

**APPROVED**

AUG 10 2020

**WEBSTER COUNTY  
BOARD OF EDUCATION**

Webster County School District



Distance Learning Plan

2020-2021

**Disclaimer:** Due to the unique circumstances with Covid-19, certain attendance, instructional options, procedures, rules, policies and regulations found within this document may be superseded by updated guidance from MDE, the Governor, MSDH, or other governing agencies. This plan is not inclusive of all circumstances. Responses may vary after considering all factors. These guidelines will be updated with new information as it becomes available. The information provided is a set of general guidelines and expectations. Our decisions will be made in coordination with local and state guidelines as they are updated. Depending upon the impact of Covid, there may be times when all students will participate in distance learning for periods of time or all students may return to traditional “at-school” attendance.

This document is in addition to handbooks, policies, and normal procedures.

Webster County School District is preparing for a traditional start for students on August 6, 2020.

The WCSD will begin school in August 2020 using the Traditional Learning Model, with a blended learning option available. However, students who choose to learn from home through the WCSD Distance Learning Model will be allowed to do so if they meet certain conditions. **Face-to-face instruction is the best, research-based model for learning. Decisions to learn through distance learning should be made carefully and thoughtfully as distance learning is not equitable to traditional learning models.**

- a. WCSD will have a traditional start to school. A hybrid/blended learning option will be available for certain families who need to keep their child(ren) at home. Students will become distance learners if they are quarantined or if the school has to close for certain periods of time. All learning models must meet the required 240 minutes of instruction per day. Attendance will be taken daily.

1. Traditional Learning is “at school” instruction with safety guidelines are followed, as feasible. **\*Parents should be prepared for some closures where traditional students may have to participate in Distance Learning for certain time periods.**

2. Blended learning allows students, who can, to learn from home the majority of time with “at-school” learning for designated classes. Students will be required to schedule times to take assessments, screeners, and obtain additional help. This learning model is not equal to traditional learning.

**Parents must make a request to participate in the Blended/Hybrid learning model and complete the agreement form.**

3. Distance learning-All students will become Distance learners during quarantine and school closures. Instruction will continue to be provided by the teacher and attendance will be taken. Once quarantine has ended or the school re-opens, the students will return to their original instructional model. This learning model is not equal to traditional learning.

Once Covid-19 subsides or an approved vaccine is available, WCSD will return to traditional learning.

### **Blended Learning or Distance Learning**

**Students will be expected to meet the same academic requirements as traditional students.** Students need to have reliable internet and a device other than a cell phone. Students must commit to daily attendance checks, completing assigned work on time, report to school for all teacher and state assessments as well as screeners and at least for any additional academic support. Reporting day(s) and times weekly will be arranged with the teacher.

Blended learning may be revoked for failure to complete assignments, lack of attendance/participation, discipline, etc.

Students, who do not have a device at home, will be able to check out a device, as available, by completing the required form. Students who don't have access to the internet at home will receive teacher recorded lessons and instructional materials on a flash drive made available by the student's classroom teacher. Paper Learning packets may be made available with the flash drive. These lessons will be provided daily and returned to the school for teachers to grade. When students return the lesson they will receive the next lesson. There will be more details on this at a later time. Students may request printed materials in addition to downloaded assignments that meet the minimum 240 minutes daily requirement.

**Parents must ensure student is in attendance daily during the instructional schedule, completes all assigned work on time, and reports to school for identified screeners and assessments.**

Students with internet access will be expected to attend/participate in classes online daily. They will also be responsible for all assignments, assessments, and deadlines. In the event of an entire shutdown, they will be expected to attend all virtual classes/Distance Learning. JK- FERPA laws

- a. Instruction will continue with distance instruction during partial or full closures.
- b. Unless staff has requested leave, is sick, or has tested positive for Covid, they will be expected to continue to report to their classroom to continue instruction for students during closures. Google Classroom or similar will be the Learning Management System used.
- c. Teachers will be able to video lessons, record instructional lectures, and upload Google docs for students to complete.
- d. During closures or isolations of students that do not have internet will have the capability to drive to the school or any other establishment providing Wi-Fi to download/upload assignments or receive the flash drive with work available on it. Additionally, students who do not have a device can receive a packet each week that includes work that will meet the minimum of 240 minutes of instruct per week. The packets will be provided and returned on a weekly basis. Attendance will be verified according to MDE guidelines.

### **12. Grading and Attendance**

- a. Attendance will be taken daily, even during Covid related closures.



- b. Students will be given the opportunity to continue with learning during quarantine as they are able.
- c. WCSD will follow Mississippi Department of Ed's required attendance procedures.
- d. Grades will be assigned based on the WCSD's grading scale.
- e. Truancy laws will continue to be applicable.

**Traditional Attendance**-Attendance will follow the current procedures for in-person students.

**Synchronous Online Attendance (Two-way, live virtual instruction between students and teachers when students are not on campus)** -- The student/parent will receive a daily notification from SchoolStatus. Students will check in via Google classroom/Canvas along with completed daily assignments reviewed to verify a minimum of 240 minutes of instruction. Both have to be satisfied to be counted as present. The attendance is reported to MDE via the LMS monthly.

**Asynchronous Online Attendance (Students and teachers do not engage at the same time)**— The student/parent will receive a daily notification from SchoolStatus. Students will check in via Google Classroom/SchoolStatus daily along with completed daily assignments to be reviewed for verification of a minimum of 240 minutes of instruction. Both have to be satisfied to be counted as present. Weekly one-on-one or group interactions will occur between students and teachers. The attendance is reported to MDE via the LMS monthly.

**Asynchronous Offline Attendance-(Digital/Virtual)**- The student/parent will receive a daily notification from SchoolStatus. Students will check in via Google Classroom/SchoolStatus and complete 240 minutes of instruction, uploaded daily assignments in Google Classroom for completion. Both have to be satisfied to be counted present. Weekly one-on-one or group interactions will occur between students and teachers. Attendance will be reported to MDE via LMS monthly.

**Asynchronous Offline Attendance (Learning Packets)**- The student/parent will receive a daily notification from SchoolStatus. The student/parent will respond to the call or message to be marked present. The student will receive a Learning Packet~flash drive with class assignments daily in order to complete a minimum of 240 minutes of assigned work. Teachers will make daily afternoon contact with the student/parent for instruction. Work will be provided and collected on a daily basis. Weekly one-on-one or group interactions will occur between students and teachers. Attendance and work will be verified and entered into SAMs on a weekly basis.

### **13. High School Carnegie Units with less than 140 hours of instruction and ½ credit with less than 70 hours of instruction**

Webster County Schools will ensure appropriate instructional engagement for credit-bearing classes. Grades will be assigned according to WCSD's grading policy. Teachers will prioritize and structure the pacing of standards to ensure all standards are taught with rigor and fidelity during the allotted time. Students will continue to take formative and summative assessments by scheduling times on campus to ensure mastery of content.