



WOLFPACK EXPRESS

Focusing On Activities In The School District of Manawa

September 3, 2020



School Reopening Questions, Answers

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BY DR. MELANIE OPPOR

District Administrator



The School District of Manawa 2020-21 school year is set to begin in just a few short days.

With the pandemic this new school year brings many questions for students and families. The most current source of up-to-date information can be found on the School District of Manawa website at <https://www.manawaschools.org/district/school-reopening.cfm>.

There, you will find links to the Manawa Board of Education-approved school reopening plan, along with other helpful resources provided by the Waupaca County Department of Health, Wisconsin Department of Health and Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction, to name a few.

It is important to note that the plan is fluid and may be adjusted as changing health conditions arise or as county and state orders are issued or modified. Citizens are encouraged to regularly check the website for updates or contact your child's school with questions.

The SDM School Reopening Plan focuses on the District's ongoing commitment to high-quality education while implementing the advice of health experts on how best to mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19.

Parents have three educational choices for their children:

- In-person Classroom Instruction (4K-8 Classroom Cohorts for 5 Days a Week, High School A/B and Modified Bell Schedule).
- Synchronous Instruction (Live, Real-Time Instruction Online and Daily/Hourly Attendance).
- Blended Instruction (In-person, synchronous, recorded lessons (any combination); Teacher Consultation; Building Consultation Team develops learning plan with parent).

Students in grades 4K-8 are being offered the opportunity to come to school five days a week because a cohort model can be successfully implemented.

What is a cohort? A cohort is a grouping of students that will stay together in one classroom space throughout each day.

Teachers of art, music, physical education, gifted/talented, school counseling, and library services as examples will come to the students in their cohort. Pre-plated student meals will be served in the classroom. In this way, the students' exposure to other people is significantly limited and contact tracing (should it be necessary) can be accomplished with greater accuracy.

Students in the high school are going to be placed into one of two groups that allows for roughly half of the school population to attend school on any given day of the week. Group A will attend school in person on Mondays and Thursdays and Group B will attend school in person on Tuesdays and Fridays. Groups A and B will alternate attending school in person every other Wednesday.

On days when students are not at Little Wolf High School, the students will be taking synchronous instruction at home. This means that using technology, students will be expected to "attend" class virtually per their daily schedule. By state law, attendance will be taken each class period. Truancy guidelines will be strictly adhered to as is required by statute.

Some parents have asked why high school students are in two smaller groups that combine in-person and synchronous online learning. The primary reason is that due to the wide array of high school course selections, students have seven to eight groupings per day based on their unique course schedule. This means that the entire high school population has the potential to be exposed to many more people throughout the day, thus making contact tracing and virus mitigation far more complicated than grades K-8, where cohorts can be maintained.

Older buildings like Little Wolf High School also means that the square footage of usable space is smaller than what may be found in new constructions. For this reason, having roughly half the high school population on site makes physical distancing and staggered travel times to classes more feasible.

Little Wolf High School will have a closed campus for the 2020-21 school year until further notice.

Classrooms will have desks or student work spaces set up for six-foot physical distancing.

Staff have tried to optimize the use of space by taking some pieces of furniture out of the room. Each classroom will be provided with hand sanitizer as well as spray disinfectant and paper towels to be able to keep hands and surfaces clean.

The principals have examined traffic patterns around each building and will work to have a one-way traffic flow in heavily traveled corridors. Additionally, travel times will be staggered and students will use physical distancing.

Scheduled recesses and outdoor learning breaks throughout the day will offer opportunities for fresh air, sunshine, physical movement and to learn from the natural environment. Students and staff may take off their masks outdoors if they are able to maintain six-foot physical distancing as per the guidance from the Waupaca County DHS.

In addition, social emotional learning will be taught through direct instruction and will be embedded across the curriculum. Students of all ages



GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES!

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FROM PAGE 1

will be working on:

- Self-awareness
- Self-management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision-making

Students are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles from home to stay hydrated. Only water bottle filling stations will be available for student use. For sanitary reasons, bubblers will be out of service.

District custodians and staff are being trained in enhanced cleaning and disinfecting protocols.

All of these measures are being taken to mitigate, reduce, or contain the spread of COVID-19.

