Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that you are enjoying your summer and this message finds you well. As we approach the start of a 2020-2021 school year, there are many challenges that we face as a school and a district. These challenges will be unlike any that I have experienced in my 21 years of education. Administratively, we have spent a great deal of time over the summer preparing for the upcoming school year in an effort to keep our students and staff safe. Below you will find important information regarding the start of school and some of the changes that are being implemented to assist in providing a safe educational environment for our students. It is important to understand that our plan may evolve as the summer ends and the school year begins. It is crucial that we have accurate contact information in PowerSchool. Please be sure to update your information by the beginning of the school year.

Bell Schedule:
In an effort to limit transitions in the school day, we will be implementing a "block schedule" this year. The schedule can be found below. On an A/C day, periods 1, 3, 5, and 7 will meet. On a B/D day, periods 2, 4, 6, and 8 will meet. Implementing this schedule will limit the number of student transitions during the school day while maximizing instructional time in the classroom.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>High School</th>
<th>Day A/C</th>
<th>Day B/D</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7:45 - 8:00</td>
<td>Arrival</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8:00 - 9:27</td>
<td>Period 1</td>
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<td></td>
<td>9:30 - 10:55</td>
<td>Period 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:58 - 11:33 (Lunch 1)</td>
<td>Lunch 1</td>
<td>Period 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:36 - 1:03</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:58 - 11:43</td>
<td>Period 5</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:43 - 12:18 (Lunch 2)</td>
<td>Lunch 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:22 - 1:03</td>
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<td>Period 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:58 - 12:28</td>
<td>Period 5</td>
<td>Period 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:28 - 1:03 (Lunch 3)</td>
<td>Lunch 3</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:06 - 2:30</td>
<td>Period 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
<td>Dismissal</td>
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</table>
**Student Schedules:**
Student schedules are complete and being reviewed. Student schedules will be accessible via PowerSchool by mid to late August.

**Parent Drop-Off/Pick-Up**
Parent drop-off and pick-up will be moved this year. Students must be dropped off at the start of the school day and picked up at the end of the day in the back of the building in the G-Wing Bus loop. Students will enter the building through the G-Wing entrance. Please see the image below for the location of the drop-off.

![Back of High School and Zephyr Elementary School](image)

Drop off and pick up for students during the day will still be done at the main entrance in front of the building facing Mechanicsville Road.

**Lunches:**

**Seating:**
The CDC recommends that students remain six feet apart when students are not wearing masks. As a result, students will be required to remain six feet apart while eating lunch. This will require us to use multiple large areas that can accommodate our needs during the lunch periods. Students will purchase lunch in the cafeteria and then proceed to one of the following areas: Main Cafeteria, Auxiliary Gym, Main Gym, and/or LGI.

**New Policies:**
Students will be given a new school photo ID card on the first day of school that contains a barcode for purchasing breakfast & lunch. Students will no longer be allowed to enter their pin numbers at the cashier. This is being done to eliminate students from touching the same surfaces prior to eating.

Lunch deposits can be made online using myschoolbucks, or by dropping cash or checks in the cafeteria drop boxes at the entrance of the building. Please remember to have the student name & grade on checks or Student I.D. number. There will be no cash accepted at the Point Of Sale Terminals. Students will need to have money in their account for snacks & beverages.
Breakfast:
Breakfast will be “grab and go.” There will be two areas that will serve breakfast once it begins in mid-September. Students will be permitted to purchase breakfast in the cafeteria or in the hallway between the C-Wing and the Cafeteria.

Lockers:
Students will not be assigned lockers to start the school year. Students will be expected to carry the necessary items for class with them at all times. This will help minimize congestion in hallways and limit the number of close interactions students have with one another. This decision will be revisited as the school year progresses.

Hallway Travel:
We are going to create directional hallways and will stagger dismissal times between class periods and lunches as needed to limit hallway congestion. We will review these changes with students/parents as we get closer to the start of the school year. Students should also plan on bringing their own water bottles to school. Only the refilling stations will be functional to minimize contact with water fountains.

Classroom Seating:
Students will be seated facing one direction in all classes. Student desks will be spaced out to the maximum extent possible. Both of these decisions are based on recommendations made by the CDC to provide safe classroom environments.

Cleaning/Sanitizing
Cleaning, sanitizing, disinfecting will be performed in accordance with the current CDC, and DOH guidelines. EPA approved products will be used in accordance with labeling requirements and staff will be trained on how to appropriately use these products.

Face Coverings
Students will be required to wear face coverings during the school day, except when they are eating lunch. Please see the link for acceptable guidance from PDE for face coverings. A doctor’s note will be required in order to be exempt from wearing a mask and will be evaluated on a case by case basis.

Universal Face Coverings Order

Student Supplies
To the maximum extent possible, students will not be permitted to share resources. Students should be prepared for school and will be permitted to carry their backpacks with them throughout the school day.

Chromebooks
Chromebook distribution will occur on the first day of the school year for students who have selected to return to school for face-to-face instruction.
Chromebook distribution will occur prior to the start of the school year for students who have selected the Whitehall “Learn at Home” program. Information regarding the distribution schedule will be coming in the next few days. Students who have chosen the Whitehall Cyber Learning Program to receive devices for that program. Information regarding device distribution will be coming in the next few days.

**Additional Questions**
Please use the following form to submit questions that you may have to the HS administrative team. We will organize the questions by topic and respond to them in the coming days.

[https://forms.gle/ARfhnA2cxdDFMWvt9](https://forms.gle/ARfhnA2cxdDFMWvt9)

**Sincerely,**

Mr. Davidson  
Principal - Whitehall High School