



WCS Newsletter

September 11, 2020 | Volume 1, Number 2

Need help with Schoology?

All schools, beginning Sept. 8 and running through Oct. 2, will have a help desk open from 3:30-5:30 p.m. every weekday. Parents can call their school's main number to reach the help desk.

IMPORTANT LINKS

[Wood County Schools Website](#)

[Wood Schools Innovate](#)

[WV Dept of Ed Re-entry Map](#)

"Our vision is to work as a community to inspire a passion for learning, pursue excellence and empower students to reach their potential."

- Wood County Schools

Welcome to Week 2

Wood County Schools is wrapping up its first week of the 2020-21 school year and we are off to a good start! Students returned to classes for the first time since schools were closed in March due to COVID-19, and teachers, staff and administrators were thrilled to welcome them back.

Things look a little different, though. Students are required to wear masks in most shared areas, including classrooms and buses. Water fountains have been replaced with water bottles, and "social distancing" has become a universal term. Everyone, children and adults, are learning and adapting.

Second Verse, Same as the First

Week 2 will be very similar to this past week. Wood County Schools will continue to operate on Yellow under its Stoplight System, meaning students alternate attending in-person classes and remote learning.

The difference this week will be when students are physically in class. Since Week 2 is a five-day school week, students with last names beginning A-K will attend in-person classes Monday and Wednesday. Those with last names beginning L-Z will attend in-person classes Tuesday and Thursday.

Friday is a remote learning day for all students. This gives teachers a chance to plan for the coming week's lessons and staff time to disinfect classrooms and all shared areas of the school. All assignments will be available through Schoology.



A summary of Wood County Schools Stoplight System can be found [here](#). The district's re-entry plan can be found [here](#), and a list of Frequently Asked Questions concerning COVID-19 precautions can be found [here](#).

"It is the supreme art of the teacher to awaken joy in creative expression and knowledge."

Albert Einstein



A Virtual Army of Educators

More than 2,400 Wood County Schools students are signed up for virtual school through the West Virginia Department of Education. That's nearly the combined enrollment of Parkersburg High and Williamstown High schools and makes Wood County Schools virtual school the largest school in the county!

To help meet the challenges of virtual school and to ensure our students succeed, Wood County Schools has hired dozens of virtual school teachers. On Aug. 25, the Wood County Board of Education approved the hiring of 28 teachers, and Sept. 8 another 29 teachers were hired. As enrollment continues to increase, positions are posted for additional teachers. These teachers are being trained to work with students and families through the virtual online platform WV Learns.

Elementary virtual school students will be assigned a teacher who will grade assignments and check with families to monitor student pacing. The virtual school teacher will be the first one to contact if a child needs assistance or if there are issues with accessing the WV Learns platform. Please note, these classes are not live instruction, and the teacher will have specific times they are available to provide assistance.

The first week of virtual school will be a "Tech Week" so students and parents can learn how to access lessons, submit work and ask questions. Virtual parent meetings have been held Sept. 3-10 for all programmatic levels.

Lunch with a Buddy

Don't forget, parents can pre-order Buddy Bags for students to take home with them for remote learning days. The Buddy Bags contain one breakfast and one lunch.

Buddy Bags are picked up at the end of the school day. Each school will designate an area for pickup. Pre-orders for the week of Sept. 14 must be turned in by 9 a.m. Monday. The pre-order can be placed online [here](#).

Did you remember to:

Check Schoology?

Charge your iPad?

Make sure you have a mask
and water bottle ready?

Check announcements on the
Wood County Schools App?

Central Office
1210 13th Street
Parkersburg, WV
P: 304-420-9670
Fax: 304-420-9513



Do you have feedback on the parent newsletter?

Any questions or suggestions can be emailed to the Wood County Schools Communications Department at merb@woodcountyschoolswv.net and all parents and community members are encouraged to download the Wood County Schools app for news and announcements from the district's Central Office.