

Curriculum Committee Meeting

Wednesday, September 16, 2020 9:00 AM

Zoom Dial In: 301-714-8592 Code: 684364, 24 School Road, Weston, CT 06883-1623

I. Call to Order

II. WPS 2020 School Reopening Update

A. Schools Update

B. Technology Update

**III. Information on Professional Learning Activities
Week of August 31, 2020**

IV. Homework Policy Update

V. Approval of June 2020 minutes

VI. Other Curricular Issues

MONDAY, AUG 31			
Time	General Activity	Facilitator	Location
8:00-10:00	K-5 PPS/SPED Student Planning	Edwards/King/Courter	Zoom
	Classroom Set Up - HES		
	Classroom Set Up - WIS		
	Classroom Set Up - WMS		
8:00-9:00	WHS Welcome and Week Overview	L. Wolak	Zoom
9:00-10:00	Health and Safety Protocols - WHS	B. McKersie	Zoom
10:00-12:00	6-12 PPS/SPED Student Planning	Edwards/King/Courter	Zoom
	Classroom Set up K-5		
	Classroom Set Up 6-8		
	Classroom Set up 9-12		
1:00 - 3:00	Virtual Classroom Set up K-2 (See Saw)	S. Rodko	Zoom
	Virtual Classroom Set up 3-5 (Set Up Google Classroom)	Self-directed	Zoom
	Virtual Classroom Set Up 6-8 (Set Up Google Classroom)	Self-directed	Zoom
	Virtual Classroom Set Up 9-12 (Canvas)	J. Givoni	Zoom
TUESDAY, SEP 1			
8:00 - 9:00	Health and Safety Protocols - HES	B. McKersie	Zoom
10:00 -12:00	Teacher Toolkit Part I - HES	S. Rodko	Zoom
1:00 - 3:00	Teacher Toolkit Part II - HES	S. Rodko	Zoom
8:00 - 10:00	Teacher Toolkit Part I - WIS	J. Sabini	Zoom
10:00 - 11:00	Health and Safety Protocols - WIS	B. McKersie	Zoom
1:00 - 3:00	Teacher Toolkit Part II - WIS	J. Sabini	Zoom
8:00 - 10:00	Teacher Toolkit - WMS	H. Knudsen	Zoom
10:00 - 12:00	Teacher Toolkit - WMS	H. Knudsen	Zoom
1:00 - 2:00	Health and Safety Protocols - WMS	B. McKersie	Zoom
8:00 - 10:00	Teacher Toolkit Part I - WHS	S. Snaitth	Zoom
10:00 - 12:00	Virtual Classroom Set Up 9-12 (Canvas)	J. Givoni	Zoom

1:00 - 3:00	Teacher Toolkit Part II - WHS	S. Snaitth	Zoom			
WEDNESDAY, SEP 2						
8:00-10:00	Professional Learning Session (certified staff)	CILS	See breakout sessions			
8:30-9:30	Health and Safety Protocols (all non-certified staff)	B. McKersie	Zoom			
10:00-12:00	Convocation	B. McKersie	Zoom			
1:00-3:00	Faculty Meetings (All Staff -certified and non-certified)	L. Kaddis	Zoom			
		P. Falber	Zoom			
		D. Doak	Zoom			
		L. Wolak	Zoom			
THURSDAY, SEP 3						
8:00-10:00	Professional Learning	CILS/SPED	See breakout sessions			
10:00-12:00	Team / Grade Level Meetings					
10:00-12:00	PPS/SPED Student Planning	SPED	Zoom			
1:00-3:00	Professional Learning	CILS/ SPED	See breakout sessions			
FRIDAY, SEP 4						
8:00 -12:00	PPS/SPED Student Planning	SPED	Zoom			
	Teacher Curriculum Partner Time/ Classroom Setup					
9:00 - 10:00	Power Teacher Training (6-12 new teachers)	J. Tyborowski	Zoom			
8:30-10:00	Grade 6 and 9 Orientation Blue Cohort	WMS, WHS	In-Person			
9:00 - 1:30	K-5 Meet and Greet	HES, WIS	Zoom			
10:30-12:00	Grade 6 Orientation Gold Cohort	WMS	In-Person			
11:00 - 12:30	Grade 9 Orientation Gold Cohort	WHS	In-Person			
1:00 - 3:00	Technology Professional Learning	Tech	Self-Serve, Asynchronous			

