WBE Return to School Plan:
In Response to COVID-19
For Parents & Families

Overview:
The Wiikwemkoong Board of Education is introducing blended learning where students will have the opportunity to get a mix of traditional in-school attendance with at-home instruction. Depending on the choice of families, schools will provide instruction and assignments that are paper-based or through online learning. Some of the changes that are to be expected from Kindergarten to grade 8 include:

- Option 1: Students attend school in regular class setting for 2 days a week and stay home for 3 days a week for at-home learning
- Option 2: At-home learning option
- The schools will support families with curriculum, instruction and assigning grades
- Parents will be involved in supporting their child to learn from home

During the COVID-19 Pandemic, the WBE is aiming to provide options and to provide opportunities to be flexible with our families. In this way, parents/childcare providers are welcome to choose what type of learning is best suited for the student and family needs. These are:

1. Learning from Home for all three schools
2. At-School Learning and Cohorting for Junior and Pontiac Schools
3. At-School Learning for all students at the Wiikwemkoong High School

During the development of the Return to School Plan, the WBE has included the input of parents, education staff, WBE Board Members, Emergency Control Group, Wiikwemkoong Health Center and Wiikwemkoong Chief and Council. The WBE is providing the education supports for families while meeting family choice and putting health and safety measures within our schools.

A. LEARNING FROM HOME
In light of the Pandemic, the schools will provide learning for students to complete at home. This may be through online or paper-based learning.

If families choose the option of Learning from Home for their children, student weekly schedule will look like the following:

1. Junior School and Pontiac School
   - Teacher Availability:
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM – Online Teacher support & Availability

Wednesday: Learning with other Cohorts in class together (if possible) with teacher via online or paper-based learning.

- Expectation for student working on assignments on daily basis:
  - Junior School – students will need to put aside 30 -45 mins a day to complete assignments
  - Pontiac School – Students will need to put aside 55 Minutes to 1.5 hours to complete assignments

2. Wiikwemkoong High School:
- Online Learning or paper based for students. Most of this work is completed independently.
- Scheduling Expectation:
  - Student will need to put aside 5 hours a day for learning at-home.

The Junior and Pontiac Schools will provide additional supports for students depending on their needs of students between 9AM and 1:30 PM which may include the following supports if indicated by parent:
- Education Navigators – for Mentorship and Mental Health Supports
- Special Education Teachers – will include supporting students at home
- Support families by updated Individual Education Plans and Special Education planning
- Parent Support: Provide workshops for learning opportunities for parents to learn
- Access or opportunities to develop individual video clips about cultural, Anishinawbemowin, land-based, community-based, etc., for families and community
- Laptop or tablet for student use at home
- Both Schools will work with each other to ensure siblings attend school on the same day
- NOTE: All Students with IEPS will not be put into cohorts. They are welcome to attend school 4 days a week.

Teachers will:
- Provide daily learning for students through online or paper-based learning
- Mark assignments and provide feedback on student work
- Will update parents on progress of student learning and completion of assignments
- Provide learning tools (pencils, crayons, rulers, paper, etc.), text books, for students to use at home
- Provide monthly updates so parents will know what students are learning in different subject areas
- Initiate discussions with parents on a weekly basis to see how the student is doing while learning from home via telephone or through email (parent’s choice)
Parents will:
- Support their child to complete assignments
- Provide a place within the home for child to learn
- Monitor child and ensure that assignments are submitted to the teacher for marking
- Communicate with the Teacher regarding their child’s assignments and progress
- Attend online meetings or teleconferences when requested by teacher or staff
- Respond to emails and work with the teachers and school to support their child’s learning
- Sign out computer or tablet for student learning

Students will:
- Attend online learning as schedule with their teacher and support staff
- Complete assignments and submit to teacher for marking
- Follow expectations for responsible digital citizenship
- Ask their teachers or support staff for help when they need it
- Submit their assignments to be marked
- Sign in online (if learning online) to speak to teachers online at 2 PM and every Wednesday to learn with the rest of the class if attending Junior or Pontiac Schools
- Complete 40 hours of Volunteer in Community before graduation year if attending Wiikwemkoong High School

B. IN-SCHOOL LEARNING COHORTING

Overview:
The WBE is aiming to meet the needs of families that want to send their children to school while assuring them of the safety measures that are being put in place to protect staff and students.

