



David Kedzielawa, Principal

John Jay Senior High School

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Dear John Jay Community,

I hope this letter finds you and your loved ones healthy and safe. In recent weeks, the governor of New York has left the decision to open schools up to each district. Depending on the uniqueness of each, schools will be opening in one of two models. A hybrid model where students would attend school partially or a fully remote model where students will remain home. Wappingers Central School District has decided to begin this school year with a remote model for the month of September and phase into a hybrid model of instruction through October.

Over the summer, families, faculty, staff, and administration have worked tirelessly in anticipation of what the governor's orders would be. We have weighed potential logistic scenarios, prepared lessons, attended professional development, reviewed models for remote learning, formed regional and local committees all while keeping in mind the health and safety of staff and students. I would like to thank everyone who has reached out to me over the summer with ideas and offerings of help and assistance for this year's opening. While many ideas were thought provoking and helpful, it has proven that solving one obstacle has led to multiple others along the way.

As educators, we have had to reflect, reassess, imagine, and determine what meaningful education looks like from a distance. The objective is to educate students in a meaningful, engaging way while being thoughtful to each child's social and emotional well-being. As professionals, we have learned from our past and we continue to grow each day. We have reflected and continue to create new ways to meet the needs of all students. With the use of technology, development of apps and the use of past best practices in education, we will continue to deliver the best instruction we can during this difficult time. We continue to seek ways to ensure that all students have access to meaningful education, access to supports and attend instruction daily under these circumstances. Our faculty and support staff will create modified instructional plans that are concise and focus on key concepts and essential skills while being conscious of students' mental well-being as they learn from home.

Like so many, we yearn for a sense of normalcy, structure, and social interactions. The faculty and staff at John Jay miss our students deeply. Please continue to be understanding, compassionate and partner with us during this time.

I have included the Wappingers Central School District schedule for full time remote instruction below. Please review the schedule and contact the school with any questions you may have regarding your child.



2020-2021 Remote Learning Schedule

High School Schedule for Full-Time Remote Instruction		
7:25 - 8:10	Teacher Preparation Period	
Period	Time	Instructional Guidance
Period 1	8:10 -8:35	Students will log in to each period.
Period 2	8:40 - 9:05	Attendance will be taken.
Period 3	9:10 - 9:35	Teachers will provide students with synchronous instruction ranging from 10 to 25 minutes in length. The length of the synchronous learning lesson will be determined by the teacher and should be based off of the lesson for the day. It is understood that on some days, the amount of synchronous time may vary depending on the lesson. Please refer to the instructional framework for guidance on which pedagogical approaches lends itself best to synchronous vs asynchronous learning.
Period 4	9:40 - 10:05	
Period 5	10:10 - 10:35	
Period 6	10:40 - 11:05	
Period 7	11:10 - 11:35	
Period 8	11:40 - 12:05	Students may log off after the teacher has completed the synchronous lesson and begin the asynchronous learning until the next period begins. Teachers may schedule a shorter whole class synchronous lesson to allow for small group synchronous learning.
12:05 - 12:50	Teacher Lunch Period	
12:05 -2:25	Students: Students work on asynchronous learning opportunities, as assigned, to complete independent/practice work. Students can schedule time to speak/meet with the teacher or support staff to discuss work or to ask questions. Students may also participate in small group follow-up lessons as arranged by a teacher.	
12:50 - 2:25	Teachers: During this time period, teachers will be available to speak/meet with students individually or in small groups to answer questions. Teachers will work on asynchronous learning opportunities for students, provide students with feedback, participate in google discussions, etc. Teachers may also participate in administrative scheduled meetings, team meetings, RtI meetings, etc, as appropriate.	

2020-2021 Anticipated Phase in Model

Wappingers CSD Instructional Delivery Timeline														
Instructional Delivery Model is subject to change based upon Regional Health factors and local decisions. The goal is to expand in-person learning until we have a sustainable model of instruction for the 2020-2021 school year.														
Click here to view our WCSD School Calendar														
Grade \ Timeline	September (10th - 25th)	Assess & Evaluate Processes and Procedures	Sept 28th - Oct 2nd	Assess & Evaluate Processes and Procedures	October (5th - 9th)	Assess & Evaluate Processes and Procedures	October (12th - 16th)	Assess & Evaluate Processes and Procedures	October (19th - 23rd)	Assess & Evaluate Processes and Procedures	October (26th - 30th)			
K	Remote		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
1	Remote		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
2	Remote		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
3	Remote		Remote		Remote		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
4	Remote		Remote		Remote		Hybrid		Hybrid		Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
5	Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
6	Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid	Hybrid
7	Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote	Remote	Hybrid	Hybrid
8	Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote	Remote	Hybrid	Hybrid
9	Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote	Remote	Remote	Hybrid
10	Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote	Remote	Remote	Hybrid
11	Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote		Remote	Remote	Remote	Hybrid
12	Remote	Remote	Remote	Remote	Remote	Remote	Remote	Remote	Hybrid					

Student Schedules

Student schedules will be released on September 3. We are currently in the process of working through student requests. After you have received your schedule, if you would like to discuss, add or drop a course we ask that the electronic add/drop form be filled out. This form will be sent out closer to the release date. Our school counselors will contact you once your request has been completed. Prior to making any requests, I suggest that you speak with your school counselor. Many times there is a reason that you have been scheduled for the class that is in your schedule. We want to be sure that all students are on track to receive the amount of credits and electives needed to graduate on time.

