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## **West Virginia Board of Education Motion Adopted Regarding In-person Instruction for West Virginia Schools**

### **Motions:**

I move that the WVBE adopt the following parameters for in-person instruction:

- » The WVBE desires to return students to in-person learning and to ensure that students, teachers, and staff can do so safely. The Board recognizes that in-person learning is the best mode in which to foster a student's intellectual, social-emotional, and physical growth and well-being.
- » To continue to ensure that schools remain safe for students, teachers, and staff, education leaders at the local level are directed to continue monitoring and enforcing the WVDE's six identified mitigation strategies, especially mask wearing.
- » Parents will continue to have the ability to choose a virtual learning option for their children.

### **For all PreK-8 students in West Virginia**

- » PreK-8 schools will attend in-person instruction regardless of their county's color on the West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources (DHHR) County Alert System map.
- » All PreK-8 students will resume in-person instruction on January 19. Counties do not have the option to implement full countywide remote learning for PreK-8 students. However, a local county board of education retains the authority to work with local health officials and to close individual classrooms or schools when a specific health need related to that classroom or school is identified. Such closures shall be of limited duration and related to the specific health need of the school or classroom. Teachers and staff will continue to provide essential student support services including meals, student engagement, all special education services and support to at-risk students.
- » Counties are encouraged to resume in-person instruction 4 or 5 days per week on January 19.
- » Counties have the option to utilize blended instruction models beginning January 19. Blended models must provide each student with in-person instruction at least 2 days per week.

**For West Virginia students in grades 9 through 12**

- » High schools will attend school in-person unless their county is red on the DHHR County Alert System map. In-person instruction may consist of blended learning models for students in grades 9-12.
- » Consistent with the practice that has been in place since the start of the 2020-2021 school year, high schools will move to remote learning the day after the county turns red on the DHHR County Alert System map.
- » High schools may stay in remote learning until the following Monday.
- » If the county is not red on the DHHR daily map on Saturday, in-person instruction will resume on the following Monday.
- » A county superintendent may determine and direct that a county will resume in-person learning without waiting until the following Monday.
- » If the county is still in red status on Saturday or Sunday, remote learning will continue for another week unless the county superintendent directs the resumption of in-person instruction earlier.
- » A local county board of education retains the authority to work with local health officials and to close individual classrooms or schools when a specific health need related to that classroom or school is identified irrespective of the county's color on the DHHR County Alert System map. Such closures shall be of limited duration and related to the specific health need of the school or classroom.
- » Even when a county is red on the DHHR County Alert System map, teachers and staff will continue essential student support services including meals, student engagement, all special education services and support to at-risk students.

**Further:**

- » Every Monday, the state superintendent shall provide the WVBE with an update regarding each county's status regarding the provision on in-person instruction via email.
- » The state superintendent, WVDE staff, and all county-level education leaders are directed to continue to provide educational information about the benefit and safety of the COVID vaccination to teachers, education staff, and community members and residents throughout the state.