



Beaver News

October 2020

Volume 1, Issue 1

Remote Distance Learning 2.0

A lot has happened at WHS since our last newsletter. That's an understatement! This fall our high school opened virtually to our students using Google Classroom as our primary platform. Teaching and learning online is a new experience for all of us. From the beginning we knew it was going to be critical and that technical obstacles were going to be at the top of the list of problems to solve.

We started our work in earnest in July. Teams of teachers, administrators, and staff met virtually to explore new ways we could serve our students in this new world. Student schedules needed to be rebuilt. Resources for professional development needed to be located. It was a brand new world.

In August, the board settled on a phased reopening plan which established a fully online opening for WHS. We concentrated our staff development time on our technical skills and on building our google classrooms. We realized right away that developing an online environment was going to be difficult, so we set connections with students and families as job one for the fall.

The year started in some unusual ways. The PASS team did tremendous work in handing out well over 500 custom-packed bags of school materials to students. In order to build connections with our community, WHS staff met with nearly 450 families in individual orientation conferences in early September.

Classes began on September 8th. Unlike last spring, classes this fall are meeting according to a regular schedule. Teachers are engaging students through Google classrooms every day, providing feedback on assigned tasks, and working to connect with every student in novel ways. The WHS staff has gone from analog to digital almost overnight. I couldn't be prouder of the work the staff has done or more appreciative of the flexibility, grace, and patience our families have extended in our direction.

~ Dr. Phillip Pearson

Reopening Update

In August, the WSD board approved a 4-stage reopening plan.

Transitioning from one stage to the next is keyed to specific metrics as reported by local health officials. Our schools opened this fall in Stage One, which stipulates fully online learning for all students K-12. In order for WSD schools to move from Stage One to Stage Two, along with other indicators, case counts in Cowlitz County must remain stable between 75 and 25 cases per 100,000 residents. During Stage Two, grades K-4 are scheduled to move to a hybrid in person model while grades 5-12 remain in fully online education.

WHS is scheduled to move to a hybrid in-person model under Stage Three of the district's reopening plan. This transition can occur when case counts remain below 25 cases per 100,000 residents as a stable indicator. Cowlitz County has not yet reached that mark this fall. When county health officials indicate that it is possible to move to Stage Three, the WSD board will make the final decision and WHS will open using a partially in-person hybrid model of instruction.

~ Dr. Phillip Pearson

Week Three - Voices from Students

This is week three of working in a virtual world. Everyone has had a little bit of a chance to settle in, so we thought we'd poll students to see what they had to say about their experiences so far. Here are some of the things they said were going well and not going well:

"I think the biggest thing that has been effective is only having 3 classes per day. It really helps cut down on the number of assignments we are receiving each day."

"I wish there was less people in each class."

"Having small groups [has been effective]."

"I wish the check in's were a little shorter."

"I wish that it was in person and not online."

82.3% of students report that between 0 and 120 minutes of work is required outside of class. On average, students spend 3.25 hours in class each day. Put together, most students are spending between 5 and 6 hours per day tending to school work.

~ Dr. Phillip Pearson

October Important Dates

8: No School
9: No School
29: Early Release - Conferences
30: Early Release - Conferences

District Calendar:

<https://www.woodlandschools.org/storage/file/44/2020-21%20Calendar%20-%20REV%208-13-20%20Final.pdf>

Bell Studio's - Picture Retakes

October 14th from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
NO APPOINTMENT NEEDED

If you missed your school picture day in September, mark your calendar for Wednesday, Oct. 14th in the high school auxiliary gym. No appointment is necessary. Bell Studios will have packets available for purchase. Remember, these are the pictures used in the school yearbook and also for student ID Cards. If you have any questions, please call 360-841-2800.

Helpful Information Links

ATHLETICS: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/95>

CHROMEBOOKS: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/195>

COUNSELING: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/240>

FAMILY & COMMUNITY RESOURCES: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/59>

FOOD SERVICES: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/45>

LIBRARY: <https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/58903>

Great News! Now you can reserve books from the WHS Library for pickup in the office.

NURSES DESK: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/21>

TECH SUPPORT: <https://sites.google.com/woodlandschools.org/student-parent-tech-resources/home>

YEARBOOK & more!: <https://www.woodlandschools.org/page/117>

All information regarding the yearbook can be found on the yearbook link on the Woodland High School website. You can find information on the distribution and purchasing of the 2019-2020 yearbook, purchase prices and dates of the 2020-2021 yearbook, senior photo information, senior baby ads, and much more!

- Senior Portrait deadlines are in November.

School Board Work Session Wednesday, October 14th at 6:15 pm
School Board Meeting Wednesday, October 28th at 6:15 pm
ALL TEACHERS CAN BE REACHED BY email using the following format: first seven letters of their last name & first initial of first name
@woodlandschools.org (Ex: pearsonp@woodlandschools.org)
Woodland High School 1500 Dike Access Road Woodland, WA 98674-9498,
Main Line 841-2800 Fax: 841-2801
Dr. Phillip Pearson, Principal - Dan Uhlenkott, Assistant Principal - Paul Huddleston, Athletic Director

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District Vision Statement

Woodland Public Schools, in partnership with its community, will create a PreK-12 system that serves and supports ALL children and ensures EACH child has FULL access to, is engaged in, and obtains an excellent education that prepares them for responsible citizenship and a future of adaptability and success in life and their chosen endeavors.



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Like us on FB @ Woodland Beaver Boosters Instagram @ WHS Beaver Booster Club
Twitter - Woodland HS Beaver Booster Club @beaver_hs

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