No strategy eliminates all risk of virus spread.

Specialized Services

Specialized services may include gifted/talented, English language, special education, Section 504 and health plans.

- Case managers will meet with students/families with IEPs and Section 504 plans prior to the start of school to discuss any needed changes and will adjust plans accordingly.
- Teachers receive a copy of specialized plans for students on their roster before school starts.
- At MES, small groups of students from the same cohort will meet with specialists (Special Education Teachers/Therapists, Interventionists, etc.) in alternate classrooms if disinfection can be done before/after.
- Consideration of the Least Restrictive Environment (as defined in special education law) for the student will be given priority as decisions are made/changed.
- Plexiglass barriers will be provided for therapists as needed.

School Supply Lists

While many of the traditional school supplies are still needed, this year technology items have been added.

Each student will need a set of either earbuds or headphones with a microphone. Teachers will work with students on how to use their devices. The earbuds/headphones with microphone reduces sound feedback and distractions when others are working on their devices nearby.

See page 7 for details.

Central Wisconsin Conference (CWC) Fall Sports

Fall sports practices will begin as follows:

- Cross Country: Aug. 17
- Football, Volleyball, Soccer: Sept. 7

The CWC also decided that fans at fall sporting events will be limited. Each competitor in an outdoor sport will receive four tickets to distribute to family/friends.

Competitors in indoor sports will receive two tickets. District face covering and physical distancing expectations must be adhered to by all fans.

Health Room Visits

Students needing to visit the health room will be grouped into two categories and cared for in separate areas of the main school office:

- Medication Administration & Scrapes, Bee Stings, Bruises, etc. (Visit Health Room and follow procedures as per past protocols.)
- COVID-19-Type Symptoms (Placed in Isolation Room, assessment protocol, send home)

The parents are asked to keep emergency contacts up-to-date.

Reentry After Illness

Per the CDC, you can be with others after 24 hours with no fever; respiratory symptoms have improved; and 10 days since symptoms first appeared.

Depending on your health care provider's advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19. If you will be tested, you can be around others when you have no fever, respiratory symptoms have improved and you receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.

If you tested positive and have no symptoms, you can be with others after 10 days have passed since the test as long as you continue to have no symptoms.

Depending on your health care provider's advice and availability of testing, you might get tested to see if you still have COVID-19. If you will be tested, you can be around others after you receive two negative test results in a row, at least 24 hours apart.

Backpacks

- Students will be carrying what they need with them to the classroom and to ensure they take home needed learning supplies daily and to minimize the need for shared supplies.
- Backpacks will be hung on the backs of students' chairs when they get to their individual workstations.
- The backpacks are at the students' workstations so students will not be passing items to one another from their backpacks given the physical distancing expectation and adult supervision at all times.
- Students have not in the past nor has it been proposed to pass through metal detectors to enter SDM schools.
- Student backpacks are subject to inspection by teachers and will be easily observable as staff interact with students in the classroom.
- K-9 searches may be conducted in classrooms (including backpacks) when students are not present in the room.



Upcoming Activities

September:

- Tuesday, Sept. 1 – Special Board of Education meeting, 5:30 p.m. (virtual meeting)
- Wednesday, Sept. 2 – Virtual Open House (both schools), Information will be on your school webpage.
<https://www.manawaschools.org/schools/mes.cfm>
<https://www.manawaschools.org/schools/lwhs.cfm>
- Tuesday, Sept. 8 – First day of school
- Tuesday, Sept. 8 – Policy and Human Resources Committee meeting, 5 p.m. (virtual meeting)
- Friday, Sept. 18 – Picture Day, 7:15 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. (both schools)
- Monday, Sept. 21 – Picture Day (high school/middle school), 7:30 a.m. until done.

