

High School In-Person Instruction Returns FAQ

What will my high school student's schedule look like?

In order to return to in-person instruction with groups of students we will have Issaquah High and Skyline High run all 7 periods M, T, Th and F. In this way, all students will get equal amounts of in-person instruction for each of their classes regardless of which day they are assigned to attend in-person.

Gibson Ek and Liberty High will retain their current schedules. Given its smaller student enrollment and unique T/TH internship opportunities, GEHS will have 50% of its students onsite Monday and 50% on Friday. LHS students will see all their A day teachers one week and their B day teachers the next week. Over two weeks, they will see all their teachers one time in person.

****Please note: HS start times will be adjusted by 15 minutes (starting at 7:45 am) to accommodate the current drop off and pick up times happening at the elementary level.**

What group will my student be in?

We are working with Student Information Systems now to create the student groups and principals are working to test rosters and identify any classes which may need to be moved to a larger classroom space in advance of student returning to the buildings. In very rare cases, it is possible one class could be too large on a given day to fit into a classroom space with our current physical distancing requirements. Therefore a class may be moved to an alternate location OR as a last resort, a student may have his/her/their schedule altered to switch the period a class is taken for another period that class is offered with that teacher. In every case, we will do our utmost to retain the current teacher.

On the three days of the week that students are NOT assigned to onsite learning they will attend virtually.

Please see the updates to the HS schedules with student groups labeled. Each high school will communicate its unique alpha and family student groups via email, E news, etc. These reflect the slight adjustment made to make transportation possible.

- [Gibson Ek](#)
- [Issaquah High School](#)
- [Liberty High School](#)
- [Skyline High School](#)

What about transportation?

Yes, transportation will be available to all students on the days on which they are assigned to attend in-person. To find your bus route go to this link:

- <https://www.issaquah.wednet.edu/family/transportation/elink>.

You can expect buses to transport students with windows open so dress warmly and students will be expected to wear their masks at all times.

What should my high school student bring to school?

- Attestation completed; high school students will be allowed to complete their own

- A well-fitting, clean mask
 - Students are required to wear a cloth face covering or acceptable alternative, which includes a surgical style disposable mask. (Current guidance is that the mask must be of multiple layers and fit snugly over the nose, along the cheeks, to under the chin.)
 - Students may remove face coverings to eat and drink (see lunch details below).
 - Students are expected wear their own face covering to school, including when riding on a school bus. Cloth face coverings must comply with school dress code rules, including restrictions on obscene or vulgar material and language. Schools may be able to provide face coverings for students who forget to wear one to school.
- District issued laptop FULLY CHARGED if student is using one at home
- Other personal technology if it assists student with schoolwork
- Any other preferred school supplies; there will be no sharing of materials allowed out of an abundance of caution
- Wear clothing that fits the season and the weather and dress in layers
 - Buses will transport students with the windows down regardless of exterior weather.
 - You may have a class that is held outdoors, especially if you are currently registered for PE or music
 - You may be eating outdoors as well

Where should my high school student go upon arrival?

- Go to one of the entries designated by your building administrators to show proof of attestation and get a temperature check.
- See your school's handbook and website for details on drop off and pick up.
- You will have to maintain physical distancing after your attestation and before your first class of the day begins.

What if I forgot to do my attestation?

- Paper copies will be available for high school students to complete ([link to form here](#)).
- QR codes may also be used following instructions provided by your building administrators.

How will attendance be taken?

If a student needs to stay home **for any reason** on their assigned day, she/he/they should attend virtually if well enough to do so. They will be marked present for virtual attendance just as they are now. The process for reporting asynchronous attendance (outside the scheduled school day) is unchanged. Go to your school's website to see the phone number for the attendance office or use the parent attendance button we have linked at each site.

What about restroom use?

Each school has set up a system to minimize the number of students in the bathroom at one time. Staff will encourage use of stalls, block off urinals if necessary based on the layout to maintain six-feet of social distance, and have students wash hands for 20 seconds. Students will wear masks in the bathroom.

What about water fountains?

You may fill a water bottle at the fountain but you may not drink directly from it. Your water bottle should also not touch the nozzle. If the fountain has a button or lever, use your elbow to push it. Wash or sanitize your hands after use.

Will there be assemblies?

Assemblies and gatherings will be limited to classroom groups and may happen in the classroom with the teacher; we have done assemblies in this way in the past, especially when we wanted to foster discussion on a topic. Some of our students will already be familiar with this format. Large assemblies/meetings will occur virtually to limit interactions of students. Physical distancing should be maintained to the extent reasonably possible.

What will lunch look like?

Please see your school's handbook for details. Physical distancing will be required and students will be assigned to specific locations. Administrators will need to know where students were during lunch in the event of any contact tracing that might need to be completed.

Students may bring their own lunch as they have in the past, but students may NOT share food with fellow students. Parents may not arrive at the school to drop off a forgotten lunch as we are not allowing parents in the buildings at this time. Students will need to get a school provided lunch if they forget theirs. Students will not be allowed to order food that is delivered to school as we cannot let any vendors/visitors in the building who are not vital to the safe operation of our schools.

Expect outdoor spaces and unconventional lunchroom spaces to be used to accomplish this distancing. Students will be allowed to eat in their vehicle with a sibling(s) from the same household if she/he/they drive. Juniors and seniors will be allowed to leave with parent permission on file.

****Students must stay six feet apart in the line and keep their mask on until they are to their assigned lunch space.**

- There will be no salad bar.
- Condiments will be pre-packaged.
- The meal for the day will be set up. Students will simply grab and go.
- Lunch will be at no cost so, therefore no money will be exchange and no keypads used.
- There will be no a la carte lunch and no self-service.

What will music classes look like?

District office staff read and followed the [national guidance](#) on methods for music instruction. We researched PPE using this guidance and with colleagues around the state who were already in-person and worked collaboratively with our music teachers to identify preferred PPE for student musicians. We began this process in late February and settled on the items to order in early March based on current

headcounts and instruments types for students enrolled in music classes, both choir and instrumental. There will be additional physical spacing between students in music classrooms and music output including singing will be limited to not more than 30 minutes per class period.

Please see your music teacher for more information.

What will my student do if one of his/her/their teachers is unable to teach in-person?

We have a plan to have staff who are unassigned that period to supervise students who may be virtually accessing a teacher who must teach off site or remotely. A student's learning period could happen in a school library, for example, and once class is over that student will go to his/her/their next in-person class.

What is the plan for state testing this year?

The State of WA submitted a waiver request to the federal government allowing us to suspend state testing. They have proposed, for the high schools, testing a sampling of 10th graders only in math this year as well as conducting the diagnostic testing of our English language learners. Public comment closes on 3.22.2021 and the decision will likely be made as to whether or not it is approved on 3.26.2021. Your school will put more details in building E news about state testing as we have them.

What has been done to the HVAC systems to mitigate exposure to the coronavirus?

District ventilation systems are designed to exchange the air in an interior space at least every 15-20 minutes. Based on EPA, CDC, and ASHRAE recommendations, the District has implemented the following strategies as part of a multiple layer approach to COVID mitigation:

- Filters have been upgraded from MERV 8 to MERV 13, where possible.
- Portables will be outfitted with MERV 13 air filters as well.
- Air filters are changed on a quarterly basis at a minimum.
- Outside air dampers have been opened to the maximum extent to allow as much fresh air into the building
- Ventilation systems are running a minimum of 16 hours per day to completely change over air several times overnight
- Windows (where available) are opened to promote air exchange and allow even more fresh air into spaces