

# Superintendent's Report

School Board Meeting  
July 19, 2021



# Wallingford- Swarthmore School District

## Mission and Vision Statements



### **MISSION**

The Wallingford-Swarthmore School District is committed to assuring the academic achievement and personal growth of all students within an environment that promotes:

- Respect for self and others
- Active engagement in learning
- Leadership in the global community
- The pursuit of excellence

### **VISION**

Our vision is to develop a world-class school district that provides students with the skills to succeed in a changing global environment. This vision will be realized through a commitment to high-quality programs and continuous improvement based upon careful analysis and integration of the most effective practices.

# Superintendent Entry Plan

**Phase I:**  
Listening, Learning and  
Reflecting  
(July 1 - Oct)

**Phase II:**  
Collaborating  
and Planning  
(Nov - Jan)

**Phase III:**  
Development of  
Strategic Plan  
(Feb - Jun)



WALLINGFORD-SWARTHMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

## ENTRY PLAN

DR. WAGNER MARSEILLE  
JULY 2021



# Superintendent Entry Plan



1	Develop a clear understanding of responsibilities, expectations, and communication systems to promote an effective and efficient Board-Superintendent working relationship.
2	Learn about the values, norms, expectations, and goals of the community.
3	Create systemic opportunities for faculty and staff to collaborate and strengthen their Professional Learning Community mindsets.
4	Create a structure to listen and communicate broadly with Wallingford-Swarthmore community, staff, and students on their daily work within the District.
5	Foster a positive climate throughout the learning community focused on high expectations for teacher and student learning.
6	Establish a collaborative, positive, and productive working relationship with the Board of Directors to ensure alignment of district goals, mission, and vision.
7	Identify key events, issues, and concerns that influence or have influenced the school system.
8	Engage the Board, the administration, and key leaders of stakeholder groups in a collective examination of findings to make sense of the data we see, count, and hear. Utilize this data to assist in defining our priorities for improving our children's education.
9	Give rise to authentic, researched-based, and classroom-tested professional learning experiences focusing on the daily practice of teaching and learning.
10	Develop strategic intent with specific timelines for accomplishing our priorities.

## Phase I Objective:

Ensure a clear and compelling Board, community, faculty, and student working relationship with the Superintendent by developing an understanding of responsibilities and expectations through superior communication. Create opportunities for stakeholders to share their experiences, hope, and dreams for the community of Wallingford-Swarthmore.

## Phase II Objective:

Objective: Continue to engage in collaborative conversations with all stakeholders. Begin to analyze findings of Phase I data and hold meetings to share with those groups and/or individuals.

## Phase III Objective:

Using data and research-based strategies to develop the district's strategic plan and strategic intents.

# Updated Health & Safety Plan



## Health and Safety Plan Summary Wallingford-Swarthmore School District

Initial Effective Date: June 19, 2021

Date of Last Review: June 14, 2021

Date of Last Revision: N/A

1. **How will the District, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?**

The School District implemented a health and safety plan throughout the 2020-2021 school year using mitigation strategies supported by the CDC, PA Department of Health, CHOP Policy Lab, and the Chester County Health Department. These strategies were successful in supporting the larger public health initiative to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our District community, especially those at increased risk for severe illness. Further, our District supported vaccination clinics for our teachers and staff and led vaccine clinics for students.

Our District will continue to review the latest guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, CHOP Policy Lab, and the Chester County Health Department. This information will assist the District when reviewing our mitigation strategies for effectiveness. The guidance will also be used to revise our health and safety plan as necessary. The chart below provides strategies, policies, and procedures to be used within the District.

2. **How will the District ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?**

During the summer, curricular teams will meet to discuss student learning gaps. Professional development days will have all grade level and subject area staff analyze data and end of the year instruction and achievement. Teams will meet to prioritize missed instructional concepts and/or strengthen concepts previously taught. Universal screeners will be used at the beginning of the year as in the past. The continuation of interventions and remediation strategies were included in the planning. Increased support services were identified through the student services department. Our summative and formative assessment data will allow us to determine student learning gaps and we will fill in those gaps with high quality instruction.

# Face Coverings - Public Transportation

This requires individuals, regardless of vaccination status, to wear face coverings when on public transportation, including **school buses operated by the public-private school systems.**

Though the [Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings](#) was lifted on June 28, 2021, the Federal order for wearing face coverings on public transportation is still in effect.



