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August 26, 2020

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WSD Begins at Level 2 – FAQs and COVID Updates



WSD schools have begun the 2020-2021 school year in Level 2: Blended Learning. Superintendent Dr. Curtis Cain has shared that the intent is to remain at Level 2 through the first quarter, but added that, depending on conditions in our community and in our District, we could shift to Level 3 (all virtual) or back to Level 1 (during that time). He also addressed the question of metrics used to make that determination and shared that there is no single health metric that is used to prompt a move between levels, but "multiple metrics and considerations" as well as ongoing discussions with health officials that go into that decision. As outlined in the [Roadmap to Reopening Plan](#), Level 2 has approximately 50% of students attending in person on Mondays and Tuesdays with three days of virtual learning, with the other 50% of students attending on Thursdays and Fridays, also with three days of virtual learning. Wednesdays are when buildings are thoroughly cleaned and sanitized.

Additional details for parents can be found under the [COVID-19 Updates on the District website](#).

[FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS](#) *(Last updated August 13, 2020)*

[Presentation about Metrics to the Board – August 20, 2020](#)

Mask/Face Covering Clarifications

We have received a number of questions about masks during recess. To clarify, masks are required if social distancing cannot occur, but we are working to provide opportunities for recess and outside activities that do allow for and encourage social distancing.

MASK BREAKS...If students (grades 3-6) and staff are less than six feet apart, masks are required. If students and staff are more than six feet apart, mask

breaks are permitted.

Additionally, we have received questions about neck gaiters specifically. Yes, there has been some guidance and reports that suggest neck gaiters are potentially not the best mask option, but they ARE acceptable as a face covering for students and staff.






ACCEPTABLE MASKS

In accordance with CDC guidance, a well-secured cloth or mask that fits snugly against the face, covers an individual's nose & mouth, and is secured under the chin will be accepted.

ACCEPTABLE:

- (BEST) Cloth masks that fully cover nose, mouth, and chin
- (GOOD) Disposable cloth mask
- (OKAY) Neck Gaiters (as long as they cover the nose and mouth and are secured under the chin)
- (OKAY) Bandanas (offers the least protection because they do not fully secure under the chin)

NOT ACCEPTABLE:

- Face shields (unless combined with a cloth mask)
- Masks with exhalation valve or vent
- Masks made solely of materials like mesh or lace
- Knitted masks
- Masks with profanity or imagery that violates the student dress code

PLEASE NOTE WSD's guidelines on acceptable masks may change as the CDC and other medical organizations release new guidance.

HELPFUL MASK TIPS

- Label your student's mask with their name.
- Provide a lanyard for use during meal times or other times when the mask is off.
- Launder masks regularly.
- Let your student choose a mask color or design they like.
- Model good mask-wearing to help your student embrace the habit.

Activities Update for Parents – New Guidelines for Sports and Activities in the WSD



The District has developed the following guidelines related to activities taking place at Wentzville School District facilities in an effort to continue to offer co-curricular and extracurricular activities for students with health and safety precautions in place. Effective this week:

- Only immediate family members of participating students may attend co-curricular and extracurricular events;
- Masks are required for all spectators;
- Physical distancing will be enforced;
- Bleachers and seating will be marked to assist with appropriate distancing;
- Siblings who attend must remain in seats with parents;
- There will be no gate fees for the fall season.

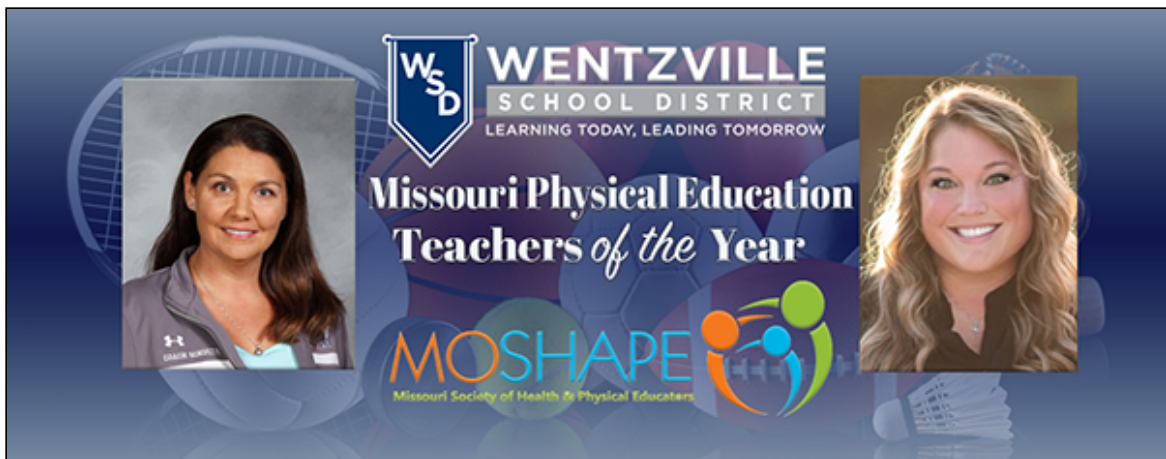
We understand and appreciate that for many students extracurricular activities provide meaningful opportunities for growth and development and we are working to continue to provide those opportunities in the safest way possible. Information about guidelines for events outside of the Wentzville School District will be shared with our families prior to the scheduled event. Thank you for your understanding and cooperation as we look forward to the fall season.