DATE	TIME	PD TOPIC	Facilitator	Location	
WED, SEP 2	8:30-9:30 AM	Health and Safety Protocols	B. McKersie	Zoom	See overview tab
	10:00-12:00 PM	Convocation	B. McKersie	Zoom	See overview tab
	1:00-3:00 PM	Faculty Meeting	Principals	Zoom	See overview tab
THU, SEP 3	8:00-11:00 AM	PMT Refresher Training	M. O'Connor	Zoom	
	10:00-12:00 PM	Collaboration with Case Managers	Building Assignments	Zoom	
	1:00-3:00 PM	Collaboration with Case Managers	Building Assignments	Zoom	
FRI, SEP 4	1:00-3:00 PM	Technology Professional Learning	Self-Serve/ Asynchronous		

Professional Learning Day Schedule - September 2, 2020

Grade/Dept.	Morning - 8:00 - 10:00 a.m.	Facilitator	Location
K-2 Teachers	Reading and writing PD-planning and lesson creation for Hybrid instruction and DL	Noble	Zoom and small group break out groups
3-5 Classroom Teachers	Gr.3 Math for the Hybrid Model	Vinton	WIS 107
	Gr. 4 and 5ELA Assessment and Independent Reading Protocols	Bluestein	Zoom
	Gr. 5 Ma/Sc Math in Focus 2020 Class creation and planning	Falber	WIS 209
6-8 English/Language Arts	Engaging Students in the Digital Classroom: A Sharing of Best Practices	Cincotta	Zoom
9-12 English/Language Arts	Engaging Students in the Digital Classroom: A Sharing of Best Practices	Cincotta	Zoom
6-8 Math	Leveraging technology resources to engage students in the online math classroom	Russo	Zoom
9-12 Math	Leveraging technology resources to engage students in the online math classroom	Russo	Zoom
6-8 Science	Effective Strategies for Engaging Students in the Hybrid Scenario: Sharing Best Practices	Charles	Zoom
9-12 Science	Effective Strategies for Engaging Students in the Hybrid Scenario: Sharing Best Practices	Charles	Zoom
6-8 Technology	Vertical alignment of 6-12 technology engineering capacities to maximize student skill development	Charles/Tech Eng Team	WHS G5
9-12 Technology (PLTW & Coding)	Vertical alignment of 6-12 technology engineering capacities to maximize student skill development	Charles/Tech Eng Team	WHS G5
6-8 Social Studies	Content-specific use of the Teacher Toolkit, and creating relevant content connections with digital resources	Torres	Zoom / Breakout (teachers' rooms)
9-12 Social Studies	Content-specific use of the Teacher Toolkit, and creating relevant content connections with digital resources	Torres	Zoom / Breakout (D/E Wing)
K-5 World Language	Tools and strategies for setting up a Blended Classroom	Mercedes Fernandes	Zoom
6-8 World Language	Tools and strategies for setting up a Blended Classroom	Mercedes Fernandes	Zoom
9-12 World Language	Tools and strategies for setting up a Blended Classroom	Mercedes Fernandes	Zoom

PK-12 SpEd teachers, , BCBAs, SLPs	This time will be devoted to the development of Learning Model IEP Implementation Plans, student schedules and related parent communication.	PPS/SPED Teams	Zoom
K-12 Counselors, School Psychologists, Social Workers			
K-12 PE/ Health	Unit Reorganizing - What's Best for In-Person and Distance Learning	Powers	Zoom
K-12 Visual Arts	Differentiation for the hybrid classroom - best practices, adjustments to content, instructional strategies	Sydney Girardi	WHS B6
K-12 Performing Arts	Best practices for student engagement utilizing digital tools in the hybrid music classroom	Morris	Zoom

