

Wheatland School District
Superintendent's Recommendation
Beginning Tuesday, April 13, 2021

Preschool

- Remain as is – Fully Open as they have been all year – 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM

TK – 5th Grade

- Beginning **Tuesday, April 13, 2021** bring back all students **5 days a week** on the following schedule
 - 7:50 AM Classroom Doors Open and Breakfast in Rooms
 - 8:00 AM School Begins (Breakfast may continue if needed until 8:15am)
 - 20 Minute Snack/Mask Break in the day (District provided snack)
 - 1:20 PM School Ends
 - 1:20 PM Students take a Grab & Go Lunch as they leave for the day
 - 1:30 PM buses depart

6th – 8th Grade

- Remain in the Hybrid AM/PM Schedule
- 3 classes on site and 3 classes Distance Learning

Rationale

- The CDC (Center for Disease Control), the CDPH (California Department of Public Health) and our Local Health Office YSCPH (Yuba & Sutter County Public Health) make the following changes and recommendations
 - Revised the guidance on social distancing in schools, saying most students can now sit three feet apart instead of six feet so long as they are wearing masks
 - The recommendation is for all K-12 students, regardless of whether community transmission is low, moderate or substantial
 - In communities where transmission is high which Yuba still is, the CDC recommends that middle school and high school students remain at least six feet apart if schools aren't able to keep students and teachers in assigned groups
 - In elementary schools, where younger children have been shown to be at less risk of transmitting the virus than teens, kids can stay safe at three feet apart with masks
 - They continue to recommend at least six feet distance between adults in schools and between adults and students
 - They still recommend six feet social distancing in
 - common areas
 - when eating

- during in-door activities, such as band practice and sports
 - in settings outside of the classroom
- The CDC is committed to leading with science and updating our guidance as new evidence emerges
 - The updated guidance from federal health officials comes after a study published last week in the journal Clinical Infectious Diseases suggested public schools could safely reopen as long as kids were three feet apart and other mitigation measures, such as wearing masks, were enforced
 - School Districts have complained that maintaining a six feet rule was not feasible
 - The World Health Organization and the American Academy of Pediatrics previously have both okayed three feet social distancing

6th – 8th Grade – Why would they remain on Hybrid

- Changing students to full day model would cause the following
 - The Schedule would have to be rebuilt. In rebuilding the schedule students could end up in different classes with different teachers and different classmates than they have had all year.
 - Many students would end up with different Electives than they currently have
 - We cannot keep a stable cohort; therefore, we would need to remain at 6 feet distancing based on the CDC recommendations

Amount of Instructional Time

Currently our TK – 5th grade students receive 3 hours a day (4 days) of on-site instruction and 1 hour of Zoom (1 day) via distance learning. This equals 13 hours of instruction per week. Students also may receive other interventions via distance learning on Mondays

Currently our 6th – 8th grade students receive 3 hours a day (4 days) of on-site instruction, 3 hours a day (4 days) of distance learning and 1 hour of Zoom (1 day). This equals 25 hours of instruction per week. Students also may receive other interventions via distance learning on Mondays

If Recommendation is Approved then it will be as follows

TK – 5th grade students receive 5 hours a day (5 days) of all on-site instruction. This equals 25 hours of instruction per week.

6th – 8th grade students continue to receive 3 hours a day (4 days) of on-site instruction, 3 hours a day (4 days) of distance learning and 1 hour of Zoom (1 day). This equals 25 hours of instruction per week. Students also may receive other interventions via distance learning on Mondays

Teaching Time for Staff

Currently our TK – 5th grade teachers teach 6 hours a day (4 days) of on-site instruction and 1 hour of Zoom (1 day) via distance learning. This equals 25 hours of teaching per week. Teachers also may teach other interventions via distance learning on Mondays

Currently our 6th – 8th grade teachers teach 6 hours a day (4 days) of instruction. Some are all on site and others are all DL. They also teach 1 hour of Zoom (1 day). This equals 25 hours of teaching per week. Teachers also may teach other interventions via distance learning on Mondays

Recommendation As Approved

TK – 5th grade teachers will teach 5 hours a day (5 days) of on-site instruction. This equals 25 hours of teaching per week.