## JUNE 19, 2021 (BOARD APPROVED LANGUAGE )

# Updated Health & Safety Plan

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CDC and the PA Department of Health guidance provide for individuals who are vaccinated not to wear masks. As of June 28, 2021, the District will not require masking of individuals. The District will continue to support all individuals who prefer to wear a mask and encourages those individuals who have not been vaccinated to wear a mask.</li> </ul>

## JULY 19, 2021 (NEW LANGUAGE)

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <del>CDC and the PA Department of Health guidance provide for individuals who are vaccinated not to wear masks.</del> As of June 28, 2021, the District will not require masking of individuals, <b>except for students and staff being transported on school buses and vans. Masking on public transportation is required by the Federal Oder issued in January 2021.</b> The District will continue to encourage and support all individuals who prefer to continue to wear a mask <b>on campus.</b></li> </ul>



# COVID-19 UPDATES

## *Chester County to Step Down as Public Health Lead for Delco's COVID-19 Response*

### CDC - Key Takeaways

- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.
- Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
- Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.
- Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
- Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
- Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.
- COVID-19 prevention strategies remain critical to protect people, including students, teachers, and staff, who are not fully vaccinated, especially in areas of moderate-to-high community transmission levels.
- Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing)



# COVID-19 UPDATES

## Chester County Health Department:

- After a 16 month relationship and working to provide Health Guidance, the Chester County Health Department will no longer be the lead agency supporting Delaware County.
- As of August 1, 2021 Delaware County will fall under the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DoH)

## CDC Takeaways:

- Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
- CDC recommends schools maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. **When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, such as when schools cannot fully re-open while maintaining these distances, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.**

The district's Pandemic Team have met and will continue to meet to unpack the guidance from the Delaware County Intermediate Unit, Center for Disease Control (CDC), Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DoH) and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia (CHOP) to discuss and present to the board how we will return to in-person instruction in the Fall.





# High School Entrance Project



## SHHS Secure Entrance Project

- Project commenced 6/16/2021
- Work is on schedule for mid-August completion, approximately 40% completed to date
- Demolition, rough in walls, electrical, data, & drywall for office reconfigurations all progressing well
- Coordination with District's IT and Security vendor initiated
- Storefront windows and doors delivery expected 7/21/2021



# High School Entrance Project



# High School Entrance Project



# High School Entrance Project



**Emergency  
Connectivity  
Fund**

Delaware County Intermediate Unit 25

**Emergency Connectivity  
Fund Overview**

July 15, 2021

Presented by Debra M. Kriete, Esq.



# Emergency Connectivity Fund

A new federal program was enacted by Congress in the winter to ensure that all student learners can receive their education from home, including being able to complete their homework.

The survey seeks to identify the students who need a school-owned laptop or tablet for their remote learning, and who need Internet to be paid for from this fund to ensure Internet service is available from home.

There is an extremely fast turnaround in the deadlines for our schools to seek ECF funding for these purposes. We request that you complete the survey as soon as possible and by no later than August 6, 2021.

**\$7.17 billion passed by Congress in March 2021** as part of the American Rescue Plan

- Provides funding to schools and libraries to enable remote (off-campus) learning students, staff and library patrons who lack sufficient internet access

- FCC issued regulations in May 2021.
- Application filing window opened June 29, 2021.
- Deadline for filing is **August 13, 2021**.
- Funding period is July 1, 2021 –June 30, 2022
- Funding is **not** just for virtual classroom instruction.
- Funding is intended to help solve Homework Gap.



# WSSD Virtual Academy

Wallingford-Swarthmore Public Schools (WSSD) has partnered with Edmentum's EdOptions Academy to provide WSSD students a full-time online option for the 2021-22 school.

We will continue to update this page as new information is ready to be shared. Please explore the materials available and our FAQs



The enrollment window for the WSSD Virtual School opened **on Monday, July 12**, and will continue through **July 30**.

You can find the recording of our May 10 Board presentation and the June 16 Information Session, FAQs, the Program Handbook, and Edmentum information on the District Website - [WSSD Virtual School webpage](#)

Dr. Wheeler will provide families with the support they need and answer any questions that they may have. [virtualschool@wssd.org](mailto:virtualschool@wssd.org).

