

Spartan Virtual Learning Newsletter

West Springfield High School

Volume 2, Issue # 27 February 26, 2021

Our Staff celebrates Black History Month

During the month of February, we take the opportunity to celebrate Black History Month by affirming Black and African American accomplishments, milestones, and contributions to our nation's history. Our staff members are dedicated to telling a more complex and inclusive story of our shared past by acknowledging and honoring Black lives. Visit our [West Springfield website](#) to see how our staff recognizes contributions of Black and African Americans across academia!

Second Semester Updates

- WSHS Return to School Website
 - <https://westspringfieldhs.fcps.edu/academics/wshs-return-school>
 - Slide presentation (<https://westspringfieldhs.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/inline-files/Principal%20RTS%20Presentation.pdf>)
 - PTSA Q&A (<https://westspringfieldhs.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/inline-files/2-9-21%20PTSA%20Questions.pdf>)
 - Safety and Orientation Video (<https://youtu.be/ypAueY4pXbQ>)
- Updated Bell Schedule starting March 2nd while in hybrid:

Bell Schedule Starting March 2nd		
Monday	Orange Days (T/TH)	Blue Days (W/F)
Student	1st: 8:20 - 9:35	2nd: 8:20 - 9:35
Support	3rd: 9:50 - 11:05	Learning Seminar: 9:50 - 11:05
	5th: 11:20 - 1:20	6th: 11:20 - 1:20
	A Lunch	11:10 - 11:40
	B Lunch	11:25 - 11:55
	C Lunch	11:40 - 12:10
	D Lunch	11:55 - 12:25
	E Lunch	12:10 - 12:40
	F Lunch	12:25 - 12:55
	G Lunch	12:40 - 1:10
	H Lunch	12:55 - 1:25
	7th: 1:35 - 2:50	8th: 1:35 - 2:50

- 9th grade and New Student Open House Tours by appointment on March 1st
 - Limited spaces available by virtual sign-up
 - New students only
 - Target email sent through Keep In Touch
 - Please contact West Springfield for more information
- 9th and 12th grade to return on March 2, 2021
- 10th and 11th grade to return March 9, 2021

MS/HS Concurrent Instructional Schedule				
	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	Periods 1,3,5,7 In-School	Periods 2,4,6,8 In-School	Periods 1,3,5,7 Online	Periods 2,4,6,8 Online
Group B	Periods 1,3,5,7 Online	Periods 2,4,6,8 Online	Periods 1,3,5,7 In-School	Periods 2,4,6,8 In-School
Group C (full time online)	Periods 1,3,5,7 Online	Periods 2,4,6,8 Online	Periods 1,3,5,7 Online	Periods 2,4,6,8 Online

- Students who selected full-time virtual learning will receive four days of teacher-led instruction while learning from home. Tuesday - Friday: Full-time online instruction led by teacher.
- **Refreshed Cleaning Methods/Processes**
FCPS cleaning personnel will be sanitizing and disinfecting more frequently. Their cleaning protocol will include thoroughly disinfecting and sanitizing all surfaces, doors, toilets, and handles, and ensuring that all supplies are always fully stocked.
- **Increased Cleaning to High-Touch Surfaces/Points**
FCPS cleaning crews will be sanitizing touch surfaces/points thoroughly such as door handles, glass, elevators buttons, doors, tables, chairs, and light switches. Daytime custodians have been instructed to continuously disinfect and sanitize all touch points throughout the day. In addition, we will be increasing daytime custodian coverage where appropriate, depending on building occupancy.
- **Cafeteria**
 - Maintaining 6ft of social distancing will be required.
 - If students use the cafeteria, seating will be assigned and face one direction.
 - Masks will be required when not eating.
 - FCPS offers grab and go lunches for all students.
- **Lockers will not be issued**

