

# WEST ALLEGHENY QUARANTINE PLAN 2021-2022



A Tradition of Excellence... A Vision for Tomorrow

West Allegheny School District  
110 Bruno Lane  
Imperial, PA 15126  
<http://www.westasd.org/>



*West Allegheny School District remains committed to providing equitable and inclusive learning opportunities for all students with safe and flexible learning options.*

## West Allegheny Learning Expectations for Quarantine and Isolation

During the 2021-22 school year, in accordance with the CDC, PADOH and ACHD, the West Allegheny School District will continue contact tracing with associated isolation and quarantine when necessary to mitigate the spread of COVID-19. This creates the need to continue to provide continuity of learning during extended periods of student absences through online access to teacher instruction and assignments via Canvas.

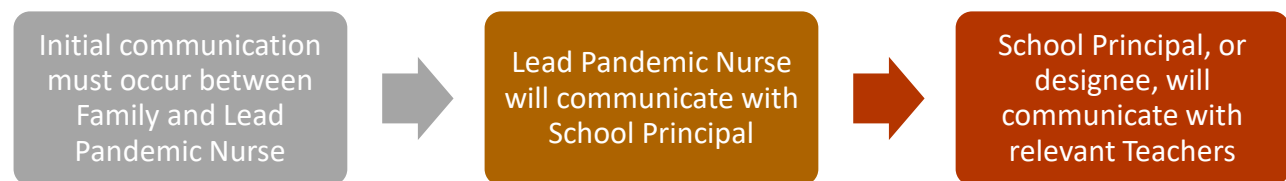
According to the CDC,

- **Quarantine** should be used for unvaccinated students, teachers, and staff who have been exposed to a positive COVID-19 individual.
- **Isolation** should be used to separate people diagnosed with COVID-19 from those who are not infected.

***This document provides clarity on how continuity of student learning will be provided during times of quarantine or isolation.***

### Implementation of the Quarantine Plan

In the event a student is required to quarantine or isolate, a partnership between home and school with clear communication is critical to support the continuity of student learning. Students will be determined to qualify for quarantine and isolation by one of our two district Lead Pandemic Nurses, Barb Lecker ([blecker@westasd.org](mailto:blecker@westasd.org)) or Mary Beth Hill ([mhill@westasd.org](mailto:mhill@westasd.org)), and in consultation when appropriate with the Superintendent or designee. After family notification, a Lead Pandemic Nurse will contact the school principal to communicate the timeline for which the quarantine plan is necessary. The principal, or her designee, will then communicate in writing the necessary information to the relevant teachers. This process is in place to minimize the amount of communication needed for families, to guarantee proper coding for student attendance, and to ensure student privacy in the process.



Students may need to quarantine and/or isolate based on illness or exposure. Students returning from international travel will be required to be tested for COVID or to quarantine, if unvaccinated. In addition to COVID-related student absences, the quarantine plan may be extended to students if medically extenuating circumstances are substantiated by a physician and approved through the Superintendent in consultation with the District’s health care specialists. In most cases, the Quarantine Plan will be implemented for no more than 10-20 consecutive calendar days. However, it may be extended up to four weeks if medically necessary and approval is granted by the superintendent or her designee.



## Instructional Delivery

Instruction will be provided to qualifying students via both synchronous and asynchronous delivery based on grade level/content area.

- **Synchronous learning** refers to a learning event in which students are engaging in learning at the same time with live direct instruction via Zoom with their teacher(s).
- **Asynchronous learning** is the idea that students will access the same material independently at different times and locations. It is the opposite of synchronous learning and will not include live direct instruction from the teacher. It may include videotaped instruction pending the course and students may reach out to teachers via email with questions.

The following chart illustrates at each grade level the content areas that will be taught synchronously vs. asynchronously:

	Synchronously <small>(Which may include asynchronous components)</small>	Asynchronously
<b>K-2</b>	ELA, Mathematics	Art, Music, Library, Physical Education, and Computers, Innovation, and Design
<b>3-5</b>	ELA, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies	Art, Music, Library, Physical Education, and Computers, Innovation, and Design
<b>6-8</b>	ELA, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Language	All Other Courses
<b>9-12</b>	English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, World Language, Advanced Placement Courses, ECIHSA Courses	All Other Courses

Please note, for courses identified as occurring synchronously, a component of the course must occur live via Zoom. The teachers may elect to provide the direct instruction live via Zoom or through teacher recorded videos; however, students must be provided an opportunity to engage with the teacher synchronously for questions, clarification, and/or to check-in.

## Student Severity of Symptoms

If a student is diagnosed with COVID, the severity of the student’s symptoms should be used to dictate his/her engagement with class work, with the goal of minimizing disruption to student learning.

- If a student is not ill, he/she should participate in synchronous instruction via Zoom and asynchronous assignments via Canvas as outlined in this Quarantine Plan.
- In the event a student is sick, if the student is experiencing mild symptoms, we strongly encourage participation in live synchronous instruction via Zoom and asynchronous assignments via Canvas.
- In the event a student is experiencing significant symptoms and is unable to participate in live, synchronous instruction, please notify the teacher and the student’s assignments will be posted in Canvas, by the end of the school day. Moving forward, assignments will be posted by the start of first period on each day thereafter. Students will be given a window of time to make up missed assignments once they are feeling better. This window of time will extend six school days beyond a



student's return to school to ensure appropriate access to teachers for any necessary support. If additional time is needed, arrangements must be made with the teacher.

