



Dear CES Families,

We will provide two different learning opportunities for students to choose as we begin the 2020-2021 school year. Families will be asked to make a choice between **In Person Learning** and **Virtual Learning**. Both options will provide our students with equitable opportunities for learning to support their continued growth.

We are asking families to choose either **In Person Learning** or **Virtual Learning** by Sunday, August 16th at midnight. [Please click here to make your selection on the REQUIRED FAMILY COMMITMENT FORM.](#)

What will Phase 4 In Person Learning look like at Columbia Elementary School?

The health and safety of our Little Eagles is our priority!

Students will wear masks at drop off & dismissal, in hallways and in common areas. Students are permitted to take off their mask when they remain with their classroom cohort and do not come in contact with students from another class.

Students will wash or sanitize their hands frequently & have fun learning while practicing good hygiene.

Students will use their own personal set of supplies. Shared items will be limited and will be cleaned after each use.

To allow families and students to social distance, families can drop off their Little Eagle anytime between 7:45 - 8:15 a.m. The dismissal window will be from 2:40-3:10 p.m.

Students who become ill at school will go to "The Cozy Cabin" and be cared for by our support staff until a family member arrives.

Students will eat in the cafeteria with their classroom cohort. They will be safely distanced from students in other classrooms. Students are welcome to bring lunch from home. School lunch will be delivered to their lunch table. Preschool students will eat lunch in their classrooms.

Students will enjoy daily recess in colorfully designated zones with their cohort classroom. Each day of the week students will rotate with their cohort to their newly assigned zone. Colorful, breakaway lanyards will be worn at recess to match the students' assigned zones.

Guests are not permitted at this time & we look forward to our volunteers helping soon!

Additional Information:

- Families are asked to complete a health screening for their child before coming to school. Please ensure they are fever free and not displaying any symptoms of COVID-19.
- [Please click here for the COVID 19 Return to School Toolkit](#)
- Every Columbia Elementary student will be assigned to their own Chromebook (K-2) or iPad (Preschool) and will have an opportunity to check out a Chromebook/iPad if CES or a cohort classroom is required to do Distance Learning for a time period.
- Students are permitted to take their device home for use, should the region be moved to Phase 3,2 or 1. Upon taking their device home, families must complete a contract to sign and insurance must be purchased by the parent or guardian. [Please click here for Technology information.](#)
- In addition to using iReady and regular curriculum resources, all CES teachers will be using Google Classroom. The teachers will utilize this platform to provide instruction for both in person learning and should the need arise to transition to distance learning. Students will not be switching to the Virtual Learning platform (Accelerate) if we switch to Distance Learning.
- All students will be encouraged to bring their own school supplies, hand sanitizer, headphones, etc. Shared items will be limited and cleaned after use.
- Every student will receive free breakfast delivered to their classroom. If your child does not need breakfast, they can save their breakfast for a snack.
- We will support the mental health of our students through our comprehensive counseling program. Monitoring will take place through mental health screenings.
- Accommodations for IEPs and 504s will be provided to each individual student.
- All teachers and staff will be required to wear a mask at all times throughout the school day unless they are eating or drinking.
- Physical Education classes will use outdoor spaces as much as possible.
- Strict compliance with State and CDC Guidelines as well as the COVID-19 Return to School Toolkit from the Health Department will be maintained for movement throughout the building as well as sanitizing procedures. As guidelines change we will continue to update our plan and follow the most current requirements. [COVID-19 Toolkit](#), [Columbia School District Return to Learn Plan](#), [CDC Screening](#)

What will Virtual Learning look like at Columbia Elementary School?

- Virtual Learning students will receive equitable instruction and support.
- "ACCELERATE" will be our Learning Management System.
- Your child will be assigned to a certified classroom teacher, Mrs. Rentschler.
- It is critical that students utilize the district issued Chromebook and have reliable internet to perform Virtual Learning requirements. The district will provide Hotspots for those who do not have internet access. Virtual students must adhere to all district acceptable use technology guidelines. [Please click here for Technology information.](#)
- Students will set a daily schedule with their Virtual teacher, Mrs. Rentschler.
- [Please click here to watch a video about ACCELERATE.](#)
- [Students who are Virtual Learners have the option to switch to In Person instruction on November 23rd or March 1st.](#)

SAMPLE SCHEDULE FOR VIRTUAL LEARNERS:

9:00 Morning Meeting with your teacher

9:30-11:30 Learners work on self paced instruction with opportunities for collaboration, discussion and virtual meeting times with their Virtual teacher

LANGUAGE ARTS

MATH

SCIENCE

SOCIAL STUDIES

Scheduled Zoom meetings for 1:1 sessions, Reading/Math instruction, leveled group instruction T

11:30-12:00 Lunch

12:00-12:30 Closing Meeting for All Virtual Learners

12:30-1:00 ENRICHMENT COURSEWORK (ART, PE, MUSIC, STEM)

1:00-2:30 Office Hours available Virtual Learners and families

Accelerate Learning Management System [Please click here to access ACCELERATE.](#)

Username: testoberv@geneseeisd.org

Password: welcome20

Once in the Dashboard, it is recommended that you click on a box to choose a class where you will find a list of resources and modules to explore.

- Your child's teacher will work with Virtual students who need support throughout the school day as necessary through email correspondence, Zoom meetings and phone calls.
- Families need to check and respond to school email on a consistent and timely basis each day.
- Attendance will be taken daily.
- We will support the mental health of our students through our comprehensive counseling program. Monitoring will take place through mental health screenings and the use of teleconferencing meetings.
- Students may participate in after school extracurricular activities and athletics.

What will Phase 1-3, Distance Learning look like at Columbia Elementary School?

- Google Classroom will be our Learning Management System. Teachers will utilize this platform to provide instruction to all students who were receiving In Person instruction.
- Students who switch to Distance Learning do not switch to the Virtual Program "Accelerate."
- Google Classroom will be practiced during Phase 4, to allow students and staff to flow efficiently throughout the Return to School Phases.
- Attendance will be taken on a daily basis and students must be present for class meetings, instruction time, etc.
- Students must adhere to appropriate dress codes and conduct participating in live classroom meetings.
- In addition to scheduled class times, teachers will host office hours for student support.

- We will support the mental health of our students through our comprehensive counseling program through the use of teleconferencing services. Monitoring will take place through mental health screenings.
- Columbia Elementary staff will closely monitor the academic progress and social-emotional well-being of our students.
- CES teachers and staff will ensure students have continued access to reliable internet and a device.
- CES teachers will continually assess their students' quality of work, completion of assignments, and overall participation.
- Our counselor, Mrs. Phelps, will be available to support students and to refer any necessary services through teleconferencing.



Outdoor Events

Monday, August 17th

Preschool Open House - 4 year olds only 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Preschool Open House - 3 year old only 4:00-5:00 p.m.

Monday, August 24th

1st Grade Open House 4:00-6:00 p.m.

2nd Grade Open House 6:00-8:00 p.m.

[Please click here to view our detailed Return to Learn Plan](#)

[Please click here to learn more about Virtual Learning and In Person Learning](#)

[Please click here to view Highlights of In person Learning](#)

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions.

Sincerely,

Trudy Wright

Trudy Wright, Principal

Columbia Elementary School

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