All athletic events are on the "Calendar of Events" page on the district website
www.manawaschools.org



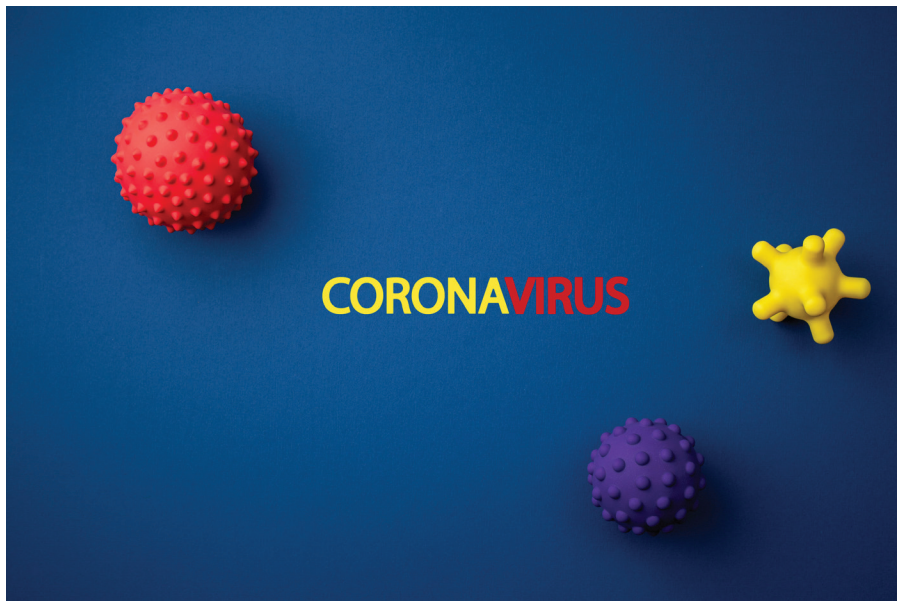
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Manawa, WI
920-596-3341**

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Waupaca County COVID-19 Situational Update

NOTE: Waupaca County Public Health released the following information Aug. 17:

Waupaca County continues to experience high level COVID-19 case activity. Individual and community behaviors will dictate if and when a change occurs.

CASES ACTIVITY: In the most recent Wisconsin Department of Health Services COVID-19 Activity Level Measurement, Waupaca County is ranked sixth in the state for COVID-19 Burden (total cases per 100,000 in the past two weeks).

OUTBREAKS: Waupaca County has had a total of 35 outbreak investigations as of this publication date and of those 35, 28 are currently active investigations. Outbreaks have been associated with the following activities:

Worksites/other:

- Bars and restaurants (11).
- Day care/school (1)
- Events (graduation parties, family reunion) (2)
- Group housing (1)
- Office setting (4)
- Production plants (3)
- Retail store (1)
- Salon (1)

Long-term care:

- Nursing home (8) (1 confirmed case qualifies as an outbreak)
- Assisted living, CBRF (3)

Long-term care facilities are particularly vulnerable. One outbreak in a long-term care facility includes 47 staff and residents

testing positive and has led to the vast majority of fatalities in Waupaca County. When there is a high level of community spread, it increases the chances of an outbreak in a long-term care facility even with the many restrictions instituted in these facilities.

BEHAVIORS: Avoid gatherings, particularly indoors. Over 30% of outbreak investigations in Waupaca County have been linked to bars and restaurants. Environments that include talking, yelling and singing while in sustained close contact to others are the breeding grounds for this virus. In addition, although there have only been two known event-type outbreak investigations, those two outbreaks have involved two of the larger investigations due to number of people linked to the outbreaks.

STAY HOME WHEN YOU HAVE SYMPTOMS: Many of the outbreaks have been associated with an individual that went to a gathering(s) or went to work while symptomatic. Several individuals have mentioned through contact tracing that they thought they were just having allergies or a "summer cold." If you have some of the milder symptoms you may very well just be experiencing allergies or another illness, but it may also be COVID-19. Err on the side of caution, avoid others when you notice some symptoms and get tested.

WEAR A FACE COVERING: The virus also spreads when we don't have symptoms. That is one reason why face coverings are important. Face coverings help to block or knockdown the droplets expelled from your mouth and nose when you talk, sneeze or cough.

Following Guidelines

During the current pandemic, Sturm Memorial Library is following the Wisconsin Libraries Guidelines established under the Division for Libraries and Technology at the Department of Public Instruction.

Per the guidelines, the library is open with some limits in place. The limits include capping people capacity to 10 at any one time, requiring physical distancing from all people not in your family and limiting visits to 30 minutes.