6th – 8th grade teachers will continue to teach 6 hours a day (4 days) of instruction. Some are all on site and others are all DL. They also do 1 hour of Zoom (1 day). This equals 25 hours of teaching per week. Teachers also may teach other interventions via distance learning on Mondays.

Transportation

Mornings – Everything stays the same

- All TK – 5th Grade Students (All) will follow (Monday – Friday)
- AM Students 6th – 8th Grade will follow (Tuesday – Friday)
 - Route #1 – CFW lake area, WR & DO
 - Route #2 – Country
 - Route #3 – BAFB
 - Route #4 – Van run CFW lake area & in town
 - Route #5 – Smartsville (LT, WE & BR) (special needs)
 - Route #6 – Staas Dairy, in town students to LT/WCA

11:00 – Runs stay the same

- 6th – 8th Grade AM students will take 11:00am buses home as previously scheduled (Tuesday – Friday)
- 6th – 8th Grade PM students will remain on the PM schedule (Tuesday – Friday)
 - Route # 1 – CFW lake area (drop off & pick up) & pick up WR & DO
 - Route #2 – Country (drop Off & pick up) and drop off at DO & WR
 - Route #3 – BAFB take home & pick up
 - Route #4 – Smartsville take home (all schools) get back for 12:20 county run
 - Route #5 – If LT/WCA stays until 1:20 we will have this route take Smartsville instead of Route #4 so we don't have any issues with the bus running late for our county kiddos
 - Route #6 – will not be running at this time she will become Route #5

1:20 PM Dismissal

- TK – 5th Grade Students will be picked up at taken home
 - Route #1 – DO & WR (unless we have BR students in 4th & 5th for BAFB) if we do then the DO & WR will go back onto Route #2
 - Route #2 – Country
 - Route #3 – CFW Lake Area
 - Route #4 – Van Route In town & CFW Lake area
 - Route #5 – WE students for Smartsville + LT/WCA for Smartsville + BR Smartsville
 - Route #6 – LT/WCA students to Staas Dairy & In Town

3:00 PM Dismissal

- 6th – 8th Grade PM students will be taken home at 3:00 PM on same schedule
 - Route #1 – CFW Lake Area
 - Route #2 – Country, DO & WR
 - Route #3 – BAFB

Draft School Schedules - Effective 4/13/2021

Bear River 4th & 5th Schedule

7:00 AM	CARE Opens
7:30 AM	Teachers Arrive
7:50 AM	Doors Open - Breakfast in classrooms
8:00 AM	School Begins
	<i>Teacher Break – Classified Supervision</i>
10:10 AM - 10:30AM	Snack/Mask Break – 4 th Grade (Shaw/Morse/Weldon) Kids rotate
10:30 AM - 10:50 AM	Snack/Mask Break – 5 th Grade (Brandow/Webb/Crother) Kids rotate
1:20 PM	Dismissal/Grab & Go Lunch for Students
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM	30 Minute Duty Free Lunch for Teachers
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Teacher Planning, Staff Meetings, IEP and SST Meetings, etc.
3:00 PM	End of Teacher Day
3:30 PM	CARE Closes

Bear River 6th – 8th Grade

Remains the same

AM students go on site from 8-11 and receive Math, Science and Social Science and then 12 – 3 they have LA, Elective and PE via DL

PM students have LA, Elective and PE via DL from 8 – 11 and then are on site from 12 – 3 for Math, Science and Social Science