- **Health Room**
 - Support to students in the health room will continue to be provided by the School Health Aide.
 - Students with Individualized Health or Action Plans who require specialized care, medication administration and emergency care will be seen in the health room.
 - Parents wishing to drop-off medications for students may do so on March 1 & 2 . Please contact Sherri Braxton, slbraxton@fcps.edu to schedule an appointment.
- **Care Room**
 - We have a predetermined care room that is a designated location for students who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 while at school.
 - It is separate from the health room.
 - The Care Room is necessary due to the requirement for social distancing and room capacity.
 - A designated staff member will be assigned to supervise students in the Care Room while waiting for the parent to pick up the student.
- **Health Commitment Form**
 - Parents/guardians who chose in-school instruction for their child will be required to complete a [Parent/Guardian Health Screening Commitment](#) form as students are phased back into in-person learning.
 - The document indicates the parental/guardian's agreement and commitment to completing a daily health screening prior to sending the student to school and also to keep ill students at home.
 - These health screenings will be done on an honor basis and will not be required to be submitted to the school each day.
 - Families can complete this form in [ParentVue](#) -OR- submit the form to your child(ren's) school.
- **Face Coverings**
 - All students who are two years old and up are required to wear face coverings (cloth or disposable) while on school property.
 - Face coverings will be provided to students unable to provide their own.
 - Any student requesting an exemption to wearing a face covering due to a medical exemption needs to provide the school a written statement from his or her physician confirming that not wearing a face covering is medically necessary.
- **Bus Transportation**
 - Parents will receive information about bus schedules prior to start.
 - Seating capacity will be reduced to allow for social distancing.
 - Students are reminded to wear a face coverings when riding the school bus.
 - Students will be required to sit in seats as marked on the school bus.
 - Bus stop information will be available at the school and in ParentVUE.
 - Here Comes the Bus app is available and provides school bus arrival information.
 - We will using the new bell schedule beginning February 16.
 - Social distancing requirements limit capacity on school buses.
 - A bell schedule change will apply for both in-person learning as well as students who are doing full-time virtual learning.

- **Social Distancing**
 - Social distancing should be maintained as much as possible. Exceptions may occur when a student requires support for activities of daily living that may make staff unable to maintain a distance of six feet. In all other cases, six feet of social distancing should be maintained as much as possible.
 - Six foot separation wherever possible; limited mixing among student groups.
 - Social distancing on buses in accordance with health and safety protocols.
 - Desks/seats will be separated by up to a six feet distance, facing same direction.
 - Students will use six foot spacing during lunch. Each school will determine their best meal distribution process.
 - Student traffic patterns in hallways will be set up to maintain social distancing, including during arrival and dismissal.
 - Students transitioning to after school care will also follow traffic patterns in the hallways to maintain social distance.
- **Becoming Ill While At School**
 - Students will be sent home if they demonstrate:
 - fever greater than or equal to 100.4 Fahrenheit
 - new chills
 - new cough
 - new sore throat
 - new muscle aches
 - new loss of taste or smell
 - nausea, or diarrhea, abdominal pain
 - poor appetite
 - nasal congestion or runny nose
 - shortness of breath or difficulty breathing not due to another health condition
 - more tired than usual
 - headache
 - Parents/guardians will be notified and are expected to pick up their child. Parents are to check in with the front office.
- **Student Illness at Home**
 - If a student becomes ill at home, STAY HOME.
 - Parents need to contact the school and report the reason for their child's absence.
 - Parents will need to follow established procedures when contacting the school regarding student illness.
 - Parents/guardians will be required to complete and return the [Permission to Return to School/Child Care Form](#) when the student returns.
 - The form will be completed by the health care provider and will indicate to the school when the student may safely return.
- **Medication Drop off:** Parents wishing to drop off medications for students may do so on March 1 and 2 from 8am – 4pm. Please contact Sherri Braxton, slbraxton@fcps.edu or Mary Halfhill, mchalfhill@fcps.edu to schedule an appointment.

Return to School Presentation shared on 2/9/21 at PTSA

<https://westspringfieldhs.fcps.edu/academics/wshs-return-school>

Orange/Blue Calendar with LS Rotations

<https://westspringfieldhs.fcps.edu/sites/default/files/media/inline-files/2020-2021%20Calendar%20Days%20%284%29.pdf>

Monday Attendance Form

Students will fill out this google survey **every** Monday, except holidays.

- <https://forms.gle/JVnQp1paqZSSpfz87>
- Students will need to be logged into their FCPS Google Account to access it.
- Going forward reminders to fill out the Monday form will go out to students from Schoology.

Students who have been assigned or request remediation will have been contacted by a teacher before Monday. If there are any questions about the Monday Attendance Form, please reach out to Elizabeth Wahl (ewahl@fcps.edu).

School Counseling News

[Student Services Virtual Programming Link](#)

Seniors (Class of 2021) - Please contact Ms. Kurth (LAKurth@fcps.edu) regarding your college application, letter of recommendation and transcript questions, as she will be able to assist.

