WCSD Online Learning Plan Parent FAQ

ALL GRADE LEVELS (K THROUGH 12th)

1. What if we go to online learning and we do not have Internet service at our home?
   a. The Warren County School District is working with families to assist with those families that do not have Internet service at home. The district bought ‘hot spots’ for families to utilize. The ‘hot spots’ need AT&T cellular service in order to work. If you are experiencing difficulties with Internet service, please be sure you have completed the WCSD technology survey and contacted your child’s building principal.

2. What if we go to online learning and can’t get cellular service at my home?
   a. The Warren County School District is working on various areas in the community that will have ‘hot spots’ for families to utilize such as a local church. A list of these ‘hot spots’ will be provided to those in need. If this option is not feasible, please contact your child’s building principal on specific needs.

3. What if we do not have a computer or laptop at home for my child to complete online work?
   a. The Warren County School District is working with families to assist with those families that do not have a computer or laptop at home. The parent will be responsible to inform the district of family needs. Please contact your building principal of any technology needs such as a computer or laptop.

4. What happens if my family borrows a district laptop or other device and it gets damaged?
   a. A parent acknowledgment form is designed and explains the procedures and costs if a district laptop or other device gets damaged or broken.

5. What if my child forgets his/her username and password when logging into the online learning platform?
   a. Please contact your child’s home building between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.

6. What if my child misses a teacher ‘live lesson’ with his/her teacher?
a. The Warren County School District teachers will record live lessons and provide the students the opportunity to review that lesson at a later time.

7. How much time does my child have to spend online each day?
   a. Students must login at least five days a week and progress through the course work assigned for the week (Monday-Friday). Failure to adhere to this will impact school attendance and initiate district attendance procedures and policy.

8. What if we have a medical appointment scheduled?
   a. Excuses are required if students miss a live lesson, miss a half day of school work, or are absent due to illness or appointment. Excuses must be emailed to the home school within three school days or mailed to the home school with five school days or the absence will be considered unlawful or unexcused. All Pennsylvania truancy laws will be followed.
   b. A medical excuse will be required if a student has not logged in virtually and/or completed assigned coursework once they’ve reached 10 cumulative days.

9. What if we have Internet trouble on a particular school day?
   a. If a student has internet issues, it must be reported to the home school within one school day so that an appropriate accommodation can be arranged.
   b. Students or parents should report any online virtual or program issues by calling the home school between 8:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. on the day you are experiencing difficulties.

10. My child has special needs and will need extra support, what do we do?
    a. Warren County School District special education teachers will be available to assist in providing extra support and determining the specially designed instruction for each child on his/her caseload.
    b. Contact information will be provided for each parent so he/she will be able to contact the child’s case manager.
    c. Warren County School District also has interventionists such as Title teachers and reading specialists that will be available to assist with those who qualify for services.

11. Will school counselors still be made available during the online learning process?
a. Yes, school counselors will be made available during the online learning process, as well as completing counseling lessons and assisting with College and Career Readiness requirements of the school district.

12. If my child does not have certain materials at home such as manipulatives, art supplies, and/or graphing calculators, what do we need to do?

   a. Students (and parents) should be in communication with the teacher to decide what materials are necessary for success in the course.
   
   b. “At Home” learning kits will be ready for students at the start of school.
   
   c. Online scientific and graphing calculators can be located at the following website: www.desmos.com

**ELEMENTARY GRADE LEVELS ONLY (K-5th)**

1. What online learning platform will my child be using?

   a. Students in grades K-5th will utilize the Warren County School District Virtual Academy platform for all core classes and specials classes (Art, Computer, Music, Library, Physical Education)

2. Will there be a “How To Guide” for parents and students to access and utilize the Warren County School District Virtual Academy?

   a. Yes, the Warren County School District and Vartek Technology is working on creating a “How to Guide” that will help parents and students access and understand how to utilize the Warren County School District Virtual Academy.

   b. If we begin school in the school buildings, teachers will use the first few days of school to get students acclimated with the Virtual Academy program.

   c. The “How to Guides” will be posted on the Warren County School District’s website at www.wcsdpa.org

3. Is the Virtual Academy online course provided through the district similar to the course(s) that would have been taught in the school building?

   a. The past few weeks of school and throughout the summer months, teachers in the Warren County School District aligned the Virtual Academy courses with those that are offered within the district’s school building(s).

4. How will I know when my child is supposed to get online and what schedule to follow?
a. With the potential of going online at any given day, each building will have their own teacher’s schedules which will be provided to parents within the first few days of school. If school begins online at the start of the school year, schedules will be made available prior to the first day of school.

5. Are all assignments and assessments done online?
   a. Yes, all assignments and assessments should be done and submitted online.
   b. K-5 students will also receive virtual workbooks that accompany the virtual academy work.

6. Will my child still have ‘specials’ classes such as art, computer, library, music, and physical education also be run virtually?
   a. Yes, the Warren County School District will have ‘specials’ courses running virtually and backed by our own district’s teachers.

7. How will my child complete work since he/she will need to be at a daycare?
   a. The Warren County School District is working with day care providers to determine the technology abilities of each daycare provider.

8. My child is gifted when will he/she receive additional support?
   a. Gifted teachers will be available for K-5th grade students during their “WIN” (What I Need) to provide extra support to gifted students. They will also be working collaboratively with base elementary teachers to see what extra supports can be provided.