Professional Learning Day Schedule - September 3, 2020

Grade/Dept.	Morning 8:00 - 10:00	Facilitator	Location
K-2 Teachers	ELA and Foundations- planning and lesson creation for Hybrid instruction and DL	Noble	Zoom and Break out Groups
3-5 Classroom Teachers	Gr. 3 Assessment and Independent Reading Protocols	Bluestein	Zoom
	Gr. 4 Math for the Hybrid Model	Vinton	WIS 221
	Gr. 5 ELA Task Creation and Google Classroom set-up	Bluestein	Break Out Room
	Gr. 5 Ma/Sc Science planning for Hybrid Model	Falber	WIS 209
6-8 English/Language Arts	Working Towards a Critical Literacy by Examining Diverse Texts	Cincotta	Zoom
9-12 English/Language Arts	Working Towards a Critical Literacy by Examining Diverse Texts	Cincotta	Zoom
6-8 Math	Designing effective lessons for a hybrid math classroom	Russo	WMS A6
9-12 Math	Designing effective lessons for a hybrid math classroom	Russo	WHS E6
6-8 Science	Utilizing Digital Resources for lesson development	Charles	WMS C15/C20/C23
9-12 Science	Utilizing Digital Resources for lesson development (Labster, Pivot)	Charles	WHS H4/H6
6-8 Technology	Designing effective lessons for a hybrid PLTW classroom	Charles/Tech Eng Team	WMS H2
9-12 Technology (PLTW & Coding)	Designing effective lessons for a hybrid PLTW classroom	Charles/Tech Eng Team	WHS G4
6-8 Social Studies	Enhancing the LMS for student and parent ease-of-use, teacher feedback (Google Classroom)	Torres	WMS B7
9-12 Social Studies	Enhancing the LMS for student and parent ease-of-use, teacher feedback (Canvas)	Torres	WHS E4
K-5 World Language	Maximizing live meetings to support student proficiency growth	Fernandes	Zoom
6-8 World Language	Maximizing live meetings to support student proficiency growth	Fernandes	Zoom
9-12 World Language	Maximizing live meetings to support student proficiency growth	Fernandes	Zoom
PK-12 SpEd teachers, BCBA's, SLPs	This time will be devoted to the development of Learning Model IEP Implementation Plans, student schedules and related parent communication.	PPS/SPED Teams	Zoom
K-12 Counselors, School Psychologists, Social Workers			
K-12 PE/ Health	Make Distance Learning More Meaningful - Ditch the Busy Work	Powers	Zoom
K-12 Visual Arts	Best Practices for Creating Instructional Videos for Distance Learning and Beyond	Brencher/Girardi	WHS A3
K-12 Performing Arts	Prioritizing Areas of Curriculum for Hybrid Learning in the music classroom	Morris	Zoom

Professional Learning Day Schedule - September 3, 2020

Grade/Dept.	Afternoon 1:00-3:00	Facilitator	Location
K-2 Teachers	Lesson planning and creation for Math for Hybrid Model	Vinton	Grade level team rooms
3-5 Classroom Teachers	Task Creation using new platforms and Google classroom	Bluestein	Zoom
6-8 English/Language Arts	Leveraging Teacher Collaboration in the Digital Classroom	Cincotta	Zoom
9-12 English/Language Arts	Leveraging Teacher Collaboration in the Digital Classroom	Cincotta	Zoom
6-8 Math	Personalized learning time: utilizing digital resources for lesson development	Russo	WMS A6/ Zoom
9-12 Math	Personalized learning time: utilizing digital resources for lesson development	Russo	WHS E6/ Zoom
6-8 Science	Maximizing Teacher Collaboration in the LMS: Google Classroom	Charles	Zoom (WMS C15/C20/C23)
9-12 Science	Maximizing Teacher Collaboration in the LMS: Canvas	Charles	Zoom (G/H wing)
6-8 Technology	PLTW Webinar: Distance-Learning Enhancements by PLTW	PLTW	Zoom
9-12 Technology (PLTW & Coding)	PLTW Webinar: Distance-Learning Enhancements by PLTW	PLTW	Zoom
6-8 Social Studies	Best Practices - high-engagement remote instruction, effective remote assessment	Torres	Zoom / Breakout (teachers' rooms)
9-12 Social Studies	Best Practices - high-engagement remote instruction, effective remote assessment	Torres	Zoom / Breakout (D/E Wing)
K-5 World Language	Personalized learning time: utilizing digital resources for lesson development	Fernandes	Zoom
6-8 World Language	Personalized learning time: utilizing digital resources for lesson development	Fernandes	Zoom
9-12 World Language	Personalized learning time: utilizing digital resources for lesson development	Fernandes	Zoom
PK-12 SpEd teachers, , BCBA's, SLPs	This time will be devoted to the development of Learning Model IEP Implementation Plans, student schedules and related parent communication.	PPS/SPED Teams	Zoom
K-12 Counselors, School Psychologists, Social Workers			
K-12 PE/ Health	Resource Review - Utilizing Digital Resources for Lesson Development	Powers	Zoom
K-12 Visual Arts	Effectively Using the LMS: Google Classroom/Canvas/SeeSaw	Girardi	Zoom
K-12 Performing Arts	Utilizing new digital resources for planning hybrid lessons	Morris	Zoom

Instruction

6154

Homework

The Weston Board of Education recognizes the value of homework and considers it an integral part of the educational process.

Homework may be assigned to:

- Strengthen and expand classroom learning;
- Reinforce content and allow the opportunity to practice essential skills;
- Develop good work habits and routines; and,
- Develop organizational, executive functioning and time management skills.

The administration shall issue guidelines outlining the responsibility of teachers, parents and students with respect to homework. Guidelines should be aligned with current research and best practices in education. Further, the guidelines should be developmentally appropriate and align with the district's commitment to promoting healthy learning environments.

Instruction

6154(a)

Homework

Elementary and Intermediate Schools

The primary focus of homework at the K-5 level is to promote foundational skills in reading and math. Through independent or assigned reading, students will build their decoding, fluency and comprehension skills by establishing a regular routine of reading at home. In addition to their reading, students in grades 2-5 are assigned math homework to reinforce math facts and skills they have learned in class. Occasionally, students are assigned other meaningful homework activities.

