



WCS Newsletter

October 16, 2020

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Need help with Schoology?

All schools, beginning Sept. 8 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](#)

[iPad/Schoology Support](#)

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

Surveying the Situation

Last week, Wood County Schools sent out re-entry surveys to parents and staff members, seeking input on how the district's re-entry plan has worked so far and how the plan may change in the future. Wood County Schools received nearly 5,000 responses from parents and nearly 1,100 employee responses.

As with most things related to the COVID-19 pandemic, opinions are pretty mixed, especially concerning how students should be attending school right now and in the future: In-person, blended or remote.

About 42 percent of parents said blended learning, the current format where students attend on-campus two days a week and learn remotely three days a week, is a "burden" for families, while 40 percent of parents disagreed.

On a positive note, about half of parents said students were adapting well to the use of technology. About 48 percent said their students were not having technology issues, while 36 percent reported some issues. About 17 percent were neutral on the issue.

A full summary of the parent re-entry survey results can be found [here](#).



"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



A summary of Wood County Schools instruction levels 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](#).

"If someone feels that he has never made a mistake in his life, it only means that he has never tried anything new in his life."

Albert Einstein



Important Dates

Oct. 20 – CEFPP Hearing

Oct. 27 - Wood BOE Meeting

Oct. 31 – Halloween

Nov. 1 – Daylight Savings Ends

Nov. 3 – Election Day (No School)

Nov. 6 – 1st 9 Weeks Ends

Nov. 10 – Wood BOE Meeting

Wood County Schools

Central Office

1210 13th Street

Parkersburg, WV

P: 304-420-9670

Fax: 304-420-9513

Surveying the Staff

The school system received 1,083 employees, which included about 726 teachers, as well as both professional and service personnel.

About 575 preferred to remain with the blended learning model, while 151 said they would go with a five-day in-person and on-campus model. Another 119 said parents should be offered the ability to stay with the blended model or have their student attend four days a week in-person, with Friday being a remote learning day for all students.

A follow-up question asked if a five-day in-person week would give teachers and administrators sufficient time to still plan for students who are doing remote learning, the majority, about 651 respondents, said no, they would not have enough time. Another 63 said they would have enough time, and 131 said they might have enough time but were unsure.

They also were split on a plan to bring elementary schools back to five days a week while keeping a blended learning model for middle and high schools. About 237 said they would be in favor of such a plan, and 381 said they would not. However, about 227 said they did not have a preference.

The full summary of the employee re-entry survey can be found [here](#).

Fighting the Flu

While COVID-19 is on our minds these days, we're still headed into flu season and officials encourage everyone who can to receive a flu shot.

The Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department will hold a Drive-thru Flu Clinic from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Oct. 24. The clinic will be held at the corner of 6th and Juliana streets in downtown Parkersburg. The shots are for ages 6 months and up, and anyone older than 9 must wear a mask. Health officials ask visitors to have insurance information ready as the MOVHD bills most insurances.

Any questions should be directed to the Mid-Ohio Valley Health Department at 1-304-485-7374 or by visiting www.movhd.com.



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.