Student Services Programming

Below you will find the program recordings that have occurred this this with the Student Services Department. At any time, if you have questions, please reach out to your student's counselor, or the Director of Student Services directly. Please know that this information can also be found on West Springfield's website.

[Meet Your School Counselors 2020 - 2021](#)

[October Video Programming Announcement](#)

[November Video Programming Announcement](#)

Grade Level Programming

Class of 2021 (Seniors):

- Senior Student & Parent Night September 2020
 - [Session 1: College Panel - UMD Eastern Shore, VCU, Univ of Kentucky, JMU, Hampton Univ,](#)
 - [Session 2: College Panel - UMD Eastern Shore, VCU, Univ of Kentucky, Hampton Univ,](#)
- [Career Exploration Workshop Sept 2020](#) & [Career/Major Exploration Resource Sheet](#)
- [Transcript Workshop Oct 2020](#)

Class of 2022 (Juniors):

- [11th Grade Parent Coffee \(Nov. 2, 2020\)](#)

Class of 2023

- [10th Grade Parent Coffee \(January 25, 2021\)](#)

Class of 2024

- [WSHS Student Services Freshman Welcome Video](#)
- [9th Grade Parent Coffee \(Nov. 2, 2020\)](#)

School-Wide Programming

[Welcome Video for New Transfer Students \(10 - 12th grade\)](#)

Counselor Café

- September 30th, 2020
 - 11th & 12th Grade: [How To's: College, Career and Volunteer Opportunities through Naviance Student](#)
- October 19th, 2020
 - 9th - 11th Grade: [Graduation Requirements](#)
 - 12th Grade: [Graduation Requirements & College Application Process](#)

Curriculum Fair

To support the virtual environment, we have created a [Google Site](#) for our Course Curriculum. This site contains information on course offerings, Academy classes, and FCPS Online campus. Please take time to peruse the site, as it is a tool for identifying courses for the upcoming school year. Please note that you will need an @fcpsschools.net email address to access this site.

Academic Advising

This year counselors will be meeting with their students virtually during designated class time (Health and PE 9, 10, or US History) to confirm their course selection and discuss academic goals. Please reference the calendar that is on the Google Site to know when your student will be meeting with their counselor. Additionally, communication will be sent in the coming weeks regarding a Pre-Advising lesson conducted by School Counselors and teacher recommendations.

In preparation for the individual meeting please take time to explore the [WSHS Curriculum Fair Site](#) and enter your course selections in your SIS StudentVue account. The schedule for these meetings can be found on the site. Course selection sheets are available on the site for reference only and will not be collected. Parents will be able to view the courses students have selected using their ParentVue account. [CLICK HERE](#) if you need help accessing your ParentVue account.

To further assist with course selections, below is additional information regarding online campus, Dual Enrollment courses, and academy classes.

As you select classes for the upcoming school year, please consider the time commitment and expectations for each course that your student wants to take and your student's additional interest, activities and responsibilities. Balance is important to consider when striving for academic and personal success. Course selection is a collaborative process; students will need to seek the advice of their parents, teachers and school counselor to plan appropriately for the upcoming year in order to ensure success.

For general questions about courses please submit them through Schoology. To access the group please log into your Schoology account. The group is titled "WSHS Curriculum Fair". If you are a family coming from Lake Braddock or if West Springfield High School is not your base school, please submit your questions to WSStudentservices@fcps.edu.

If you need a SIS Parent/Schoology account or are having trouble accessing your account please submit a ticket through this form: <https://goo.gl/forms/v6jttxTueZFCf1BF2>

For specific questions about a course placement for next year, please consult with the current teacher in that subject area. We look forward to working with you to design an educational plan that will meet the needs of your student.

New FCPSOn at home policy

- Restrictions have been removed that deny access to the Windows Control Panel
- All “roadblocks” for **printing** at home have been removed.
- There still may have issues where one device gets pre-loaded driver that works and another doesn’t
- **What is needed to update computers to new policy**
 - Bring the laptop to any FCPS school
 - reboot 3 times,
 - Log in.
 - Search for **cmd**. It should find **Command Prompt** app. Open it. A black window should appear.
 - Type in **gpupdate** then press Enter. When it is completed, you can shut down and go home.

Google Resource App in Schoology

The [Google Resource App](#) will be available for students by **8 am on October 5, 2020**. Students will have the ability to connect their Google Drives within Schoology. This will give students the ability to select Google Drive items to submit as part of assignments.

When students click **Submit Assignment**, they have three options in the new window:

- **Upload** - paste in a link to an existing file or create an audio/video recording
- **Create** - enter text directly into the text box
- **Resources** - select a Google Drive item directly from their Google Drives to import, or create new Google Drive items from within Schoology

Reminder: Students must [approve and connect](#) their FCPS Google Drive (fcpschools.net) with Schoology.

Restart, restart, restart

- Most all software issues can be fixed by Restarting. This is not necessarily the same as Shutting Down and Starting up. The first trouble-shooting step for any software issue should be to restart. Press CTRL+ALT+DEL. Select the power button icon from the very bottom right and choose **Restart**.
- If your computer is generally running slow, you should clean up Chrome and perform a command line restart.
 - **Clean up Chrome (should be your default browser)**
 - From the ... menu in Chrome, select **Settings**
 - Select **Advanced**
 - Select **Reset and clean up**
 - Select **Restore settings to their original defaults.**
 - Restart Chrome
 - **Command line restart**
 - Search for **cmd**. It should find **Command Prompt** app. Open it. A black window should appear.
 - Type in the following then press Enter. **Shutdown -r -f -t 5** (there are spaces between commands)
 - Your computer should restart. Please note if it appears to take longer than normal to restart. Longer is good.
 - Repeat if you still have issues. Sometimes this is required to return to a normal working state.

Welcome back Spartan Student Athletes!

Our goal is to continue providing athletic opportunities for our students in the safest possible manner. To that end, we ask for your help in a couple of critically important areas:

Please, do not send your child to practice or workouts if:

- *He/she complains of not feeling well and/or has any of the following:*
 - *Feeling feverish and/or having chills (if documented temperature/fever of 100.4F or greater)*
 - *A new cough not due to another health condition*
 - *Fatigue (more tired than usual)*
 - *Nasal congestion or runny nose*
 - *Headache*
 - *A new sore throat not due to another health condition*
 - *New chills not due to another health condition*
 - *New muscle pain not due to another health condition or that may have been caused by a specific activity such as physical exercise*
 - *New loss of taste or smell, new onset of poor appetite or poor feeding Abdominal pain, diarrhea, nausea, vomiting*
- *He/she has been exposed to an individual who has tested positive for COVID-19 or displays signs or symptoms associated with COVID-19*
- *He/she has been tested for COVID-19 and is awaiting results OR another family residing in the same house has been tested and is awaiting results*

The Virginia Department of Health (VDH) recently recommended the following: [*“During times of substantial COVID-19 activity VDH strongly advises athletes to wear masks at all times during group training, competition, and on the sidelines.”*](#)

Beginning Friday, December 11, students participating in FCPS athletic programs, to include in-season practices and competitions as well as out-of-season workouts, are required to wear masks during all aspects of athletic participation in all sports with the exception of wrestling, gymnastics and swim and dive.

With everyone’s help, we look forward to a successful season.

Dream Big, Work Hard, Be Proud
SPARTAN STRONG!



Senior Spotlight!

Information for the Class of 2021

Senior Administrator: Betsy Fawsett, ewfawsett@fcps.edu

Upcoming Due Dates (details below):

- March 1st – Yearbook Name Change

Yearbook Name Change: Due March 1st

If a student would like to go by another name in the yearbook other than the one that is listed in SIS, please complete [this form](#) and provide notification to Student Services in writing requesting this change. **Requests must come from a parent or guardian.** All requests must be received by **Monday, March 1.** Questions? Contact Ms. Melissa Morgan, the yearbook adviser (mmorgan2@fcps.edu).

Graduation Announcements Information from Balfour!

It's time to order the official West Springfield High School 2021 graduation announcements!

Here is step by step instructions on how to order:

- Step 1- Go to www.balfour.com
- Step 2- Type in West Springfield High School under "Shop my School"
- Step 3- Select "Announcements"
- Step 4- Complete your information
- Step 5- Checkout

You can also order other "Grad Essentials" such as Class Rings, Diploma Frames, Souvenir Tassels, 2021 Apparel, etc. on the website. Orders will be shipped home.

If you have any questions please contact Balfour at 703-941-1436 or balfournova@yahoo.com.

All Night Grad Party:

Check out updates in the News You Choose email and check out the website to learn more: <https://wshs-angp.square.site/>