Homework is assigned Monday through Thursday at the K-5 level. No homework is assigned over holidays, weekends and school vacations that will be due the day school resumes.

Grade	Time for Reading	Average Daily Time for HW	Total Time
Kindergarten	20 minutes (may be read to)	Optional brief activity or game	20 minutes
Grade 1	20 minutes (may be read to)	Periodic brief activity or game	20 minutes
Grade 2	20 minutes	Weekly math maintenance activity	25 minute
Grade 3	20 minutes	Up to 10 minutes	30 minutes
Grade 4	20 minutes	Up to 20 minutes	40 minutes*
Grade 5	20 minutes	Up to 30 minutes	50 minutes*

*Students in grades 4 and 5 playing an instrument will need to set time aside to practice playing their instrument.

Students will:

- Build greater independence in completing homework as they progress through grades K-5.
- Establish a reading life through a regular routine of reading at home.

Teachers will:

- Assign purposeful and meaningful homework.
- Explain the purpose of homework to their students.
- Adhere to the guidelines set forth above for the total amount of time allotted for homework, understanding that some students take longer than others to complete assignments.

Parents will:

- Establish a time and place for completing homework.
- Encourage students to give their best effort on homework.
- Monitor homework completion.
- Contact the teacher if there are concerns about homework or the time it takes for the child to complete assignments.

Middle School

At the middle school, there is a continued commitment to reading daily through independent or assigned reading. In addition, middle school students are assigned meaningful homework in their classes to extend their learning. The middle school teaming model establishes time for teachers to meet to coordinate homework assignments, projects, tests, and quizzes in order to stay within the total daily time allotment guidelines listed below.

For middle school students, no homework is assigned over holidays and school vacations that will be due the day school resumes.

Grade	Time for Reading	Average Daily Time for HW	Total
Grade 6	20 minutes	Up to 40 minutes	60 minutes*
Grade 7	20 minutes	Up to 50 minutes	70 minutes*
Grade 8	20 minutes	Up to 60 minutes	80 minutes*

*Students in grades 6 through 8 playing an instrument will need to set time aside to practice playing their instrument.

Student will:

- Keep track of their assignments in a systematic way.
- Manage their time effectively to complete short-term and long-term assignments.
- Advocate for their individual needs and ask for help when necessary.
- Complete homework after absences within a reasonable and agreed upon amount of time with the classroom teacher.

Teacher will:

- Assign purposeful and meaningful homework with clear due dates.
- Explain the purpose of homework to their students.
- Clarify the type of feedback and when/how feedback will be communicated to the student.
- Provide students with strategies and guidance for how to study for quizzes and tests.
- Post assignments online with adequate notice for completion.
- Coordinate the timing of assessments (e.g. quizzes, tests) with other teachers on the team and post on the team calendar.
- Adhere to the guidelines set forth above for the total amount of time allotted for homework understanding that some students take longer than others to complete assignments.

Parent will:

- Establish a time and place for completing homework.
- Monitor homework completion
- Encourage students to give their best effort on homework.
- Support students with managing make up work after absences.
- Encourage students to contact their teacher if they are having difficulty.
- Contact the teacher if there are concerns about homework or the time it takes for the child to complete assignments.

High School

High school students should expect to spend an average of two hours doing homework nightly. A student's course of study will determine the amount of time the student spends on homework each day. Students should consider that taking a course of study consisting of multiple advanced level courses could increase their homework beyond two hours.

For high school students, no homework is assigned over holidays and school vacations that will be due the day school resumes.

Student will:

- Keep track of their assignments in a systematic way.
- Manage their time effectively to complete short-term and long-term assignments.
- Advocate for their individual needs and ask for help when necessary.
- Complete homework after absences within a reasonable and agreed upon amount of time with the classroom teacher.

Teacher will:

- Assign purposeful and meaningful homework with clear due dates.
- Explain the purpose of homework to their students.
- Clarify the type of feedback and when/how feedback will be communicated to the student.
- Provide students with strategies and guidance for how to study for quizzes and tests.
- Post assignments online with adequate time for completion.
- Adhere to the guidelines set forth above for the total amount of time allotted for homework understanding that some students take longer than others to complete assignments.

Parent will:

- Provide a supportive environment for completing homework.
- Encourage students to give their best effort on homework.
- Support students with managing make up work after absences.
- Encourage students to contact their teacher if they are having difficulty.
- Contact the teacher if there are concerns about homework or the time it takes for the child to complete assignments.

Regulation adopted: December 6, 1984

Regulation revised: June 22, 2000

Regulation revised: