



# WCS Reopening Framework FAQ: Student Support Services: Special Education & 504

*A glossary of terms can be found at the end of this document.*

## **What is a contingency plan?**

A contingency plan is a supplement to an IEP that indicates the goals, accommodations/modifications, and services that will be addressed during phases of remote learning or in WCS Online.

## **When should an IEP team write a contingency plan?**

A contingency plan should be written if services, accommodations, and goals cannot be met as written in the IEP in a remote learning situation or in WCS Online.

A contingency plan may be written as a draft and sent home for your review and agreement or may be written together in an IEP meeting (annual or addendum).

## **What if we go back to a Medium or High spread and enter remote learning before a contingency plan is made?**

We will still provide the services in the IEP to the maximum extent possible in any way we can. Also, it is possible a contingency plan may not be needed and the student's IEP is being fulfilled through the virtual learning platform.

## **In Medium spread, will students receiving special education stay at school?**

Potentially. A contingency plan could be written if that is best for the student.

## **If you chose WCS Online will there be direct instruction by a special education teacher to the student if that is part of their IEP?**

Yes.

## **How will Transition II students be served this school year?**

Whether On-Campus or Remote, our Transition II students will continue a traditional program within our health guidelines. The community outings may still occur depending on the stage of COVID community spread.



**Will students with the highest needs be able to maintain in-person school even in Medium to High spread?**

Potentially. A contingency plan could be written if that is best for the student.

**Will students with disabilities unable to wear a mask be able to continue to be included in regular classrooms or will they spend their day isolated?**

No, we will not isolate a student. They can attend class, and we will work to maintain social distancing guidelines at all times.

**How can we set up a good workspace at home for our elementary student with ADHD?**

We suggest you establish a routine. Have the workspace in a distraction-free area and have all materials readily available. Also, reach out to your student's file holder and see if they have suggestions.

**What is the policy if a student has sensory issues with masks?**

There is not a policy; however, if a student cannot safely wear a mask, each individual case will be handled by administration through the mask exemption process.

**What about students who have 504 plans?**

A 504 plan typically includes accommodations for learning. If a student needs additional consideration for accommodations due to virtual learning, a 504 meeting can be scheduled with the student's school of enrollment.

**Please address gifted students in WCS Online. Will they have classes with peers at their level? How are teachers preparing to meet these students' needs?**

We will meet the needs of these students and follow their IEP. If a contingency plan is needed, we will follow the process and make adjustments for that student. General education teachers will collaborate with SSS teachers making sure to differentiate work. If a student had small group time in their IEP, we will work to do that through the virtual learning platform or on-campus if needed.



### **Will students meet with the gifted teacher?**

If the student's IEP calls for service time with the gifted teacher, they will receive this service through the virtual learning platform during phases of remote learning or in WCS Online.

### **We were in the middle of the testing process for our child; how will it be done now and does it differ for students in WCS Online as opposed to On-Campus?**

Evaluations resumed when school began. We will have the 60 calendar days with extension to complete the evaluation. For a student in WCS Online, we may ask you to come on-campus to take an assessment in person or for observations. However, some parts of the evaluation may be able to be done virtually. The school psychologist will guide you through this process. Please reach out to the school psychologist at your child's school of enrollment with specific questions.

### **How do we ensure the safety for teachers and teacher assistants that cannot stay 6 ft away?**

Staff are provided with personal protective equipment, such as cloth face coverings, face shields, etc.

### **Will there be bus transportation in Medium or High spread for those whose contingency plan has them going to school?**

Yes

### **During Medium and High spread – how much time will my student spend on campus?**

The amount of time is decided in a contingency plan and is individualized for each student.

### **During Medium or High spread and if my student is on campus when class is remote, would they join their class on Zoom from the school?**

Yes, if the IEP indicates this as part of the plan.



### **How are special education teachers being trained?**

All teachers have received training for Remote Learning on all the virtual platforms. Special education teachers have also received professional development on procedural pieces for special education services. Telehealth professional development has been provided for our therapists.