First Day in the WSD 2020-21



We are better together! The WSD opened up the 2020-21 school year on Monday. Here is a glimpse of day one with AA students and their masked smiles! #WeAreWentzville

Two WSD Teachers Named Missouri Physical Education Teachers of the Year



Ami Schulte, a physical education teacher at Timberland High, has been named the 2020 High School Physical Education Teacher of the year, and Jen Werner, a physical education teacher at Wentzville Middle, has been named the 2020 Middle School Physical Education Teacher, by the Missouri Society of Health and Physical Educators (MOSHAPE). This marks the third consecutive year that the top middle school physical education award in the state was granted to a teacher from Wentzville Middle, and the second in three years that it went to a Timberland teacher.

Schulte has worked for the WSD for 18 years, and her dedication has paid off with this award. Last year was Werner's first year in the WSD, having previously worked in Wright City for 14 years. Schulte and Werner were to receive their

awards at the annual MOSHAPE Convention; however, like so many other events, the convention has been postponed and MOSHAPE will notify award recipients once details have been confirmed. Schulte and Werner are now eligible for the MOSHAPE Central District Teacher of the Year award, which covers nine states. [Read the full article](#) on the WSD website.

Read More

WSD Students Earn Seal of Biliteracy

Fifty-one Wentzville School District students earned the Missouri Seal of Biliteracy this spring and summer, a state recognition for students' commitment to world language studies. Aligned with the Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) goal of preparing students for a lifetime of success, the Seal recognizes an advanced level of proficiency in English and one or more other world languages prior to high school graduation. The recognition of attaining biliteracy becomes a part of the high school transcript for these students and serves to certify attainment of biliteracy for the community, employers and universities.



All 51 students from Holt, Liberty, and Timberland high schools met the rigorous criteria, which includes multiple assessments and a project to earn the Seal of Biliteracy. Timberland graduate Luis Gonzalez Torres earned the Distinguished Seal of Biliteracy for Spanish based on his scores, and Timberland graduate Julia Clements earned a Dual Seal in French and German.

Results were delayed this year as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and some assessments were administered virtually. "I would definitely use the word tenacity," WSD Social Studies/World Language Content Leader Nichole Nolan said when asked about this year's recipients. "They went so far above and beyond, having to switch gears and take the high-stakes STAMP4S test in their homes using specialized software. We are very proud of these students and their teachers who worked hard for four years to earn a level of world language proficiency that is recognized throughout the state."

Forty states and the District of Columbia have established a Seal of Biliteracy and additional states are in the process of doing so. Missouri approved the Seal of Biliteracy three years ago and the WSD introduced it for the first time last year. Ninety three WSD students have now earned the prestigious Seal of Biliteracy.

Voices of the WSD Podcast

Voices of the WSD is a new podcast highlighting all things about the District. If



you're unfamiliar, a podcast is a digital audio platform that a users can download to your personal device for easy listening, whenever you like. The Voices of the WSD podcast is available a number of different ways to download and listen for free. Visit the [Marketing tab](#) on the District website for more information and links to download and subscribe. [Episode 1](#) features Dr. Cain and a discussion about back to school, and [Episode 2](#) highlights Journey Elementary with principal Dr. Candice Belton and assistant principal Mrs. Terri Politte.

Timberland Grad Wins St. Louis Teen Talent Competition Audience Choice Award



Congratulations to 2020 Timberland Grad Kyle Rehme for winning the Audience Choice Award at the 2020 St. Louis Teen Talent Competition at The Fabulous Fox on August 10. The finals were shown live on the Nine Network, and Kyle earned the most votes from viewers, as the virtual audience could pick their favorite performer. And the viewers chose Kyle. He also won The Musical Theatre Scholarship Award, underwritten by the majority owner of the Fox, Mary Strauss, and an award from the Bach Society of St. Louis. The Audience Choice award earned him \$1,000. Kyle's Bach Society award affords him the opportunity to engage in

a side-by-side chorus rehearsal, participation in a vocal masterclass, and/or the opportunity to perform in a Bach Society of St. Louis choral concert. The Musical Theatre Scholarship Award underwritten by Mary Strauss comes with a prize of \$1,500. Rehme will be attending Lindenwood University in the fall. You can still see all the finalists perform, including Kyle, on the [Nine Network website](#).

Additionally, the band Rosemary, which includes Timberland graduates Jory Spiroff, Connor Pellegrini, Jackson Fenner, and Ashton Ranney, advanced to the semifinals by performing their original music. Also competing in the contest were Timberland dancers Emma and Sophia Giltner (duo), and Emily Low; as well as Holt High's Isabella Burzio-Roca (Dance) and Liberty High's Sarah Burke (Vocalist).

2020-2021 Free & Reduced Meal Guidelines

The WSD has announced its revised free and reduced price policy for families unable to pay the full price of meals served in schools under the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program. The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the Board of Education have adopted family-size income criteria for determining eligibility. Visit the WSD website for full



information on Free & Reduced Meal Guidelines.

[Read More](#)

2020-2021 School Supply Lists



2020-2021 School Supply Lists

[Barfield Early Childhood Special Education Center](#)

[Elementary K-3](#)

[Elementary 4-6](#)

[Middle School 7-8](#)

High School - we do not have supply lists for high school students because course requirements vary. We suggest bringing a notebook and pen or pencil the first day to record specific teacher requests.

We do not have a plan to change the supply list, but if parents chose the Virtual Academy, they may want to hold off on purchasing supplies to see if there are changes for those students based on the needs of the Academy.

Technology Support for Students and Parents

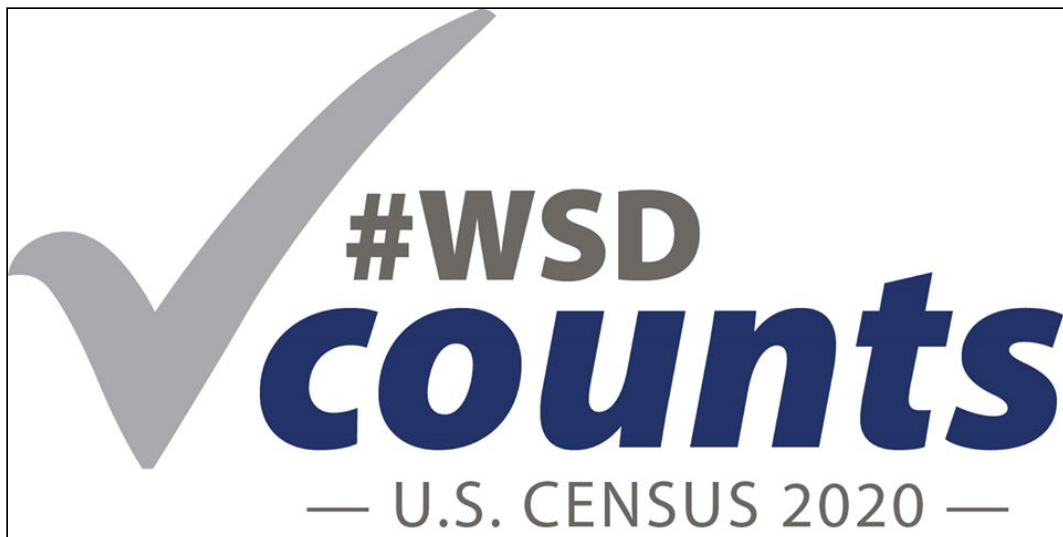


There will be many opportunities for students and parents to learn more about the technology tools that will be used this year, both in-person and virtually. Students will be provided with guidance from their teachers at the beginning of the school year to ensure they are prepared for any of our levels of instruction this year. Parents will have access to videos and learning modules to better understand how to support their students with the technology tools we use.

Students in K-5th grades will need access to a device at home to participate in the WSD Level 2 and Level 3 learning. Students in 6-12th grades will utilize their district-issued device. Please review our [technology specifications](#) to ensure you have what is needed to fully participate in the learning. If your family is in need of a Chromebook, please complete the technology forms on the SISK12/Student360 website (the Classroom360 app is not supported) under eForms no later than Sunday, August 16.

Families will have an opportunity through the online enrollment form process to indicate their internet access needs. Please complete those forms no later than Sunday, August 16.

2020 Census



The response has been great for the 2020 Census, but not every one has been

counted. There is still a chance to respond if you haven't. Every 10 years, the Constitution requires that all who reside in the United States on April 1 be counted. The 2020 Census counts the population in the United States and five U.S. territories and it is particularly important for school districts. The 2020 Census will inform funding for educational programs that benefit our children, such as special education, after-school activities and school meal programs. Each home has received an invitation over the last few weeks to respond to a short questionnaire online, by phone, or by mail. The information you receive has a special Census ID number you will use to respond. All responses to Census Bureau surveys and censuses are confidential and protected under Title 13 of the U.S. Code. Under this law, the Census Bureau is required to keep respondent information confidential. Be sure to take the time to fill out the questionnaire - so everyone in the WSD counts! For more information or to fill out your questionnaire, visit 2020census.gov.

Step 5 to Good Digital Parenting

FRIEND & FOLLOW BUT DON'T STALK

Follow your kids on social media

Respect their online space and freedom

Don't flood their accounts with comments

Family Online Safety Institute
Learn more at fosi.org/parenting



Tech Tip from WSD Technology Department – Tips for Good Digital Parenting (STEP 5)

In [Episode 3](#) of the 7 Steps to Good Digital Parenting video series, viewers watch a family with older kids navigate social media with Steps 5 (Friend and Follow But Don't Stalk) and 6 (Explore, Share, and Celebrate). By respecting your child's online space and encouraging thoughtful interactions on social media, families can learn from each other and have fun online.

- **Follow** your kids on social media
- **Respect** their online space and freedom
- **Don't** flood their accounts with comments

Stay tuned for all seven tips to good digital parenting from the Family Online Safety Institute.



Connect with the WSD





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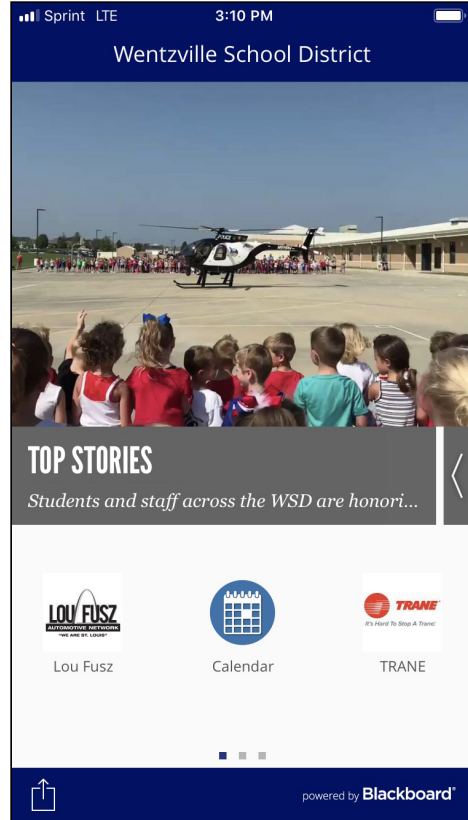
Did you know if you go to smile.amazon.com you can choose a charity and Amazon will donate \$0.5% of what you purchase to that charity? You still have access to everything on Amazon at the same prices, but the charity of your choice will benefit from your purchase. Some WSD school PTAs have registered on smile.amazon.com and the WSD Foundation is a registered charity too. The WSD Foundation gives teachers and high school seniors over \$30,000 annually in mini grants to support innovative teaching strategies and scholarships to seniors for

college. Support your school or the WSD Foundation when do your shopping throughout the year. For the direct link to support the WSD Foundation, go to [Amazon Smile](#).

Have You Downloaded the WSD App?

Are you new to the WSD? Be sure to download the app to have important information right at your fingertips. The app is available for both android devices and iPhones. On the app, you can:

- View news stories
- View calendar info
- View lunch menus
- Access school and staff info
- Receive important alerts
- View sports scores
- Locate Directory Information



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