Lone Tree/WCA TK – 5th Schedule

7:30 AM	CARE Opens
7:30 AM	Teachers Arrive
7:50 AM	Doors Open - Breakfast in classrooms
8:00 AM	School Begins
	<i>Teacher Break – Classified Supervision</i>
10:10 AM -10:30 AM	Snack/Mask Break - K Playground (Valdespino & Garcia)
10:10 AM -10:30 AM	Snack/Mask Break - North Playground (Schutz & Thompson)
10:10 AM -10:30 AM	Snack/Mask Break - A/B Playground (Johnson, Appleton & Purbaugh)
10:10 AM -10:30 AM	Snack/Mask Break - Central Playground (Jensen & Heuvelhorst)
10:30 AM -10:50 AM	Snack/Mask Break - K Playground (Weiss & DiGiacomo)
10:30 AM -10:50 AM	Snack/Mask Break - North Playground (Finlay & Smith)
10:30 AM -10:50 AM	Snack/Mask Break - A/B Playground (Huizenga & Merchant)
10:30 AM -10:50 AM	Snack/Mask Break - Central Playground (Jones & Dorman)
1:20 PM	Dismissal/Grab & Go Lunch.
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM	30 Minute Duty Free Lunch for Teachers
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Teacher Planning, Staff Meetings, IEP and SST Meetings, etc.
3:00 PM	End of Teacher Day
3:00 PM	CARE Closes

Wheatland Elementary TK – 3rd Schedule

7:30 AM	CARE Opens
7:30 AM	Teachers Arrive
7:50 AM	Doors Open - Breakfast in classrooms
8:00 AM	School Begins
	<i>Teacher Break – Classified Supervision</i> Elementary Playground
10:00 AM - 10:20 AM	Snack/Mask Break - 1st Grade
10:20 AM - 10:40 AM	Snack/Mask Break - 2nd Grade
10:40 AM - 11:00 AM	Snack/Mask Break - 3rd Grade
	<i>Teacher Break – Classified Supervision</i> Kindergarten Playground
10:00 AM - 10:20 AM	Snack/Mask Break - K -Whitsett
10:20 AM - 10:40 AM	Snack/Mask Break - K - Plant
10:40 AM - 11:00 AM	Snack/Mask Break - K - Almond
1:20 PM	Dismissal/Grab & Go Lunch for Students
1:30 PM - 2:00 PM	30 Minute Duty Free Lunch for Teachers
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Teacher Planning, Staff Meetings, IEP and SST Meetings, etc.
3:00 PM	End of Teacher Day
3:00 PM	CARE Closes

TIER RATING

Last Bit of Information - Yuba County is eligible for the RED tier and if our numbers remain low. We could move to the RED tier on March 30. The current case count is 8.8 with a test positivity of 4.9%. As a reminder, in order to move from the current PURPLE tier to the RED tier, Yuba County must have a daily case rate of 10.0 or less and a positivity rate of 8% or less for two consecutive weeks. Wheatland is significantly lower than the county numbers

Questions Asked and Clarification

Purple Tier Movement

Question – If we adopt this recommendation and we go back into the Purple tier do we have to go back to hybrid or Distance Learning?

Answer – NO, schools that have reopened are not required to close if the county moves back to the Purple Tier or goes over a CR of 25 per 100,000 population. Since we reopened in October when we were in Red, we will no longer be required to close if we go back into a higher tier (Purple) according to the current guidance. Schools that have not opened fully would be required to stop opening more grades if in purple but aren't required to close the ones they opened. We have all grade levels open so we are good no matter what tier Yuba County is in.

Mask/Facial Covering

Question - Can students wear bandanas and/or gators?

Information:

What is a cloth face covering?

A cloth face covering is a material that covers the nose and mouth. It can be secured to the head with ties or straps or simply wrapped around the lower face. It can be made of a variety of materials, such as cotton, silk, or linen. A cloth face covering may be factory-made or sewn by hand or can be improvised from household items such as scarfs, T-shirts, sweatshirts, or towels.

How should I choose and wear a cloth face covering?

You should select a face covering that covers your nose and mouth, goes under the chin, and does not have significant gaps around the nose or other parts of the face. Look for face coverings that have three layers, if possible, and are still easy to breathe through. Be sure that the ear loops or ties are tight enough to keep the face covering from sliding down the nose. Always wear your face covering over your nose and mouth, not under your nose or under your chin.

