

Charger Chatter

CHOLLA MIDDLE SCHOOL

Washington Elementary School District #6

3120 West Cholla Avenue Phoenix, Arizona 85029-4199

Office: 602.896.5400 Attendance: 602.896.5422 Nurse: 602.896.5410 Fax: 602.896.5420

*Cholla News No. 1
September 2020*

*Phil Garitson, Principal
Mindy Pallagi, Asst. Principal*

Dear Charger families,

We want to thank you for your patience during these very fluid times. We are continuing to do the very best we can with on line learning. We want to remind you that WESD is taking their guidance from the federal, state and local health officials, the Governor and the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Below is an email that went out you on Friday afternoon.

It is important that you complete your selection by September 18.

Main Points of this communication:

- The Arizona Department of Health Services and Maricopa County Health Department benchmarks for In-Person Learning and the WESD's current benchmarks;
- The Purpose of this Communication;
- The Descriptions of Learning Options; and
- Selection of a Learning Model for your Student.

ADHS and MCHS Benchmarks for In-Person Learning and the WESD Current Benchmarks

Beginning in August, the Arizona Department of Health Services and the Maricopa County Health Department began sharing benchmarks related to the safe return to In-Person Instruction. These benchmarks must be met for two consecutive weeks prior to considering any in-person instruction. These benchmarks include:

Benchmarks	Minimal (Green)	Moderate (Yellow)	Substantial (Red)
Cases	<10 cases/100,000	10-100 cases/100,000	>100 cases/100,000
Percent Positivity	<5%	5-10% Note: <7% for a Hybrid	>10%
COVID-like Illness	<5%	5-10%	>10%

ADHS and MCHS have defined three delivery models for districts to use as they return to in-person instruction:

Traditional – Benchmarks are **green** for two consecutive weeks, all students return to physical buildings

Hybrid – Benchmarks are **yellow** (note: percent positivity must be below 7%) for two consecutive weeks, some students are in the physical buildings and some students are online distance learning.

Virtual – Benchmarks are **red** for two consecutive weeks, all students are online distance learning.

Once the benchmarks are reached, families and the district will need some time to transition (childcare, bus routes, schedules, etc.).

Purpose of this Communication

The purpose of this communication is to ask your family's plan regarding returning to in-person instruction in the WESD. If you have determined that you would like your family to remain in online distance learning for the semester or full year, we will need you to indicate this preference at the end of this communication. (Note: we will provide an opportunity to enroll again for the second semester closer to Winter Break).

If your family is ready to return to in-person learning when the benchmarks indicate to do so, we are asking for your feedback. There are two options for in-person instruction:



4650 W. Sweetwater Ave., Glendale, AZ 85304 • 602-347-2600 • wesdschools.org
Governing Board: Tee Lambert, President • Bill Adams, Vice President
Larry Herrera, Member • Aaron Jahneke, Member • Nikkie Whaley, Member
Dr. Paul Stanton, Superintendent

- Hybrid Learning - Some students in physical buildings and some students online distance learning
- Traditional Learning - All students in physical buildings

Descriptions of Learning Options

Online Distance Learning (Red with PCR above 10% for two consecutive weeks)

The online distance learning model will consist of “live” real-time instruction (all five days) at designated times during the day with WESD curriculum resources. WESD teachers with instruction in core content and specials/electives will teach the lessons. Accommodations and support services will be provided. This is the model we are currently in.

Students choosing this learning model will most likely be assigned a different teacher due to the number of students choosing this option, staffing, credentials and other factors.

Hybrid A/B Learning (Yellow with PCR below 7% for two consecutive weeks)

During the Hybrid A/B period of time, parents who choose the hybrid model will have two full days of in-person learning, two days of self-paced, independent work at home and Wednesday early release day of live sessions online with a teacher. Transportation will be provided for students who qualify for transportation. Breakfast and lunch will be provided.

During the two days of in-person learning, students will participate in typical classroom learning. Staff will use district curriculum and resources.

Students in this model may be assigned a different teacher due to staffing, class sizes and other factors. Wednesday will continue to be an early release day.