While a student is **quarantined**, he/she is expected to participate in instruction via Zoom, unless symptoms would develop that would preclude participation. At that point, the teacher must be notified by the student's parent/guardian or by the student, and assignments will be placed on Canvas, by the end of the school day. Moving forward, assignments will be posted by the start of first period on each day thereafter.

## **Student Expectations**

Our goal is for students to have access to quality instruction to continue their learning whether they are in school or required to be home. Students who are placed in quarantine or are COVID positive and are not experiencing severe symptoms are required to meet the following expectations:

1. Students are expected to log on to Canvas each day at the regular school start time to check for communications from their teachers and complete daily assignments for each class on their schedule. It is important for students to check in Canvas to see if the school is implementing an alternate schedule for the day (ie. Advisory schedule or two-hour delay schedule)
2. Students are expected to log on to Zoom on time and follow their in-person class schedule to participate in courses where instruction is being provided synchronously. A chart providing the courses that require live synchronous instruction is documented earlier in this plan (pg. 2). Students who do not log on and participate in class will not receive participation points or credit for assignments for that day, unless it is reported by the student and/or the parent/guardian to the teacher that the student is too sick to participate in school.
3. Students must display appropriate Zoom etiquette by:
  - a. Logging in on time at the start of the period.
  - b. Keeping the camera on with their face and accurate first and last name displayed to interact with the teacher ensuring attendance and engagement,
  - c. Keeping their microphone muted unless directed to unmute by the teacher, to minimize background distractions,
  - d. Ensuring they are dressed in school appropriate attire,
  - e. Seated in a distraction free environment and not lying in bed,
  - f. Remaining on the Zoom until excused by the teacher.
4. Students are expected to put forth effort in assignment completion and submit assignments according to teacher expectations the same as if they were in-person in class.
5. Students are expected to ask for assistance from teachers as needed via Zoom or by email.
6. Students are expected to maintain the student code of conduct and academic integrity policies as outlined in the student handbooks.
7. If a synchronous course is unable to occur on a specific day, the teacher will notify students via Canvas and asynchronous assignments will be given that students must complete.

**Please note:** The opportunity to participate in instruction remotely is provided to ensure continuity of learning. Teachers will work hard to support students in-person and online and are not expected to manage student disruptions online. If a student fails to meet the expectations outlined above, the teacher will provide one opportunity for redirection unless additional redirections are required based on a student's IEP or 504 Plan. If a student disruption persists,



the teacher will remove the student from the Zoom classroom and report the disruption to administration. Students removed from Zoom classrooms for not adhering to expectations will not receive participation and/or assignment credit for that period.

Also, the Quarantine Plan provides students with the opportunity to access instruction via Zoom as if they were in-person, as such, active student participation and engagement is key. Teachers will not provide additional individualized support outside of classroom time that would extend beyond what they are providing to in-person students.

## **Family Expectations**

Our goal is to partner with families to ensure the continuity of learning for children during their time away from the classroom. Families of children who are required to quarantine, as a result of being determined to be a close contact, or sick, due to contracting the virus, but not experiencing severe symptoms are asked to meet the following expectations:

### **Supporting your child**

1. Communicate with the Lead Pandemic Nurses to have your child's quarantine plan started. Quarantined students are expected to participate in live synchronous instruction via Zoom and complete asynchronous assignments via Canvas. In the event your child is sick, and is experiencing mild COVID symptoms, we encourage participation in live synchronous instruction via Zoom and the completion of asynchronous assignments via Canvas. In the event your child is experiencing severe symptoms and is unable to participate in live synchronous instruction, please notify the teacher and your child's assignments will be posted in Canvas by the end of the school day.
2. Provide a quiet learning space that supports student learning and minimizes distractions.
3. Have school supplies available at home and a set of headphones available for Zoom lessons.
4. Play a supportive role and help facilitate organization and focus without providing students answers.
5. Review the student expectations with your child and ensure they are being met daily.

### **Supporting the teacher**

6. Family communication with teachers should be through email or by phone and **never** via Zoom during instructional time. Please note that teachers are facilitating instruction in-person and online and must focus on their students and prioritizing instruction. This is not a time in which they can interact with families. Teachers are asked to respond to family emails and calls within a reasonable timeframe.
7. In a regular classroom setting, students spend some time working independently on their assigned work; therefore, the expectation is the same for online learning. Students are encouraged to ask questions and seek teacher assistance during class when needed as they would during in-person instruction. Teachers are not expected to meet with students outside of class time or provide individualized support that would extend beyond what they are extending to in-person students.
8. Please encourage your child to submit their best work, and the teacher will provide feedback as needed. It is important that the teacher gets a clear picture of what the child can produce.
9. To ensure the privacy of our students, videos, classroom materials and Canvas content are not to be recorded, captured, or shared to maintain confidentiality.



## Supporting the school

10. Contact the Lead Pandemic Nurses, Barb Lecker ([blecker@westasd.org](mailto:blecker@westasd.org)) or Mary Beth Hill ([mhill@westasd.org](mailto:mhill@westasd.org)), with health updates.
11. Communicate any technology needs to Questeq at [support@questeq.com](mailto:support@questeq.com) to receive assistance.
12. Please make arrangements with the school to pick up and return any academic materials your child may need while in quarantine or isolation.