# Sleep Study



## Wallingford-Swarthmore School District School Start Time Update March 2020



With sleep experts, health, and medical organizations recommending later school start times for secondary students, WSSD began an investigation at the request of the School Board in the Spring of 2019. The District was tasked with looking at the possibilities of school start time changes that would more closely align with the new recommendations. The guiding principle of this work has been to provide the best opportunities for our students' mental and physical health, based on the research focused on adolescent biology, sleep tendencies and circadian rhythms, and the natural changes that occur during puberty. The work of several committees, comprised of District administrators, faculty members, parents, and students, has led the District to identify 3 new start time ideas, and to begin the process of receiving feedback from the greater Wallingford-Swarthmore community.

### STEPS TAKEN

- High School Scheduling Think Tank met to explore schedule types, teacher survey data, lunch configurations, potential start times, music program, vocational school/dual enrollment programs, instructional minutes, athletics, and passing times.
- Through committee work schedule ideas emerged (46 total schedule variants). Faculty feedback was collected and sent to Transfinder/WSSD Transportation Department to determine transportation impact. NOTE: The District contracted with Transfinder to independently determine the number of buses needed. After subsequent reviews, all 46 schedules were eliminated due to either requiring too many buses or not meeting PA instructional minutes.
- A new approach was adopted by the Core Committee to minimize transportation costs by starting with potential school start times based on Transfinder created bus runs.
- 47 new bus schedules were provided by Transfinder to WSSD. It became evident in this report that possible impact on elementary and middle school start times would be unavoidable.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

### COMMUNITY TOWN HALL LISTENING EVENT March 11<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 PM - High School Auditorium

Members of the Sleep & School Start Times Committees will host a community town hall listening event. The event will be an opportunity to provide community members an update on the Sleep & School Start Times investigation and to gather input through listening sessions. All are encouraged to attend.

For more information and community input opportunities, Please visit [www.wssd.org/starttime](http://www.wssd.org/starttime)

Board Presentation Expected  
Spring 2021



## WSSD School Start Time Ideas

Current Start Times			Total Buses Needed: 35	Idea A			Total Buses Needed: 38
Elementary	8:45 AM- 3:30 PM	6 hours, 45 minutes		Elementary	9:00 AM- 3:40 PM	6 hours, 40 minutes	
Middle	7:50 AM-2:30 PM	6 hours, 40 minutes		Middle	7:50 AM-2:30 PM	6 hours, 40 minutes	
High	7:35 AM- 2:05 PM	6 hours, 30 minutes		High	8:30 AM- 3:05 PM	6 hours, 35 minutes	
High 5 <sup>th</sup> Block	2:05 PM- 3:05 PM	1 hour		High 5 <sup>th</sup> Block	3:05 PM- 4:15 PM	1 hour, 10 minutes	

### Possible Benefits- Idea A

- + Aligns with medical and health communities' recommendations for high schools to begin at 8:30 AM or later.
- + Minimal change to elementary start time and before-school programming (i.e. music/clubs, teacher meetings).
- + Impact on tardiness rates for High School.
- + No major changes to Middle School start and end times.
- + Middle School athletics, music, after-school help, and clubs remain the same.
- + Potential for a High School advisory period to meet needs of behavioral health/counseling curriculum and provide flexibility for assemblies.

### Possible Challenges- Idea A

- + Vo-Tech/Dual Enrollment program alignment.
- + Impacts on High School student involvement in athletics, music, clubs, club sports, etc.
- + Impacts on High School student employment/family obligations.
- + Impacts on community-based programs that serve students with different dismissal times and/or use WSSD facilities.
- + Teacher contract implications and shift in hours for staff.
- + Unknowns of combining of Middle School activity bus (3:05 PM) with High School dismissal bus.
- + Amount of instructional time athletes may miss for games.
- + Constraints of only having one field fit to accommodate later times for athletics.
- + Requires three additional buses.

### Idea B

Total Buses Needed: 39

Elementary	7:30 AM- 2:15 PM	6 hours, 45 minutes
Middle	8:40 AM-3:20 PM	6 hours, 40 minutes
High	8:15 AM- 2:45 PM	6 hours, 30 minutes
High 5 <sup>th</sup> Block	2:45 PM- 3:45 PM	1 hour

### Idea C

Total Buses Needed: 40

Elementary	7:45 AM- 2:30 PM	6 hours, 45 minutes
Middle	8:55 AM- 3:35 PM	6 hours, 40 minutes
High	8:30 AM- 3:00 PM	6 hours, 30 minutes
High 5 <sup>th</sup> Block	3:00 PM- 4:05 PM	1 hour, 5 minutes

Ideas B & C are 15 minute variations of one another. The benefits and challenges align.

