



REOPENING PLANS FOR FALL 2020

AS WE PREPARE for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year, we recognize that parents, students and staff are ready to kick-off the year with as much normalcy as possible. While we are excited for our students to return to the school buildings, we know that some of our students will benefit from continuing their education in a remote learning environment due to health and safety considerations. As a result, Big Walnut Local Schools will be offering two learning options for the 2020-2021 school year, in-person learning and remote learning. Working together, we can ensure that we continue to inspire and guide our students during the 2020-2021 school year.



SCHOOL CALENDAR

In order to prepare our staff for the logistics of this school year and provide training, we are likely to modify the calendar for this year:

- AUGUST 17: STAFF RETURNS**
- AUGUST 24-28: K-12 STAGGERED START***
- AUGUST 31: K-12 FIRST DAY OF FULL-DAY LEARNING**

Due to special constraints for Preschool, TBD
At this time, we do not anticipate the last day of school being changed.
**More details on the staggered start will be forthcoming.*



FOR MORE INFORMATION
See our FAQ page at bwls.net



In order to finalize plans for staffing,

FAMILIES MUST SELECT AN OPTION BY July 20



www.bwls.net

Go to the *Select an Option* button on our website. It is important to make a selection for each child in your family.



IN-PERSON LEARNING



This option represents a return to the typical school environment and schedule. Increased health and safety precautions will be in place, including requiring all staff members and students kindergarten and higher to wear facial coverings.

Students may be switched to remote learning or a hybrid model if COVID-19 conditions worsen in a building, throughout the district or if mandated by the state.



REMOTE LEARNING VIRTUAL LEARNING PROGRAM



This option represents students learning at home using a district provided Chromebook. Big Walnut will partner with a virtual curriculum provider to deliver remote learning via digital lessons and teacher interaction. Depending on enrollment, some classes may be instructed virtually by BW staff. Students enrolled in this model may not have access to all classes that may otherwise be offered in the in-person learning option.



SWITCHING OPTIONS

A continuous and consistent learning environment is best for student success. For the sake of continuity, transfers from one learning option to another should not occur during the semester (August-December or January-May). A process will be outlined for students experiencing extenuating circumstances during the semester.

HEALTH

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Big Walnut families will be expected to take student temperatures and do a symptom assessment daily before school.
- If students exhibit symptoms at school, they will be taken to a room set aside for possible COVID-19 cases, and parents/guardians will be notified to pick them up and to visit a medical professional.
- Social distancing will be practiced to the greatest extent possible.
- Cleaning and sanitizing buildings, especially high-contact areas, will be a high priority.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available in classrooms and common areas.
- Students will be educated on the importance of hand washing, hygiene, social distancing and the wearing of facial coverings.
- Facial coverings will be required for students in kindergarten and higher, unless they are unable to do so for a health or developmental reason.
- Staff members will be required to wear facial coverings, take temperatures and do a symptom assessment daily before work.
- Visitors and volunteers will only be allowed in extenuating circumstances.
- Classroom doors will remain open as much as possible.
- Water fountains will be closed, but water-filling stations will remain open. Students should bring their own water bottles.
- Student lockers will not be used.
- Field trips will not be allowed.
- Students will be required to bring their own school supplies, rather than sharing with the class.

SAFETY PRECAUTIONS

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- Consistent seating will be used.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing will be required before and after lunch.
- Students will be socially distanced to the greatest extent possible.

TRANSPORTATION

- Parents are encouraged to transport their children to and from school when possible.
- All students will be given assigned seats (drivers required to have assigned seating lists updated and available at all times). Siblings will sit together.
- Students will be expected to use provided hand sanitizer when getting on and off the bus.
- High-contact areas on buses will be disinfected between runs.
- Each bus will be thoroughly disinfected at the end of each day.
- All students will be expected to wear facial coverings on school buses.
- Drivers will be expected to wear facial coverings.

EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

- Extracurricular activities will resume and will adhere to recommendations from OHSAA and the state. Athletes will be required to wear facial coverings while on the bus and in locker rooms, but not during competitions.
- Remote learning students will have the same extracurricular opportunities as students doing in-person learning.

- Social distancing will be practiced to the greatest extent possible.
- Hand washing or hand sanitizing will be required before/after recess.
- Facial coverings will be strongly recommended.



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