Computer use is up to one hour per day.

These requirements are for everyone, including children. With the school year starting, it is important that parents keep these limits in mind if visits to the library are usually part of a child's after-school plan. This will be especially important once the colder weather starts.

Children 11 and up can come to the library without a parent or caregiver, but the limits in place will still apply. If a child arrives at the library and the capacity for people inside is already reached, that child will be unable to come in until someone else leaves.

Once inside, the child will only be able to stay for 30 minutes unless they are able to use a computer.

Library staff miss the lively interaction and laughter that having a lot of children in the library brings and looks forward to the day when restrictions are lifted and things are safe.

Call the library at 920-596-2252 if you have any questions about your child's visits to the library.





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What's New AT S

NEW FRONT ENTRANCE WITH ADMINISTRATION SUITES



BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE - 5K CLASSROOMS



AFTER - NEW 4K CLASSROOM

GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES!

S.D.M. SCHOOLS?

BEFORE



AFTER



BEFORE



AFTER



NEW HIGH SCHOOL COLLABORATION AREA



GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES!

NEW FITNESS CENTER

Watch for Grand Opening Details



A NEW FITNESS CENTER IS PART OF THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANAWA'S BUILDING PROJECT.



GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES! GO WOLVES!

KEYS FOR FAMILIES TO HELP KEEP SCHOOL AND SCHOOL ACTIVITIES SAFE

Avoid the Three Cs
Be aware of different levels of risk in different settings.

World Health Organization
Western Pacific Region

There are certain places where COVID-19 spreads more easily:

- 1 Crowded places**
with many people nearby
- 2 Close-contact settings**
Especially where people have close-range conversations
- 3 Confined and enclosed spaces**
with poor ventilation

The risk is higher in places where these factors overlap.
Even as restrictions are lifted, consider where you are going and #StaySafe by avoiding the Three Cs.

The individual activities school families participate in outside of school can directly impact the school as a whole.

Take personal responsibility to avoid high-risk settings.

If high-risk activities are avoided outside of school, there will be a greater chance for school to be in person and remain in person.

The same can be said about school extracurricular programs, such as sports. Students and families involved in high-risk sports such as football, basketball, wrestling, volleyball, hockey, and soccer may need to especially adhere to avoiding high-risk settings outside of school. High-risk sports involve close contact. One team member with COVID-19 can potentially mean a 2-week suspension of team activities or a canceled season.

Make your decisions with your school, your team, and your community in mind.

- [CDC: Deciding to Go Out](#)
- [CDC: Personal and Social Activities](#)
- [DHS:COVID-19 Decision Tool for Individuals and Families](#)

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO?

- Avoid crowded places and limit time in enclosed spaces
- Maintain at least 1m distance from others
- When possible, open windows and doors for ventilation
- Keep hands clean and cover coughs and sneezes
- Wear a mask if requested or if physical distancing is not possible

If you are unwell, stay home unless to seek urgent medical care.

Student Headphones

HEADPHONES FOR SALE

Students may purchase headphones and earbuds from the school office. The exact models will change as availability changes. Prices are subject to change based on available prices. Prices are set to ensure the school district does not profit on the sale of these devices. Fees are waived for students that qualify for the free and reduced lunch program.

EARBUD WITH MIC \$1.50



HEADPHONES NO MIC \$15.00



HEADPHONE WITH MIC \$36.00



School-based healthcare providers or teachers should send students home if:

- The students have taken any medications (for example, ibuprofen, Tylenol) to reduce fever in the last 24 hours.
- They have tested positive for COVID-19, with or without having symptoms, and have not yet finished their isolation period per public health recommendations.
- Have been diagnosed with COVID-19 by a health care provider, and have not yet finished their isolation period per public health recommendations.
- Within the last 2 weeks, they have come in close contact with anyone who has COVID-19.