9. How will I still be able to see my child’s progress and check on his/her grades?
   a. Warren County School District teachers will still be responsible to upload assessments, assignments and grades as they normally would when students are in the school building.

10. When would I be able to reach a teacher with any questions I may have about my child?
    a. Each teacher in the Warren County School District has an email address that can be utilized for parent questions. Email addresses can be found on the school district’s webpage under “Our District” – Staff Directory.
MIDDLE AND SECONDARY GRADE LEVELS ONLY (6th THROUGH 12th)

1. What online learning platform will my child be using?
   a. Students in grades 6th-12th that have core content classes (any English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies course) will be utilizing Microsoft Teams with their core content teacher.
   b. Students in grades 8th-12th that have World Language will be utilizing Microsoft Teams with their World Language (Spanish) teacher.
   c. Students in grades 6th-12th that have specials (elective) classes will utilize the Virtual Academy course. These courses include, but not limited to: Art, Computer, Business, Family Consumer Science, Music, Health/Physical Education, STEM and Technology Education.

2. Will my child have to learn two different learning management platforms as a middle or secondary level student in the district?
   a. Yes, the core content area teachers (English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies) have elected to utilize Microsoft Teams as their method of instructional delivery. All core classes, as well as the electives in these four areas will be done through Microsoft Teams. World Language courses are the only other ‘specials’/elective courses that will utilize Microsoft Teams.
   b. Elective courses such as art, family consumer science, STEM and technology education, computer, music, and health/physical education will be done through the district’s Virtual Academy.

3. What if my child attends the Warren County Career Center?
   a. Students who attend the Warren County Career Center will work directly with their assigned teacher on the Virtual Academy online learning platform. Warren County Career Center teachers are building online courses specific to their specialized programs.

4. How will my child access Microsoft Teams? Does Microsoft Teams need purchased?
   a. Your child will be able to access Microsoft Teams through the Microsoft Office 365 application that is housed at the district’s website at www.wcsdpa.org
b. Students will click on the “Students” icon at the top of the page and scroll down to the link that says “Office 365.” Students will utilize their username and password to get into Office 365 and the Microsoft Teams application.

c. This application is free for WCSD students.

d. The Microsoft Teams app can be downloaded to a mobile device and desktop.

5. Are the Virtual Academy online ‘specials’ elective courses provided through the district similar to the course(s) that would have been taught in the school building?

   a. The past few weeks of school and throughout the summer months, teachers in the Warren County School District aligned the Virtual Academy courses with those that are offered within the district’s school building(s).

   b. Additionally, some of the elective courses were built throughout the summer months by our district teachers and some curriculum coordinators.

6. Will there be a “How To Guide” for parents and students to access and utilize Microsoft Teams for my child’s core classes and the Virtual Academy for my child’s electives?

   a. Yes, the Warren County School District and Vartek Technology is working on creating a “How to Guide” that will help parents and students access and understand how to utilize Microsoft Teams as well as the Warren County School District Virtual Academy.

   b. If we begin school in the school buildings, teachers will use the first few days of school to get students acclimated with Microsoft Teams and the Virtual Academy program.

   c. The “How to Guides” will be posted on the Warren County School District’s website at www.wcsdpa.org

7. How will I know when my child is supposed to get online and what schedule to follow?

   a. Students will follow their normal schedule as they would if they attended school.

   b. Teachers will provide students a weekly agenda so each student is aware when their teacher(s) will be conducting a live lesson each day.

8. What if my child misses a teacher ‘live lesson’ with his/her teacher?
a. The Warren County School District teachers will record live lessons and provide the students the opportunity to review that lesson at a later time.

9. How will I still be able to see my child’s progress and check on his/her grades?

a. Warren County School District teachers will still be responsible to upload assessments, assignments and grades as they normally would when students are in the school building.

10. Will my child be able to utilize his/her textbook at home?

a. If your child has a consumable workbook such as mathematics, students will be permitted to take home these types of books. All other books will not be permitted to be taken home. However, each teacher will be providing their students the necessary information needed to access the textbook online. Online textbooks should be utilized for various courses while online learning is taking place.

11. When would I be able to reach a teacher with any questions I may have about my child?

a. Each teacher in the Warren County School District has an email address that can be utilized for parent questions. Email addresses can be found on the school district’s webpage under “Our District” – Staff Directory.

b. Teachers and students will have Advisory time each day where additional support can be provided, along with communicating with parents through appointment.

12. My child is gifted and may need extra supports in school.

a. Gifted teachers will be available for 6th-8th grade students during their Core classes, as needed, and can be part of small group discussions during live lessons. Additionally, gifted teachers can provide extra support for students during their Advisory time.

b. Gifted teachers will continue to meet with 9th-12th grade students, as needed, and also be available to provide extra support for students during their Advisory time.

13. If my child was signed up to take one (or more) Virtual Academy courses, such as an elective may he/she still be able to take that course even though we are using Microsoft Teams with our child’s core content teacher?
a. Yes, your child may still be able to take a Virtual Academy course and work on it as his/her own pace as you normally would in any given school year.

14. My child is in a Dual Enrollment (University of Pittsburgh-Bradford) course that is being taught by his/her high school teacher, how will COVID-19 have an impact on his/her course?

a. There will be no impact on your child’s Dual Enrollment course with the University of Pittsburgh-Bradford. Warren County School District teachers will still teach the course whether the students are in the school setting or if they are online using Microsoft Teams. The curriculum will still be taught and your child should still be able to earn the college credit pending successful completion of the course.