



White Pine County School District

Superintendent Adam Young

Presentation to the State Board of Education
November 12, 2020



Intentions

1. The White Pine County School District (WPCSD) desires to invite all students back onto campus for In-Person Learning--85% of students are currently on campus.
2. The WPCSD desires to provide convenient and accessible learning activities including Zooming into lessons for students when they need to be absent for caution's sake--on average, 6% of student body district-wide attends virtually each day.
3. The WPCSD intends to provide fully online learning through [SchoolsPLP](#) for families who are uncomfortable returning to campus--elementary and middle school students thriving while high school students are struggling.

Guiding Principles

1. The plan is adaptable.
2. There is no way to “guarantee” safety. The practices and procedures in WPCSD’s plan are designed to reduce that risk to the extent possible. However, risk will still exist.
3. The benefits of students attending a community school with caring, dedicated educators outweigh the risks of virus transmission *as long as* safety protocols are effective in eliminating or minimizing the spread of the virus.
4. *Individual and family responsibility are not negotiable.* WPCSD’s plan is the way schools can attempt to meet students’ and the community’s needs through in-person learning. In other words, and to avoid mincing words, *everybody has to do their job.*
5. As educators, students, parents, and community members, we must exercise *empathy* and treat each other with kindness.

Safety Pillars

1. Physical distancing is essential.
2. Face coverings, while uncomfortable, are necessary at this point in time.
3. Health screenings at home prior to entering buildings are required.
4. Individual hygiene is frequent and thorough.
5. Environmental disinfection is ongoing.

Logistical Adjustments

- Plexiglass barriers constructed in many classrooms, all front office counters
- Tables traded out for desks
- Sanitization accomplished through classroom “foggers,” daily (or more frequently) custodial attention
- Variance request to 3 feet from 6 feet for White Pine High School
- Additional lunch periods added at all schools
- 4 teachers reassigned to serve online students
- Devices and connectivity
 - Students grades 5-12 all have their own Chromebook
 - Devices and hotspots have been provided to online families upon request
 - Additional 200 Chromebooks and 20 hotspots on order

Procedures for Transportation

1. Students are expected to wear masks while they ride the bus.
2. A maximum of one student per seat is allowed.
3. Students are assigned seats.
4. Drivers use spray solution to sanitize after each route.
5. 18% increase in buses and routes necessary--correlating increase in expenditures.
6. 38% increase in families transporting their own students, based upon the district's request for volunteers so that space is available for those families who cannot transport their students.
7. Still a waiting list of 50+ families who would prefer busing.

Considerations for Learning

1. Social-emotional focus (already aligned in District Performance Plan), including two full days of professional development for all staff members prior to school beginning.
2. Ongoing assessment and adjustments related to academic learning.
3. Instructional endeavors warehoused in Google Classroom to accommodate required self-isolation during illness.
4. Synchronous attendance options for students who are out with illness.
5. Digital learning training prior to school beginning as well as continued Friday professional development around literacy.

Considerations for Employees

- Courage, creativity, and grit among ambiguity.
- Humility and gratitude for the benefits we enjoy amidst the turmoil.
- Empathy and kindness towards each other, our community, parents, and students.
- Grace towards ourselves.
- Reinforce with our community the essential and life changing nature of public education.

WPCSD Covid-19 Statistics as of October 29

- 327 students tested since September 8.
 - 5 students positive since September 1; 0 active cases.
 - 113 students with signs or symptoms who did not test and therefore were required to self-isolate for 10 days.
- 50 staff tested since September 8.
 - 10 staff positive since September 1; 1 active case.
 - All staff showing signs or symptoms are required to test.
- Of those who have tested positive, all to this point have been mild or asymptomatic cases.

Pressing Forward

- Continuing lofty [World Class Literacy](#) vision and professional development.
- Launching district-wide mathematics lesson study, peer observation, and alignment project.
- [World Class Relationships](#) (restorative practices) framework unveiled in August.
- Staff, students, and parents are all moving forward as best they can.