masks	Head band shields (Weaton)	Ball cap Shield	Soft Head band Shield	Mask	Lan-yard	Clear Masks	V-Tech Shields Child	V-Tech Shields Adult
Wash	100	100	0	25	15 Black 20 White	30 doz	48	200	100
Pence	100	100	50	36	15 Black 25 White	31 doz	72	200	100
MS	100	100	200	72	15 Black 30 White	30 doz	72	100	0
FHS	100	100	200	108	15 Black 30 White	0	72	100	0

**1. Do we need to declare the family choice next week?**

As soon as this can take place so that the buildings can determine needs. This would be good to have by this week, but understand the time needed for the decision. Please make this decision by August 18th.

**2. Will hot spots be provided to families that don't have either any internet or limited internet?**

Internet access is a situation that the district is currently looking at. No final plan has been set yet. Recent funding from the state may help with this situation. A final plan should be in place in the near future. This plan may also have other options instead of or in addition to hot spots specifically. This will be a case-by-case decision.

**3. Will the curriculum be designed for an online environment? Could students access that and work independently?**

Teachers will be providing education in an online environment. The content will be paced in conjunction with the curriculum that is being presented to the students that are face-to-face. This will help add fluidity and continuity to the students that may have to switch between models based on medical necessity.

**4. Can a person choose to move to online learning at any time?**

It is easier to move to online than to in person, however, this is a year of flexibility and grace. We will work with families as best as we can. It will depend upon grade level and individual circumstances.

**5. How will the district conduct contact tracing?**

Contact tracing will be compiled by the Jefferson County Public Health. Our part will be to work to keep students in a cohort group as much as possible to help with the tracing process.

**6. When the students are home for 14 days will they be switched to online learning?**

Yes

**7. How does the work in high school when they move classrooms?**

Students will move in one direction per floor to eliminate people meeting in the hall or too close to one another. Additional time will be given between the classes. The two hour block will continue all year.

**8. Is the district going to share regular updates on the percentage of students/faculty/staff that have COVID with the public?**

The release of positive cases will coordinate with Jefferson County Public Health

**9. What day is Open house?**

Open House is August 20th. Only children that go to school should be at the open house. Two family members per child. Masks are required during this event.

Washington	4:30-5:15 (A-F; M-R); 5:15-6:00 (G-L; S-Z)
Pence	5:00-5:45 (G-L; S-Z) ; 5:45- 6:30 (A-F; M-R)
FMS	5:00-5:45 (A-F; M-R); 5:45-6:30 (G-L; S-Z)
FHS	9th grade and new students

**10. Can a student be in class for a few classes if they choose online at home learning?**

Band would count as one of the co-curricular activities. With activities such as band and choir, this counts as the two activities for the year because they run by semester. These are the only classes that can be taken if you choose online.

**11. How is the decision made to move to online?**

Schools moving to online learning must apply for a waiver from the Department of Education and Iowa Public health and is based on the % Positive over a 14 day average and 10% of the absenteeism. Schools can start 100% in person or face to face in a hybrid model.

**12. Is it a shield or mask or shield and mask to be worn at all times?**

Students can choose between the two. They do not have to wear both at the same time unless it is a medical need or family choice. Some classrooms based on the needs within the learning structure will require a mask over a shield. Each building will have rooms where a mask is required over a shield.

**13. At what data point will the masks and shields not be required?**

Public health would guide us in the decision making process for this answer.

**14. With 100% in the class, how will classrooms be socially distanced in overcrowded classrooms?**

The district is starting in a Hybrid Model, so it will help with social distancing. When we can get all students in the building, we will have some of the details worked out to help with social distancing. We have hired additional Kindergarten and first-grade teachers which will keep those numbers lower and allow for more movement and space.

**15. Is it possible to change your mind about in school vs at homeschooling once you have chosen one on the registration form?**

With the uncertainty of COVID, it is understandable that a family may want to change from being in the building to online or online to being in the building. The criteria for moving will depend upon:

1. Availability of staff
2. Building space
3. On outbreak - allow to move online
4. Recommended to move one time per semester either way, however, each situation would be evaluated on the above criteria.

**16. Staples has stock of 8 oz hand sanitizer pumps- thank you!**

**17. Do we Have to go 100% to school? Can the district opt for a hybrid plan at all to keep the numbers down in the school?**

The district is starting the first 6 weeks in a hybrid model.

**18. Will there be daily temperatures?**

This is the information from the CDC on the temperature checks. This will be asked on occasion by our school nurse, but as a parent, check these items off if you are noticing differences with your child.

Ask the following questions.