A. Safety Measures in WBE Schools:
Health and Safety Protocols in Schools will include:

- Hand Washing and Hand Sanitization
- All students and staff will wear face masks
- Schools staff will teach students about the step-by-step instructions and demonstrations on hand washing and sanitization
- Health Screening of Students and Staff will be completed on daily basis
- Physical Distancing Measures and Signage

Cleaning & Disinfecting:

- Cleaning practices will increase on high-touch areas such as: hand rails, desks, tabletops, light switches, door knobs, etc.
- Shared items like staplers, pencil sharpeners, sports equipment will be wiped with disinfection wipe down between use
- Student Bathrooms will be cleaned every hour by day-time custodian
- Every Wednesday and Saturday: Schools will be deep cleaned by Custodians to ensure student & staff safety.

School Schedule:

1. Junior School and Pontiac School:
   - 9 AM to 1:30 PM – Monday & Tuesdays or Thursday & Fridays
   - 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM - Learning from home (Online and Paper-based Learning)

Cohorts/Student Groupings:
- Junior School and Pontiac Schools will have 2 Cohorts:
  - Cohort Biizhik:
    - Monday & Tuesday for In-School Learning
    - Wednesday, Thursday & Friday At-Home Learning
  - Cohort Niish:
    - Thursday & Friday: In-School Learning
    - Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday: At-Home Learning
  - Students with IEPS: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday
  - When Cohorts are home, they will sign in for online learning with teacher at 2 PM
  - Wednesday: Learning via online or paper based for both cohorts and Learning from Home students + Teacher
  - NOTE: Cohort Niish and Students with IEPs: In-Class Learning starts on September 3 and 4, 2020
2. Wiikwemkoong High School: 9 AM to 3:00 PM
   - Learning from home will be completed through online or paper-based learning.
   - Wiikwemkoong High School:
     o No Cohorting
     o All students will attend school on daily basis with the exception of Wednesday.

WBE Schools will provide the following supports:
- Provide Mentorship and Mental Health Supports
- Support families by updated Individual Education Plans and Special Education planning
- Anishinawbemowin Specialist Team – Will provide supports for families for language learning.
- Provide workshops for learning opportunities for parents to learn
- Provide learning opportunities for students and their families to participate together while learning from home.
- Develop video clips about cultural, Anishinawbemowin, land-based, community-based, etc., for families and community
- Continue to provide laptop or tablet for student use at home
- Both Schools will work with each other to ensure siblings attend school on the same day
- Students with IEPS will not be put into cohorts. ALL students with IEPS are welcome to attend school 4 days a week.
Keep students that are from the same home in the same cohort

Teachers will:
- Mark assignments and provide feedback on student work
- Will update parents on progress of student learning and completion of assignments
- Provide learning tools (pencils, crayons, rulers, paper, etc.), text books, for students to use at home
- Provide monthly updates so parents will know what students are learning in different subject areas
- Initiate discussions with parents on a weekly basis to see how the student is doing while learning from home via telephone or through email (parent’s choice)

Parents will:
- Support their child to complete assignments
- Ensure that assignments are submitted to the teacher for marking
- Communicate with the Teacher regarding their child’s assignments and progress
- Attend online meetings or teleconferences when requested by teacher or staff
- Respond to emails and work with the teachers and school to support their child’s learning
- Call the school if their child is staying home because they are sick
- Sign out computer or tablet for student learning
- Drive their children to school if they have a vehicle.
- Complete Student Health Screening Forms on daily basis.
- Complete Registration Forms for their children

Students will:
- Attend in-class and paper-based and/or online learning as schedule with their teacher and support staff
- Complete assignments and submit to teacher for marking
- Follow expectations for responsible digital citizenship
- Ask their teachers or support staff for help when they need it
- Submit their assignments to be marked
- Complete 40 hours of Volunteer in Community before graduation year (High School)
- Sign in online (if learning online) to speak to teachers online at 2 PM and every Wednesday to learn with the rest of the class if attending Junior or Pontiac Schools
- Students in High School will sign in online (if learning online) to speak to teachers when Learning from Home on Wednesdays.

Student Nutrition:
1. Junior and Pontiac Schools – Students will be served breakfast and snack
• Meals will be served in wrapped single servings. Students are reminded not to share food or utensils with each other.

2. High School – Students will be served breakfast and lunch
• Meals will be served in wrapped single servings. Students are reminded not to share food or utensils with each other.

Student Transportation:
• Parents are encouraged to drop off and pick up their children for school
• Students will wear facemasks in the bus
• Students will need to bring a completed Student Health Screening Form that is filled out by the parents before they enter the bus
• Students will be required to sanitize hands before entering the bus
• Buses will not travel with full capacity. Only ½ the numbers of students will be permitted to take the bus: 1 student per seat unless the students are from the same household.

Introduction of WBE Return to School Plans:
• Will be introduced to community members on August 21 – 24, 2020 (4 Satellite Communities) - More information will be relayed to community via Facebook
• Parents will be required to register their children for the new school year so that we can ensure that families have selected 1 of the 2 options that best fit the needs of their children.