

August 4, 2020

Columbiana High School Students and Families,

We hope you have had a safe and enjoyable summer. The CHS office is now open from 7:30 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. as preparations are being made for the reopening of school on August 25th. Although it seems that requirements and protocols change every few days, we are at the point that we need to finalize our plans for the opening of the year. We have sent out a survey to begin our scheduling process and we thank many of you for your quick response. However, questions/concerns have surfaced that need to be addressed. Please know we are doing our best to answer your questions, however, information changes on a daily basis, so please be patient as we strive to provide you with the most accurate information. Please know if you have questions or concerns, or have any follow up questions, feel free to contact Mr. Buzzard or Mr. Jackson.

Mr. Buzzard's email: david.buzzard@columbianaschools.org

Mr. Jackson's email: jeff.jackson@columbianaschools.org

High School Phone Number: 330-482-3818

In preparing plans to open Columbiana Schools, we want to assure you that the safety of our students and staff is a top priority. The district is consistently working with the Columbiana Health Department regarding health and safety protocols. With COVID-19, things are constantly changing, and plans for the school year can change with little notice, including additional safety measures, preparing for the possibility of a building closure, or modified schedules. We will work to encompass foreseeable circumstances in our reopening for the fall, and we are committed to providing a high-quality education for every student ensuring continued academic success.

Informational Sessions will be held in the gym for students returning to the classroom for traditional learning at the following times:

- **August 18th- Juniors @ 11:00 and Seniors @ 6:00.**

Temps will be taken by touchless technology,, face coverings (mask or shield) are required and social distancing will be enforced.

- **August 19th- Freshmen @ 12:00 p.m. and Sophomores @ 6:00 p.m.**

Temps will be taken by touchless technology, face coverings (mask or shield) are required and social distancing will be enforced.

Students choosing remote learning will be given information remotely at a time to be determined.

FAQs

What are the learning options for the 2020-2021 school year?

There are three learning options to choose from.

1. Traditional learning in the classroom five days a week
2. Remote Learning
3. Online Learning

What is the difference between remote learning and online learning?

A goal of **Remote Learning** is to provide students with the same instructional material and stay on the same pace, academically, as students attending in-person.

We are hopeful that students selecting a remote option will be taught by Columbiana teachers. This is currently being discussed, but that is our plan. Students moving from a remote option to a traditional classroom would be monitored by our teachers and potential learning gaps would be addressed during our scheduled enrichment period. Again, we are hopeful that our teachers will be servicing our remote learners.

Online Learning is a self-driven, web-based curriculum where students take courses through computer content over the internet. The district utilizes Jefferson Virtual Learning Academy for the curriculum and LMS. **Students who enroll in VLA courses must do so for a minimum of a semester at time.** This version of education does not provide students with content delivery from the Columbiana Exempted Village instructional staff nor is content sequenced in the same order as in-person and remote learning..

Can I change my learning option during the school year?*

- If you choose to start with traditional learning but want to switch to remote learning you can, but the switch to remote learning will be for the remainder of the nine week grading period.
 - Example, if you decide at week three you want to move your student from in- person to remote learning, the student will be on remote learning for the next six weeks.
- If you choose to start with remote learning for the school year, your student will be remote for the entire nine-week grading period. At the end of the nine-week grading period, parents/guardians can evaluate if they want to change to in-person learning for the next grading period, or stay remote.
- Online learning is a semester commitment, but parents/guardians will have the options to reevaluate for the next semester.

****Special requests/circumstances will be considered by the building principals on a case by case basis.****

What is remote learning going to look like?

Remote learning can be **synchronous**, which means students will be attending live classes remotely at a scheduled time, participating with CHS teachers and other students.

Asynchronous instruction gives students the ability to access lessons/content from Columbiana teachers, but the student can access the lessons/content when they choose to. The student is still expected to complete assignments given with the lesson by the designated due date set by the teacher.