### **How will services that are required by IEPs, such as OT, ST, PT be given? Virtually or in some limited/safe option in person?**

Both. There could be some services provided through a virtual platform as well as some in person. This will be based on individual student need.

### **Will there be direct instruction by a Special Education teacher to the student if that is part of IEPs?**

Yes, either virtually or in person.

### **How are Special Education and General Education teachers collaborating to make sure accommodations and modifications to assignments are made?**

Our same expectation applies to remote learning as when we are in school. Special Education and General Education teachers are responsible for collaborating to ensure students are receiving their accommodations/modifications and services. If a student usually has support during class, these services will continue even if remote through Zoom and other platforms.

### **How will curriculum vary this school year from what was offered in the spring?**

The curriculum offered will be based on the WCS Scope and Sequence and based on the student's IEP goals.

### **What will a paraprofessional's role be in WCS Online?**

WCS will be using a variety of virtual platforms (e.g., Zoom, Schoology, Google Classroom) to interact with students. Paraprofessionals will continue to support students and the classroom remotely. Paraprofessionals may support students in a variety of ways through virtual learning; alongside teachers during instruction, individual or small group instruction as directed by the teacher, check in/check outs with students. Supports from paraprofessionals during WCS online or during remote learning will be documented in students' IEPs and/or contingency plans.



**Who do I contact if I think my child needs additional support or accommodations for WCS Online?**

Please contact your child's IEP file holder or 504 coordinator to discuss your concerns. An IEP or 504 meeting may be needed to consider any additional supports.

**Will my child in WCS Online still receive his/her academic interventions previously provided by a special education teacher?**

Yes, our WCS Online SSS teachers will provide academic interventions in accordance with each student's IEP goals and services and/or contingency plans.

**What if my child normally receives "inclusion" services in the general education classroom on a daily basis and now the general education classroom is not "live" for that amount of time in WCS Online?**

Your child's file holder will work with you to develop a contingency plan to indicate how to support your child during the times that the general education class is "live" and during the times that are asynchronous (or independent work time).

**How will we have an IEP meeting for my child who is in WCS Online? Who will attend?**

Your child's file holder will work with you to set up a meeting either via Zoom or in person at your child's school of enrollment. Your child's assigned file holder, his/her online general education teacher(s), and an administrator from your child's school of enrollment will be in attendance. There may be other team members as needed.



## **The Reopening Framework contains the following terms that families will find helpful:**

**Chromebook** – Chromebook is the device that will be distributed to each WCS student in grades K-12 prior to or at the beginning of the 2020-21 school year for use during the school year. The device will be used for on-campus, online and/or remote learning.

**ClassLink** – ClassLink is the district’s Single Sign-On (SSO) Dashboard that is used by students and staff to access digital curriculum/resource sites. This eliminates the need for a user to remember multiple usernames and passwords.

**Google Classroom** - Google Classroom is the primary Learning Management System for elementary students. It may also be used at middle and high schools.  
**Learning Management System (LMS)** – Learning Management System is a software application that is designed specifically to create, distribute and manage the delivery of educational content. Elementary students will use Google Classroom, and middle and high students will use Schoology.

**On-campus School** – On-campus refers to the traditional school schedule where classes are held each weekday on a school campus.

**Online Learning or Online Program** – Online refers to the WCS Online Program in place in WCS. Classes offered through this program are online only. Students do not attend class on-campus. The WCS Online Program is being expanded to all grades this year due to COVID-19, and parents not comfortable sending their child to school may register their child in the online program each semester in 2020-21.

**Remote Learning or Remote School** – Remote refers to the way instruction will take place if classes cannot be held on-campus. Students will use their assigned Chromebooks to engage with teachers and continue their learning until they can return to class on-campus.

**Schoology** – Schoology is the primary Learning Management System for middle and high school students and elementary students in WCS Online.

**Synchronous learning** – Traditional learning with teacher and student interacting at the same time.



**Asynchronous learning** – A student and teacher are not interacting in real time. For example: A teacher records their lesson at 8 a.m. but the student does not watch the video and learn until 3 p.m.