Do you have any of these symptoms that **you cannot attribute to another condition?**

Fever or chills

New loss of taste or smell

Cough

Sore throat

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Congestion or runny nose

Fatigue

Nausea or vomiting

Muscle or body aches

Diarrhea

Headache

*This list does not include all possible symptoms*

Isolation Guidelines

**Symptomatic Individuals:**

Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 or are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 but have not been tested must follow the isolation guidance below:

Stay home and isolate yourself from other people and pets in your home until you meet **ALL** three of these criteria.

You have had no fever (>100) for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications such as Tylenol or Ibuprofen

Symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath has improved)

It has been at least 10 days since your symptoms first appeared

Individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 who are tested and test PCR negative AND who are NOT a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 can go back to daily activities 24 hours after their fever and other symptoms resolve.

Individuals with symptoms of COVID-19 who are tested and test PCR negative AND who ARE a close contact of a person who tested positive for COVID-19 should continue to self-quarantine until 14 days after their last exposure to the confirmed case.

**Asymptomatic Individuals:**

Individuals who have tested positive for COVID-19 but have not had any symptoms must follow the isolation guidance below:

Stay home and isolate yourself from other people and pets in your home until you meet the following criteria.

It has been 10 days since your last COVID test was taken and you continue to have NO symptoms since the test.

For additional information on preventing the spread of COVID-19 please review the CDC guidance at:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

**19. What about all the Friday holidays? The same daily schedule works best of some people**

There are six fewer no school days on the Monday/Tuesday Cohort days than the Thursday/Friday. The days off on a Wednesday are balanced. If the district continues with the hybrid model for the remainder of the year, the calendar may need to be evaluated to balance the days.

**20. Will high school students still be allowed to leave campus for lunch or required to stay in the building?**

At this time, students will be able to leave campus for lunch.

**21. If high school students are not in the band, choir, etc, is their day done at 2:00?**

Correct, except they need to AP classes as well.

**22. What about year-long high school classes like math and Spanish? Will the schedule explained impact retention and continuity?**

This is a concern as was taken into consideration. We will do the best we can to limit the split as much as possible. There decision was made knowing this is a challenge to this schedule but it was determined we wanted to do as much as we could for the safety of our staff and students. It also helps immensely to simply students schedules that are taking classes virtually and if the district has to go that route.

**23. What is the plan for kids with autoimmune disorders?**

Each family should meet with their building team to determine the best mitigation plans for the child.

**24. Will there be a mentor program this year for high school/elementary kids?**

We are not planning on mentoring this year.

**25. Where will high school students wait for the bus after school?.**

High School students waiting for the bus will be assigned to a designated supervised room while they wait for the bus (gym, library, study hall room, etc.) They could also schedule appointments with teachers, so they get extra face-to-face time.

**26. More clarification or examples of the high school schedule and how that works if online is chosen or in class.**

There will be a video that walks students and parents through the schedule and how it will work.

**27. How does the “flex” period work at FHS?**

FLEX time is much like SNAC time. If kids need/want extra time with teachers, they can schedule appointments with them. Marching band, choir, and AP classes will also schedule times for students to work during FLEX. The "Flex" that students see on their schedule is also a placeholder for classes like PE, Strategies, TAG, ESL, etc. These classes will be taught during the block in a push-in or pull-out format. (This will be explained in the scheduling video).

**28. What is the high school SEBH plan? How will that be shared with students and families? Stone’s morning greeting does not fall under this plan**

FHS SEBMH plan continues to be establishing strong relationships with our students. With the block periods and hybrid schedule, teachers will have more individual time with students than ever before. Our support is far more than just academic. We look for every opportunity to support the whole student and capitalize on teachable moments in real-time to help students develop social, emotional, and behavior skills.

**29. Do they have to be clear water bottles this year? Or any water bottle?**

Washington Expectations

Students are allowed to bring a water bottle from home. If they don't have one, the school will provide the student with one. We have two water dispenser stations in our building - one in the Kindergarten wing and one in the First grade wing. The water bottles will need to go home to be washed on the days the kids aren't in school.

At Pence, kids can have any kind of water bottle. Students will be able to use the refillable stations at Pence. Labeling your water bottle is highly encouraged.

The FMS touch portion of the water fountain will be turned off to cut down on cross-contamination. However, we are allowing water bottles and encourage kids to fill up their water bottles at one of the 5 contactless water bottle refill stations. We have lifted the "translucent plastic" part so now students can bring hydro flasks and other similar water bottles. We will trust the students to only drink water, as we believe hydration is one aspect of quality health, and we know feeling healthy and well leads to learning. We encourage students to label their water bottle and keep track of it.

For activities, students are required to bring their own water bottles and they cannot be shared.

**30. How do you make sure all kids are wearing masks all the time? There are so many adults who refuse to wear masks.**

It is the expectation for all to wear masks. It is understood that children need breaks and they will be built into the day. Students will be educated on the need of wearing masks. If there continues to be a concern or refusal, the district has an online program.

