



Dear Washington Families,

It certainly has been a wild ride since March 13th, but I'd like to start this letter with a sincere thank you for all of your support and patience. I know that you were all anxious to hear of our plans this summer, and I truly appreciate your patience in waiting to hear how Washington Elementary School would be reopening. While situations will continue to change day by day, we have a great plan to start our year, and we appreciate your continued support. We are all part of the same wolf pack, and we couldn't do it without you!

This letter will provide you with some information about how our cohorts are split, some logistics for starting school, and some important paperwork to fill out before coming back to school. Please read through this carefully and contact me with any questions ([kcolarusso@hdsd.org](mailto:kcolarusso@hdsd.org) or 495-3463, Option 2). There will be more specific information with regards to precautions and logistics in our building-specific plan and changes made to our handbook. When those are finalized, they will be posted on our website and a notification will go to families.

#### **Schedule/Calendar for K-5 Students**

- Most weeks, those attending in-person will come to WES on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Remote instruction for all on Wednesdays.
- In-Person students will come to school on the following Wednesdays (to align with the MS/HS schedule):
  - September 9th
  - November 4th
  - January 20th
  - June 2nd
  - June 16th

\*\*Remote Students will continue to work remotely these days but meetings with teachers will need to be adjusted
- The following REMOTE Wednesdays are Early Release days for all students:
  - October 7th
  - March 10th
- There is no school for all students on the following dates:
  - October 9th (Teacher PD)
  - October 12th
  - November 3rd, 11th, and 25th-27th
  - December 23rd - January 1st
  - February 22nd-26th
  - March 9th (Teacher PD)
  - April 26th-30th
  - May 31st



### **Cohorts/Classes (K-5)**

- In-Person classes will be split K, 1, 2, 3, and 4/5. Kids will only interact with those in their in-person class. Currently, our numbers are small which allows for plenty of physical distancing and space to move!
- If you chose the full remote option, you will be in your grade-level cohort.
- Remote instruction will look different the first week of school (September 8th-11th). We will be easing into the use of technology and preparing our in-person students for the new procedures. Your child's teacher will explain the expectations for the first week.
- All cohorts are subject to change at the end of the first trimester (November 30th).

### **Teachers (K-5)**

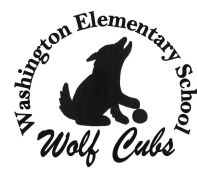
- K/1 - Mrs. Sullivan
- Grade 2 - Mrs. Webber
- Grade 3 and 4/5 - Mrs. Gillett
- Special Education - Mrs. Stafford
- When the classroom teacher is teaching one cohort, a paraprofessional will be with the other cohort. Direct instruction will be taught by the teacher and independent work will be supervised by the paraprofessional.
- Teacher assignments, especially in grades 3-5, may also change at the end of the first trimester.

### **Specials (K-5)**

- PE on Tuesdays and Thursdays - Mrs. Debrusk (in-person with activities to do at home for remote learners)
- Art on Wednesdays - Mrs. Sandoe (entirely remote, except for when students are in school on a few Wednesdays)
- Specials on Mondays and Fridays will be a combination of health and social-emotional learning with Mrs. Reid and Mrs. Bilski (mostly in-person with some resources for remote learners).

### **Early Learning**

- Early Learning will continue in-person Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 8:30-12:00.
- Parents provide transportation to and from Early Learning.
- Ann Belanger is returning as our Early Learning Support Specialist.
- All Re-Entry Plan precautions and procedures apply to Early Learners as well.
- It may be necessary to limit the number of Early Learners enrolled based on room capacity and specialized instruction needs. More information about this will be available soon.



### **Arrival and Dismissal**

- A specific drop off/pick window will be set. **Please stay tuned for the specific time** (bus schedules need to be set first).
- Busses will have a different time window and will wait at Camp Morgan until the drop off/pick up window ends.
- Arrival: Please drive up Wolf Way, stop in front of the entrance, stay in your car, and allow your child to exit the car. A staff member will be at the door to greet them.
- Dismissal: Please drive up Wolf way, stop in front of the entrance, stay in your car, and your child will be sent out to you.
- If you are dropping off/picking up your child outside of the specified time and the busses are in the parking lot, please wait at Camp Morgan until the busses have left before driving up.
- This procedure pertains to Early Learners and kindergarteners as well. We will make sure they feel comfortable, as many of them are entering school for the first time!

### **Changes During My Maternity Leave**

- I will be on maternity leave from approximately September 8th through November 24th.
- During this time, Jennifer Crawford will act as the principal ([jcrawford@hdsd.org](mailto:jcrawford@hdsd.org) or 495-3463, Option 2). She will be at the school Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays.
- A full-time long term substitute has been hired to cover the 3rd and 4th/5th grade cohorts.

### **Long Term Substitute**



Washington Elementary School welcomes Kaitlyn Gillett to our pack for a few months! She will be teaching the 3rd and 4th/5th grade cohorts. Kaitlyn is a Hillsboro-Deering graduate and is eager to share her enthusiasm for teaching with Washington students. She is elementary and special education certified. She is passionate about building relationships with students and using Responsive Classroom techniques. This will be a great addition to our school! Outside of school, Kaitlyn enjoys reading, dancing, musical theater, playing soccer, and going for walks!



### **Notification of Video and Audio Recording**

Please see the attached notice about video and audio recording. This must be returned by **Monday, August 31st**. You may email it to Dawn Bilski at [dbilski@hdsd.org](mailto:dbilski@hdsd.org), drop it off at the school (please call to arrange a time), or mail it back to the school.

### **Daily Health Screening**

Please see the attached Daily Checklist for Parents. Please answer these questions for your child(ren) each morning. If your answer is "Yes" to any of the questions, your child should NOT come to school. Please call in his/her absence to the front office and talk to the school nurse about a plan for returning to school. Your child(ren) will be sent home if they display any COVID-19 symptoms, so it is best to keep them home or call the office if you are not sure whether to send them or not.

**Again, I want to thank you for your patience and support. This year will be a learning experience for all of us, but I know we can get through it together! Our main goal at WES is to provide a safe environment for your child(ren) to learn while maintaining as much "normal" as possible and attending to each child's needs. Above all, we cannot wait to see all of you, whether in-person or remotely! Please continue to watch out for further information, and we will see you on September 8th!**

Kindly,

Kelli Colarusso  
Teaching Principal