What is the difference between face coverings and face masks?

A face covering simply refers to using any type of fabric or material to cover your face, whereas a face mask, typically, is professionally manufactured, such as the ones used in healthcare. The government advise reads: "A cloth face covering should cover your mouth and nose while allowing you to breathe comfortably."

Answer - throughout the CDC guidance when they use the term mask it is interchangeable with face covering as there is no requirement for a professionally manufactured mask. The CDPH guidance is using the term face covering not face mask so they are being used interchangeable throughout the different guidance. So yes, they can wear these as long as they are covering their nose and mouth

Breakfast

Question – Can they eat in the rooms and at their desks even if they are not 6 feet apart?

The simple answer is yes this is the districts call as there is no mandate only a recommendation regarding this specific issue.

Here's Why:

Throughout the many different documents, many seem to read that 6ft is recommended as much as possible and practicable in cafeterias and group dining. There is no specific language regarding eating in the classroom.

The guidance also says - Ideally, we should attempt to serve meals outdoors or in cohort classrooms instead of cafeterias or group dining rooms where practicable. Where cafeterias or group dining rooms must be used, keep students together in their stable groups, ensure 6 feet of physical distancing as much as possible, hand hygiene before and after eating, and consider assigned seating.

If indoor meal times are paired with recess or outdoor time, consider having half of a stable group of students eat while the other half is outdoors and then switch. Serve individually plated or bagged meals. Avoid sharing of foods and utensils and buffet or family- style meals.

I reached out to Plumas Lake, Rocklin and Roseville School Districts and they are both feeding students in the classrooms or in the cafeteria and not at 6 feet as it is not possible or practicable.

Answer – The key to the language is that this is a recommendation and not a mandate and says when possible or practicable. So YES, we can and will allow students to eat breakfast in the classrooms at their desks or outside or a combination of both.

Each school site will work together for solutions to making sure students are fed in whatever way is possible and practicable but eating at their desks is acceptable and is much better/safer than in a group setting such as a cafeteria.

- One option is to have half the students eat in the room and the other half go out for the first 10 minutes and then switch.
- Another is weather permitting – All students eat their snack outside
- I know there are others

Question – Can we do something more for breakfast than just the cereal that has been going home with students?

Answer – Yes, we will be providing different and more substantial breakfasts – McWheatland, Eggo Waffles, Muffins, Cinnamon Rolls, Breakfast Burrito's and Buttermilk Bars will all be served at times

Snacks

Question – Will snacks be provided for those that need them and can parents send home bought snacks with their child?

Answer - Snacks will be provided by the District for all students. However, students are allowed to bring their own snack if they so choose. (i.e. some students are fine with a grand cracker snack while others may need a sandwich that they bring from home).

Question – Can we get a more substantial snack than the teddy grams etc?

Answer – Yes, we are ordering snacks that are much more substantial such as lunchables but also students can bring their own snack

As a follow-up to the time between snack recess and dismissal - If a teacher finds that their students are hungry later in the day then we can provide a second snack that can be eaten while in class if needed.

Lunch Time

Question – Why not extend the day till 2:10pm and feed them lunch at school?

Answer – We do not have the supervision to cover all the classrooms and we cannot use the cafeteria at this time. We would also have a transportation issue as we have a PM group.

Desk Shields

Question – Do shields need to go back up because now?

Answer – No, they do not – However they would be a helpful tool for when students eat breakfast but are not necessary

Social/Physical Distance

Question – Just to clarify, if a student tests positive and they are only 3 ft apart, nobody else has to quarantine?

Answer – That was my understanding however and how I responded on Tuesday however I have read even more yesterday and today and it appears that if a student is infectious while on campus then the student and the students on either side of him/her and possibly in front or back may be quarantined. It appears from the reading that the 6 ft distance is still in play for an infectious student. We are seeking more clarification but again we have had very few cases where an infectious student was on campus during their infectious period and we have not had a positive student in a while. I was told in a meeting today they are working on lowering this threshold as well but have not yet

Para Time

Question - Will Para time be increased?