### Possible Benefits

- + Close to or meets medical and health communities' recommendations for both middle and high schools to begin at 8:30 AM or later.
- + Reflects natural tendency for elementary-aged students to be alert and ready to learn early in the day.
- + Impact on tardiness rates for Middle School and High School.
- + Middle School music program would have a later start time.
- + High School 5<sup>th</sup> block bus and Middle School activity bus remain combined.
- + Middle School lunch would be at a more typical time.
- + Allows time for Middle School after-school help, music, and clubs (20 minutes- Idea B, 25 minutes- Idea C).

### Possible Challenges

- + Vo-Tech/Dual Enrollment program alignment.
- + Amount of time HS students have to participate in activities/meet commitments.
- + Impacts on High School student employment/family obligations.
- + Impacts on community-based programs that serve students with different dismissal times and/or use WSSD facilities.
- + Teacher contract implications and shift in hours for staff.
- + Amount of instructional time athletes may miss for games.
- + Constraints of having one field fit to accommodate later times for athletics.
- + Requires change of elementary before-school programming to occur after-school (i.e. music/clubs, teacher meetings).
- + Impact on tardiness rates for Elementary Schools.
- + After-school child care needs.
- + Daylight hours for AM elementary bus.
- + Reduction in time for Middle School after-school help, music, and clubs (20 minutes- Idea B, 25 minutes- Idea C vs. 30 minutes-Current Schedule).
- + Middle School athletics and other after-school activities (i.e. after-school help, clubs & music) would be in conflict.
- + Creates unknown effect on bus ridership, commute times and traffic patterns.
- + Requires additional buses (four for Idea B, five for Idea C).

# Sleep & School Start Times



# Summer Experiences

## **Extended School Year (ESY), \*Panther Program, Extended Day AS/ES, Extended Elementary/Secondary Program**

- July 6 - July 29 \*(August 6)
- Monday - Thursday
- 8:30 am - 11:30 am or 8:30 am - 1:30 pm

## **Community of Explorers Program**

- July 12 - July 22
- Monday - Thursday AM and PM Session
- 8:30 - 11:30

## **Summer Music Program**

- June 21 - July 15
- Monday/Wednesday or Tuesday/Thursday



# Summer Experiences

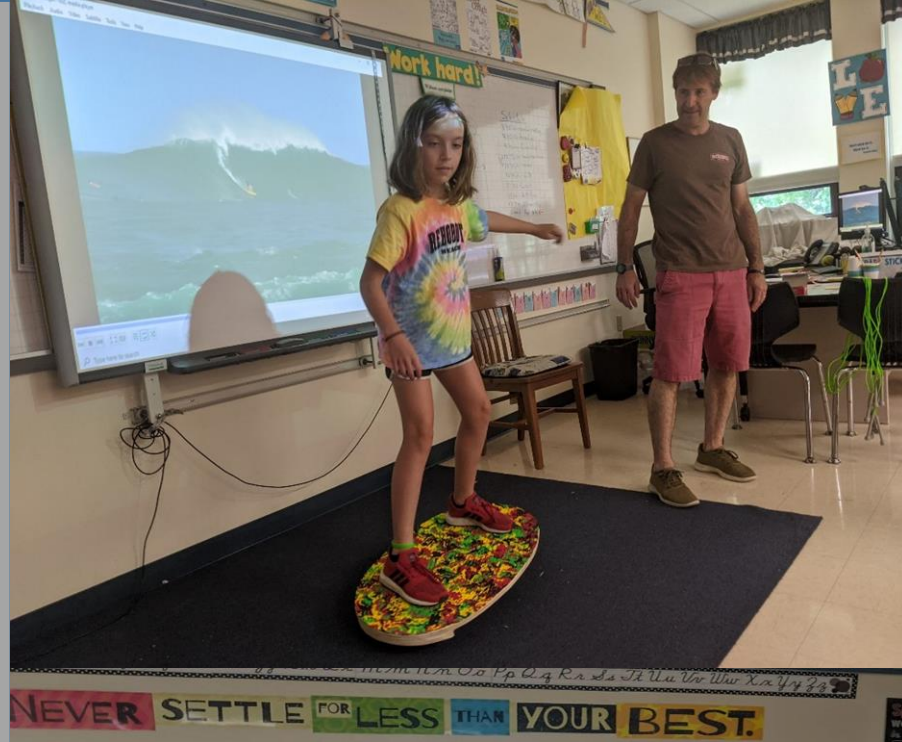


# Summer Experiences



# Summer Experiences





# Summer Experiences



# Summer Experiences



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