

WHITE RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DISTRICT
“Home of the Wolverines”

Dr. Robert M. Hacker, Superintendent
Mrs. Marilyn Burch, Treasurer
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Thursday, December 10, 2020

WRV School District Parents/Guardians:

In collaboration with the Governor, state and local health officials, and Greene County superintendents, I wanted to update students and parents on guidance that has been given in regards to COVID precautions. From the beginning, we have been in line with the guidance from these entities and plan to continue this practice.

Each Wednesday following the Governor’s Coronavirus press briefing, the Greene County Health Department holds a leadership briefing with the GC County Commissioners, the GC Mayors, the GC school superintendents, and the GC Health Officer. It is at that briefing that new directives and/or recommendations are passed down.

We remain an orange county with a quickly growing amount of community spread. At the current time, we hope to make it to the end of the semester with our current set-up. There was a great deal of discussion and concern with what the situation might look like following the upcoming holidays. At the present time, we will wait to announce our plan for the start of the second semester until after our Health Department meeting on December 30th. I will put out a school messenger phone call after we are given guidelines. The phone call will be sent out on the morning of the 31st at the latest. We will continue to keep the health of our students and staff at the forefront of this situation in following the guidelines that are passed down to us by the health departments—state and local—and the Governor’s office.

As a precaution, all students should take their Ipads and chargers home on Tuesday, December 22nd. Middle and high school students are used to taking

their devices home; the elementary students are not. Mrs. Staggs will be contacting elementary parents with instructions next week in preparation for the devices to be sent home on the 22nd. Again, this is a precaution. If we need to be virtual to start the second semester, we will be prepared to do so. We have received a number of internet hotspots via a GEERS grant for those individuals who do not have home internet access. Those hotspots run through our internet security system (Lightspeed) to make sure students don't have access to school inappropriate websites. Please contact your child's principal if you are in need of a hotspot. (This doesn't mean we are automatically going to be virtual; it means we will be prepared if that's what is necessary. Again, you will receive a school messenger phone call on the 31st.)

It has taken a great deal of coordination and teamwork by many people to get us through this first semester. I appreciate the high level of flexibility that this is taking on the part of our school families, teachers, and school staff. Please continue to be vigilant in hand-washing, social distancing, and masking-up, so that we can keep our schools operating throughout and following the holidays.

Sincerely,

Dr. Robert M. Hacker, Superintendent