Answer – We will add ½ hour to the TK – 1st grade Para's (on a time sheet) so they can cover the snack break, have their break and still service the students for the 3 hours in the classroom. Other classified positions may also be temporarily increased to cover supervision or other needs but again on a time sheet.

Parent Volunteers

Question – Can parents volunteer again?

Answer – Not yet – We need to keep our classes stable and having volunteers coming in would not keep them stable

Furniture

Question – What about the double desks etc? Will we replace them?

Answer – I will work with each site on their needs. Getting desks quickly could be an issue but we do have some in storage that we could use if need be for keeping students 3 feet apart.

Special Ed and Speech

Question – Will Special Ed and Speech happen during the instructional day and will it be pull out or push in services?

Answer – Special Ed and Speech will be during the instructional day. The services on whether pull out or push in services and for how long is all determined by the IEP.

Hours/Schedule

Question – Why can't the hours go until 2:15 like before?

Answer – The schedule is set up the way it is because students still can not eat lunch in the cafeterias and we do not have enough supervision to have them eat in the rooms and cover the playgrounds. The number of instructional minutes is basically the same as pre-pandemic schedules minus the lunch break. Students will receive a grab and go lunch at the end of the day.

Next School Year

Question – Is the plan to keep this schedule next year?

Answer – No we are hoping for and planning on returning to normal hours across all grade levels in the fall. Of course, this is all dependent on what happens with COVID. This schedule we are proposing is full instructional minutes but minus the lunch period because that is how we can get students back full time

6th – 8th Grade

Question – Why can't they return to the same schedule as the TK – 5th grade?

Answer – We wish we could but the guidelines are different for a TK – 5th grade self-contained classroom (i.e. stable cohort) versus a 6th – 8th grade schedule where students move to 6 different classes (i.e. non-stable cohort). A stable cohort is not 3 feet apart and a non-stable cohort is 6 feet apart. Also, we could not bring back 6th – 8th grade without changing student schedules which could change their teacher, their elective and their fell students.

Question

I wish the 6th – 8th grade follow the High School Schedule. On campus two full days and at home 3 full days. Why can't this happen?

Answer – We currently provide 25 hours of instruction to our 6th – 8th grade students and the high school only provides 12 hours of instruction to their 9th – 12th grade students. The HS is a different

district and we do not control their schedule and they do not control ours. However, as the superintendent of this district I would never recommend to our school board that we cut the education of our 6th – 8th grade students in half by going from 25 hours to 12

Separate Schedules Between TK – 5th and 6th – 8th Grades

Question

Why the new schedule because it will make me drive one extra time to pick up my kids?

Answer

We provide buses to all areas that are not walkable except for students that are on interdistrict transfers. Reach out to transportation if you need help with what bus to ride if you reside in Wheatland, on Beale AFB or in Smartsville.

Participation/Engagement Logs

Question - If we go back to full day school after the break will the teachers still need to keep doing that student participation (100,200,300,400) form?

Answer - In Aeries, the elementary teachers would go back to taking regular attendance because they would be back full time 5 days a week. The middle school teachers would have to continue doing that participation log in Aeries.

Return Date

Question – Can we have Monday the 12th as a Zoom day and start back on Tuesday the 13th? Here are some reasons

- Teachers need time to get the rooms ready for all the children to return. There is no time to do this since we have only one week before we go out on Spring Break.
- Zooming with the children on the Monday, April 12, 2021 will give the teachers the opportunity to explain that they will be eating breakfast together in the classroom, go over procedures for breakfast and snack break, talk about what the new school day will look like and answer any questions parents may have about the change as it relates to the classroom.
- We would have some extra time to figure out how to add back in Science and Social Studies and look at schedules

Answer – This is in my recommendation to the Board