West Virginia Virtual School (WVVS) FAQ's

Why can't we continue distance learning through Wetzel County Schools with our own teachers for the second semester? Wetzel County Schools (WCS) does not believe that it is possible to sustain both in-person learning and distance learning through our teachers for the entire school year, with our amount of staffing. We have gone to great efforts to offer this for the first semester, but we do not feel we can deliver an ongoing, quality education to both groups of students.

Why do in-person learning students get to use schoology but WVVS students do not? WCS students will use schoology if on an A/B format while they are at home. WCS students will also utilize schoology during times of remote learning when a school or the entire county is closed to in-person learning. WVVS students will utilize WV Learns, per the West Virginia Department of Education. The WVDE will offer assistance as needed and indicated that students learn the WV Learns format quickly just as they would with a new cell phone or tablet.

What is WCS recommendation? We encourage all families who chose distance learning during the first semester to notify your school that your child will be an in-person learner during the second semester. If you do not feel comfortable with that recommendation and wish to choose a virtual option, you may choose WVVS.

If my child returns as an in-person learner, does this mean my child will go to school five days a week with all students? Decisions regarding when to open or close school, and what format when school is opened such as A/B, 4 days, or 5 days of in-person learning are being made continuously throughout the school year during the Covid-19 health pandemic. These decisions are made by the Superintendent, Mr. Ed Toman who will continue working with the Wetzel-Tyler Health Department and analyzing our data with our county administration and school nurses.

What if my child has an IEP? Families of children who have an IEP and do not wish to send their child back to school as an in-person learner for the second semester should contact the special education director, Mrs. Debbie Novotny at 304-455-2441, extension 124.

Can my child participate in extracurricular activities if he/she is a WVVS student for the second semester? Yes.

Is my child still enrolled with WCS if he/she is a WVVS student for the second semester? Yes.

<u>Can my child keep the WCS laptop if he/she is a WVVS student for the second semester?</u> Yes.

<u>When is the sign-up period for WVVS for the second semester?</u> The West Virginia Department of Education indicated it will be December 15-January 15.

<u>Where can I sign up for WVVS for the second semester?</u> wetzelcountyschools.com   Our technology department will make this available from December 15-January 15. It will be found on the main page of our website, and will be the main story under "news".

<u>What is the grace period for when my child could drop WVVS for the second semester and return as an in-person learner?</u> The WVDE has indicated it is undecided at this time. In the past it has been ten days, but they granted flexibility to that deadline for the first semester. The WVDE indicated possibilities may include 28, 14, or 10 days. WCS will let families know once this has been decided by the WVDE, as they have to finalize those arrangements with the Florida Virtual Program. *UPDATE: The WVDE has now indicated that the final drop date for WVVS in the second semester will be Friday, February 12.*

<u>When does the second semester begin?</u> Friday, January 22.

<u>What if I have any additional questions concerning WVVS that is not on this FAQ sheet?</u> For questions concerning pre-k—6th grades, you may contact Mr. Aaron Yost who is the facilitator. He can be reached at 304-455-2291, extension 107. For questions concerning 7th-12th grades, you may contact Mr. Mike Shank who is the facilitator. He can be reached at 304-337-2266, extension 135. You may also contact your child's principal, or the central office at 304-455-2441, extensions 118 (Mr. Todd Barcus) or 122 (Mr. Darren Cook).