Safety protocols during the Hybrid A/B Model

The district will follow the Maricopa County Department of Public Health guidelines including:

- Required face coverings (students and staff) Note: Face coverings must meet dress code
- Daily temperature checks (students and staff)
- Frequent handwashing/hand sanitizing
- Enhanced cleaning of high touch point areas throughout the day
- Enhanced ventilation with increased outside air intake
- Physical Distancing
- Students will stay in cohorts
- One way traffic patterns in hallways
- Student belongings will be separated from others
- Drop-off and pickup routines will be modified to facilitate social distancing

Traditional Learning (Green with PCR below 5% for two consecutive weeks)

WESD students return to five days of instruction with all students on campus. Schools will be in session for regular school hours. Transportation bus schedules will be in effect and breakfast and lunch will be served. Essential safety protocols will be followed including frequent hand washing/hand sanitizing, enhanced cleaning of high touch point areas throughout the day and ventilation with increased outside air intake. At the time of this communication, the Governor’s Executive Order 2020-51 and Maricopa County Board of Supervisors have a mandatory face-covering requirement in place.

Students in this model most likely will have their current teacher. Wednesday will continue to be an early release day.

We will use safety protocols, benchmarks, survey results, staffing and other factors to make a decision on our in-person learning model which will either be the Hybrid A/B Model or waiting until the metrics indicate a Traditional Model.

[PLEASE CLICK HERE TO MAKE YOUR LEARNING MODEL SELECTION](#)

Thank you for taking the time to complete the survey.

Census Blurb

You can help shape the future for your kids and our school today by taking the 2020 Census. An accurate count of children can help communities meet the need for more educational resources. It's not too late to respond to the 2020 Census online at 2020census.gov, by phone at 844-330-2020, or by returning the paper questionnaire you received in the mail. New this month, census takers will begin visiting households that have not yet responded to the census to help ensure *everyone* is counted, including children. The deadline to respond is September 30. If you have any questions regarding the 2020 Census, email wesdcommserv@wesdschools.org.

Stay in "In The Know"

Parents and families, we've put together a summary of the communications resources available for you to stay connected with our school and the WESD. To view all of the latest information regarding WESD's reopening plan, visit www.wesdschools.org/returntolearn. Please also make sure to like and follow the WESD's Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn sites to get news and updates. We also have our school Facebook page to engage with families.

Are you using ParentVUE? We encourage you to access this student information system online or download the mobile app to access important updates throughout your child's school year. An Activation Key is required to create and log in to your account. Please contact the school office for assistance. To log in to ParentVUE, visit https://parentvue.wesdschools.org/PXP2_Login.aspx.

The WESD also uses the SchoolMessenger notification service to send important information to our families through phone calls, emails, and text messages. In order to receive text message alerts through this system, you will need to "opt-in" to the service. A reminder to use the same cell phone number that we have on file for you. This is the cell number that you provided to register your child. To get started, just text YES or OPTIN to the shortcode 67587.

Lastly, have you heard about Peachjar? WESD utilizes Peachjar's digital flyer management solution to deliver digital informational flyers and resources directly to families. This is a free service that automatically shares digital flyers either posted by our school or the district.

Thank you to our families for continuing to connect with us this school year!

CHOLLA MIDDLE SCHOOL

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2020 - 2021

2020

Monday, August 10	FIRST DAY OF ONLINE LEARNING
Monday, September 2	Labor Day – NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
Friday, October 9	End of 1 st Quarter
Mon-Fri, October 12 - 16	Fall Break – No School
Tues & Wed, Oct. 27 – 28	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Tuesday Translation)
Tues, – Fri, Oct. 28 - 30	Early Release Days
Wednesday, November 11	Veteran's Day – NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
Wednesday, November 27	Early Release (Teacher Work Day)
Thurs-Fri, November 26-27	Thanksgiving – NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
Thursday, December 17	End of 2 nd Quarter
Friday, December 18	NO SCHOOL (Professional Development Day)
Mon., Dec. 21 -Thurs., Dec. 31	Winter Break – NO SCHOOL (Holiday)

2021

Fri., Jan. 1	Winter Break- NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
Monday, January 4	School Reconvenes
Monday, January 18	Martin Luther King Day –NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
Tues & Wed, Feb. 9 - 10	Parent/Teacher Conferences (Tuesday Translation)
Tues – Fri, Feb. 10 - 12	Early Release Days
Monday, February 15	Presidents' Day – NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
Friday, March 12	End of 3 rd Quarter
Mon-Fri, March 15-19	Spring Recess – NO SCHOOL (Holiday)
Tuesday, May 25	End of 4th Quarter/ Last Day of school (Early Release)