



September 11, 2020

Dear Wauwatosa Families,

We want to take this opportunity to thank our families, students and staff for their positive attitudes and hard work this past week. We've worked together - online and in person - to make the best of a challenging situation. We were impressed with students' efforts to remain physically distant and protect each other by diligently wearing their masks. We look forward to continuing the year with this same positivity and passion!

**Communication Between Families/Students + Staff**

Starting the week of September 14, [Cohort A synchronous days](#) will be Monday and Tuesday and [Cohort B synchronous days](#) will be Thursday and Friday. On Wednesdays, staff will be engaged in planning and professional learning. Please understand that teachers will be engaged in planning and teaching Monday-Friday, so their availability to respond to emails and phone messages will be limited. To allow them to provide their full attention to synchronous learning groups, we've put together a few tips that will help with problem-solving and/or support:

- Identify another family that you can connect with to help answer questions.
- Encourage students to advocate for themselves and communicate their needs or questions on synchronous days.
- Send notes with younger learners on synchronous days so the teacher can follow-up.
- At the elementary level, follow your teacher's preferred method of communication and time of day.
- Secondary students are encouraged to utilize their teacher's office hours to follow-up with questions or concerns.

In order to maintain work/life balance for our staff members, emails will be responded to within one working day, between the hours of 8 am and 4 pm Monday through Friday only. Our staff is committed to showing grace and understanding with your student(s) as we navigate these new models of learning. We ask that you show our staff the same as they work to support students in multiple learning environments.

**Canvas | For Families of Middle + High School Students**

Please note that information such as student grades and missing assignments can be accessed via Infinite Campus, NOT Canvas (or the Canvas app) at this time. Canvas will only be used for teachers to manage content, record and measure learning, and communicate with all users. Grades will NOT be posted in Canvas.

## **District Calendar**

As previously communicated, due to the uncertainty of events for the 2020-21 school year, the District will not be creating a printed calendar. However, we have created an enhanced digital calendar that allows users to filter events by category and building. The calendar can be found on the District website [here](#) and on each school site by clicking on the Calendars button on the homepage. Please note that the calendar is subject to change on an ongoing basis, so we encourage families and students to check back often for updates and new information.

## **Masks + Types of Face Coverings**

The District will continue to follow CDC guidelines regarding masks and face coverings. Please find a useful article [here](#) that contains information about how to select, wear and clean your mask. You can also find useful information about masks and face coverings in our [Resource Library](#).

## **Playgrounds Closed**

Please note that school playgrounds will be closed Monday - Friday mornings before school. Playgrounds will also be closed after school until 6 pm Monday through Friday to provide access to students enrolled in Right at School. If you have questions, please contact your building principal.

## **LAUNCH Program Updates**

LAUNCH is in search of professionals from both for-profit and nonprofit organizations who can help provide experiences for students by informing, inspiring, and connecting. Fill out this [Industry Engagement Form](#) if you're interested in helping students learn, grow and succeed! \_

Do you want to be a skill mentor or project coach this fall? No problem, we will on-board you. Please email Megan Fisher, [fisherm@elmbrookschools.org](mailto:fisherm@elmbrookschools.org), if you are interested in participating but still have questions about these two powerful roles and that can impact lives. We have students interested in business, healthcare, manufacturing, hospitality, IT, and engineering.

LAUNCH welcomes [Deanna Singh](#) as a virtual guest speaker on Tuesday, September 15th. This event is **OPEN to the public** and we hope business professionals, students, and educators throughout our network can come and learn with us. She will be speaking on the power of finding your purpose, LAUNCH as a social enterprise, and the power of diversity, equity, and inclusion in our work. [Click here to register.](#)

Once again, thank you to our students, staff and families for their diligence in following our new health and safety protocols. You make us #TosaProud!

-Wauwatosa School District