OR within the last 24 hours, they have experienced the following symptoms above their baseline:

- Either cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new loss of smell or taste **OR**

At least two of the following symptoms:-

Fever (measured or subjective), or chills or rigors, Myalgia (muscle aches), Headache, Sore throat, Fatigue, Muscle or body aches, Congestion or runny nose, Nausea or vomiting, Diarrhea

These symptom criteria apply to COVID-19-related exclusions for in-person instruction. Other symptoms may also require exclusion for a different communicable disease. Refer to the childhood communicable diseases wall chart for additional information. Generally, children with fever, diarrhea, or vomiting alone should be **sent home for at least 24 hours**, even if it is unrelated to COVID-19 infection.

School District of Manawa Information

District Office

Phone: 920-596-2525
800 Beech Street
District Administrator: Dr. Melanie J. Oppor
Business Manager: Carmen O'Brien
Special Ed. Director: Danielle Brauer
Technology Director: Bryant Cobarrubias

Little Wolf High School

Grades 9-12
Manawa Middle School
Grades 6-8
Phone: 920-596-2524
515 E. 4th Street
Principal: Daniel Wolfgram

Manawa Elementary School

Grades PK-5
Phone: 920-596-2238
800 Beech Street
Principal: Danielle Brauer

Paving the Way

Phone: 920-596-2526
407 S. Bridge St.
Director: Danielle Brauer

Manawa Board of Education

PresidentJoanne Johnson
Vice PresidentRuss Johnson
Clerk.....Bobbi Jo Pethke
TreasurerBruce Scheller
DirectorRussell Hollman
DirectorStan Forbes
DirectorLucas Seeger

Board Meetings:

Regular Board Meetings are held on the third Monday of each month (except April – 4th Monday) in the Board Room located at the Manawa Elementary School at 7:00 pm. Any additional meetings are duly posted on the district's website, in the City Hall and at Sturm Memorial Library. For additional information please contact the District Office at 920-596-2525.

The Board of Education and Administrative Team would like to thank all the individuals, groups, and businesses that so generously contribute to the District. Your gifts of money, time, materials, and talents support and enhance programs for all our students and staff!

The School District of Manawa does not discriminate against individuals on the basis of sex, race, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability. Federal law prohibits discrimination in education and employment on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, sex, religion, or disability.

Mission Statement:

The School District of Manawa is the place where students choose to excel academically and realize their strengths.

Vision Statement:

The School District of Manawa engages students to reach their full potential in a changing global society through highly effective instruction and leadership.

Website Accessibility

The School District of Manawa strives to be inclusive and responsive to the needs of all district residents. Anyone finding district information or website functionality to be inaccessible to persons with disabilities is asked to contact the District Webmaster, Mr. Cobarrubias, by telephoning 920-596-5737 or emailing him at: bcobarrubias@manawaschools.org

The following links provide direct access to the School District of Manawa Policies related to Section 504 and Title II along with the names and contact information for the District's 504/ADA Compliance Officers and can be accessed from the district website under Board of Education > Board Policies > Link to Policies:

- 2260.01 - SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION BASED ON DISABILITY
- 1623 - SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT
- 3123 - SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT
- 4123 - SECTION 504/ADA PROHIBITION AGAINST DISABILITY DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT
- 2260 - NONDISCRIMINATION AND ACCESS TO EQUAL EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY
- 1422 - NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
- 3122 - NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY
- 4122 - NONDISCRIMINATION AND EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The School District of Manawa's Section 504 and ADA Compliance Officers are as follows:

Carmen O'Brien

Business Manager
School District of Manawa
800 Beech Street
Manawa, WI 54949
920-596-5332
cobrien@manawaschools.org

Daniel Wolfgram

High School/Middle School Principal
School District of Manawa
515 E. Fourth Street
Manawa, WI 54949
920-596-5310
dwolfgram@manawaschools.org



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WAYS YOU CAN HELP MANAWA SCHOOLS

Boxtops Needed – Clip the Boxtops for Education logo on many household products and drop-off at any school office. Some of the many products with the logo are: Betty Crocker, Pillsbury, General Mills, Ziploc, Hefty, Kleenex and Huggies.

STEP VOLUNTEERS:

Senior citizens can save on their property taxes by volunteering in the schools through the Senior Tax Exchange Program.

Contact Ruth Lord, Director at 920-596-5673 for more information.

The **SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MANAWA** is the place where **STUDENTS** choose to **EXCEL** academically and realize their **STRENGTHS.**