**31. Is there attendance or no attendance is taken?**

Attendance will be taken daily for online students. Attendance will be taken in hybrid, however, work completion is also a way to monitor students' attendance. This is not a year to work toward an attendance award. If you are sick, stay home.

**32. What if a building has many kids out with COVID, does today's proclamation mean that that building will have to stay open in the full face to face until the county hits 1800?**

No, the district will work with the Department of Education and explain the situation. The matrix is not correct. From the Governor's proclamation, the matrix is 15% positivity rate AND 10% of the students absent from that building to move to an online setting. If there is any concern, a call to the Department of Education will happen.

**33. If kids feel ok, but they have a temp will they be able to do online learning that day?**

That should be the fluidity of the plan. I recommend that you work with each building and classroom teacher.

**34. Is the detailed information on online schools available at this time? When would it be available and how will it be co communicated**

Each building has these plans. Speak with each building for the details.

**35. What about the ventilation system in each classroom at the high school?**

The maintenance crew has as much airflow as possible coming into the building. Each building has its own unit in the room.

**36. Will the virtual option require that kids to log in at a specific time or can parents log the kid in after they get off work?**

Each classroom teacher and building principal will work with families to set the schedule.

**37. If there are children with different last names in one family how do you determine which days the family would go if they fall in separate groups?**

The data specialist is looking to balance as much as possible with the last names. So if one group is larger than the other, they may go into that group.

**38. How big will the elementary class size be?**

With the Hybrid Model, each class will be cut in half. Classes during Hybrid can approximately be from 9-14. On the full 100% they will range from 20-26.

**39. What will the online schedule be like?**

Contact each building as they are building the online schedule with each teacher.

**40. With preschool-age children, it can be difficult for them to keep a face mask on at all times. Especially the 3-year-old group. If a child is refusing will they be sent home?**

Teachers will work with the children. They will be given some break times from their masks. If there continues to be concern, the online option is always available.

**41. Can we view this zoom meeting somewhere to review some of the requirements and information later**

It is on the webpage.

**42. Can you live anywhere if you choose to do online learning? Say we want to live in New Mexico for three weeks but still follow the school schedule.**

As long as your children can complete the work, and they can get online, you do not have to be in the district to do the online work. You must be a resident of Fairfield in order to be a part of the Fairfield online learning.

**43. How much autonomy does the school have to determine the thresholds for moving to a hybrid or online model?**

This will be determined by a waiver sent to the Department of Education. They make the determination.

**44. If online is chosen, are there specific times? For parents that work will there be an option to do in the evening?**

Teachers will have lessons recorded and they can be watched later in the day to fit your schedule.

**45. When do you think the school will make a decision on the matrix**

The Governor has made a new matrix for decision making taking that consideration out of local control. Local control can determine how you start school either in person at 100% or 50% is local control.

**46. When do we get the information on online class schedules, laptops for online schooling?**

Those details are being worked out and buildings will be in touch with families. Some devices will be available at Open House.

**47. How will we be handling substitutes?**

We are in need of substitutes for schools. Individuals can sign up with AEA to take the sub authorization classes to help in buildings. If the sub is sick, they also should follow the CDC guidelines. The district will keep track of which sub has been in the rooms in the need of contract tracing.

**48. In the hybrid model if students will be getting online learning the days they are not in the classroom?**

Yes, each building will have more of the details that you need.

**49. Are there any special masks for those that are working the hearing impaired?**

We have some masks that you can see through.

**50. Keeping track of contact tracing, will substitutes be required to do the online learning portion?**

At this point, substitutes will not be doing the online learning portion.

**51. If parents or businesses would like to donate, what is the most needed? Cash, water bottles, masks, sanitizers?**

Masks are an important item. Small hand sanitizers for students, water bottles, cash donated to purchase items would also be appreciated. There is a website called [FairfieldEnrichment.com](http://FairfieldEnrichment.com) that has been used for other district fundraising efforts. The banking infrastructure is still set up.

**52. So if someone chooses the online option, can they be in sports or music in person?**

Yes, this is the information we have at this time.

**53. If we choose the online option, is there any flexibility with attendance in our internet won't support parents and kids working from home? Could kids do school in the evenings or on weekends if parents have to work during the week?**

Yes, lessons will be recorded to support family needs.

**54. Where do you get the information for registration to choose in class or online?**

In the registration packet or on the online registration packet - send and email to Chris Willmon

**55. Site with active cases?**

<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/pages/percent-school-district-positive-analysis>

<https://coronavirus.iowa.gov/#CurrentStatus>

**56. Will the ipads have cases to keep them from getting broke?**

Yes, cases will be provided.

**57. Will HS and MS sports be treated the same? Will MS follow the same rules?**

Same mitigations plans for all grade levels.