Remote learning can also include hard copy packets that need to be picked up at the school, completed by the student by the designated deadline and returned to the school.

Will remote learners have access to district provided technology?

Yes, chromebooks will be provided to those who wish or need one. We will be in communication with families regarding technology pick up.

If I choose remote learning, is there a designated time period to communicate with teachers?

Teachers will have time set aside to answer student/parent questions about lessons/content. This schedule is being developed and will be distributed once it's finalized.

Will school day hours be modified?

The school day has been shortened for students. School starts at 8:27 a.m. and ends at 2:45 p.m. School transportation will run on the "old" schedule, which will have students at CHS at 7:45 a.m. Our survey is showing a majority of students will be getting to school through other means of transportation than provided bussing. In summary, students may report at 7:45 a.m. and report to a 40 minute study hall or report at 8:27 a.m. directly to their 1st period class. Students having a study hall 1st or last period will also have the option of a later arrival or early dismissal.

What safety measures will be in place for in-person learning?

- **Daily temperature checks of anyone who enters a school building.** Temperature checks will be done with thermal imaging devices. Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher will be sent to an isolation room. A temperature recheck will be done 15 minutes later. If temperature does not decrease without the use of fever reducing medication, the individual will be sent home.
- **Touch free hand washing stations and frequent hand washing.** The district has purchased touch free hand washing stations. Each station has four sinks. Students should wash their hands for the CDC's recommended 20 seconds. Students are required to wash their hands upon entering the building.
- **Frequent sanitizing of high-touch areas** (door handles, counters, desks, tables, chairs, lavatories, computers, books, etc.)
- **Additional sanitizing products** for daily use, including in the classroom
- **Face Coverings required for all students and staff.** (The district has purchased a face shield for every student in the district.)
- **Social Distancing** will be enforced as much as possible (3-6 feet).
- **Building Signage/Visual Cues** will be strategically placed to remind and reinforce important practices like handwashing.
- **Electrostatic Disinfectants** (used by custodial staff after hours)



(Columbiana Schools have purchased additional touchless hand sanitizer dispensers, brand new hand washing stations and thermal imaging devices to take the temperature of anyone who enters school buildings.)

Are face coverings mandatory?

Students utilizing school transportation **will be required** to wear a face covering while on the bus. Students and staff at CHS are also required to wear a face covering while on school grounds. Staff and students will have a choice to provide their own face coverings or utilize face coverings provided by the school. There may be a number of reasons that students and staff cannot wear a face covering, including but not limited to sensory processing issues and physical and behavioral health concerns. A medical doctor can provide appropriate documentation for any student or staff member who cannot wear a face covering. Students and staff that cannot wear face coverings should maintain appropriate social distancing to avoid unnecessary exposure.

How will classrooms maintain social distancing?

Social distancing will be enforced as much as possible (3-6 feet). A number of students are selecting a remote option, so our class sizes should be smaller. Staff and students will wear face coverings while in the classroom. Classrooms will have hand sanitizer readily available. Opportunities will be made available to clean a seat or desk before use. Every classroom will be thoroughly cleaned daily with Electrostatic Disinfectants, which will be done after school ends for the day.

Will students change classes?

Students will change classes, but hallways will be one-way traffic. Classes will be double blocked to help minimize hallway traffic. Everyone will be required to wear a mask while in the building, including class changes. Students will have access to lockers, but please know there are only two minutes in between class changes to minimize hallway traffic.

Will students eat lunch in the cafeteria or in classrooms?

Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria, and are required to wash their hands before entering the cafeteria. The district has purchased touch-free hand washing stations. Each station has four sinks. Students should wash their hands for the CDC's recommended 20 seconds. Students can pack a lunch or purchase a grab-and-go lunch. Plexiglas within the cafeteria will be installed in order to keep students safe while they eat, as students will be permitted to remove face coverings for lunch. Social distancing will be enforced as much as possible (3-6 feet).