Freshman Orientation

Due to current conditions, we will unfortunately not be able to hold our traditional freshman orientation. We are saddened that our incoming Patriots will not experience what others have before them. In lieu of our traditional orientation, we will be releasing a welcome video for incoming students and parents to view. While our video cannot replicate freshman orientation or even attending high school in person for the first time, our hope is that this video will help incoming students to imagine what coming into John Jay would be like. When restrictions have eased, we will be inviting all incoming freshmen and parents to the building to walk their schedule and ask questions prior to attending school for the first time.

A Message from our Freshman Counselors

Students, please join the Class of 2024 Google Classroom by following this link: <https://classroom.google.com/c/MTQ5MzMoNDEyMjc5?cjc=uuqzda7> or by clicking the plus sign in the top right-hand corner of your Google Classroom page, click join class, and type in this code: uuqzda7

Google Classroom will be utilized throughout your high school career. It is where important information and resources will be posted by your school counselors, Mrs. Daley and Mrs. Aguado, to help your academic success, mental health and wellness, and transition into high school.

The Class of 2024 will also be utilizing the app Remind to send notifications, updates, and information. Both students and parents/guardians are encouraged to join! Please see the below instructions to join the appropriate group based on the first letter of the student's last name (parents/guardians, please join the same group).

Students with the last name A-C text the number 81010 with the code @jj2024a or go to: <https://www.remind.com/join/jj2024a>

Students with the last name D-G text the number 81010 with the code @jj2024b or go to: <https://www.remind.com/join/jj2024b>

Students with the last name H-L text the number 81010 with the code @jj2024c or go to: <https://www.remind.com/join/jj2024c>

Students with the last name M-O text the number 81010 with the code @jj2024d or go to: <https://www.remind.com/join/jj2024d>

Students with the last name P-SI text the number 81010 with the code @jj2024e or go to: <https://www.remind.com/join/jj2024e>

Students with the last name Sm-Z text the number 81010 with the code @jj2024f or go to: <https://www.remind.com/join/jj2024f>

At this time, it is best to reach your school counselors via email. Please note, if you have a schedule change request, please complete the form by following this link [Add/Drop Form](#) . Email request will not be honored.

Mrs. Daley (students with the last name A-L) heather.daley@wcsdny.org

Mrs. Aguado (students with the last name M-Z) alicia.aguado@wcsdny.org

Grading Policy

The Wappingers Central School District will revert to its previous grading practice. Each teacher will provide a syllabus to students allowing them to see how grades will be calculated for each class. We ask that if you have any questions with grades received that you follow the following process. First, please contact the teacher and speak with them directly to determine why a grade was received. 2nd please contact your school counselor who may be able to help further resolve any differences you and the faculty may have. 3rd please contact your house principal who will be able to help resolve your concern. While we remain remote and phase into a hybrid model, it is important to stay involved in your child's education. The faculty at John Jay is here to work with you and your child. One way to help monitor your child's progress is through Parent Portal. I have provided a paragraph below to help you sign up if you have not done so already.

Parent Portal

Parent Portal is the district's system that is used to provide parents and guardians with secure online access to information about their children such as: emergency contacts, daily attendance, course schedules, progress reports, report card grades and NYS Regents exam scores. Access to Parent Portal is restricted to those parents and guardians that have been cleared through an ID verification process. If you need assistance setting up a parent portal account, please contact Lisa.cannizzaro@wcsdny.org.

Attending School

John Jay is committed to providing interventions to prevent and address health-related and mental health related chronic absenteeism. We recognize that many factors will influence student attendance and may be greatly impacted by the instructional models provided. John Jay will address chronic absenteeism as follows:

1. Nurture a culture of attendance.
2. Communicate clearly to families and students what the attendance policy is and expectations for participating based on the model of instruction.
3. Track daily attendance, tardiness, and student engagement in our student information system.

4. Early Identification and Intervention.
5. Use data to identify which students are at risk, so you can intervene before isolated absences become chronic absenteeism.
6. Establish intervention plans; parent phone calls, counseling, instructional modifications, engage community partners, etc.

Communicating with the School from a Distance

Prompt and regular communication between school and home is a key component for the continued successes of each student. We will be communicating home through Blackboard, phone calls/robo calls, social media platforms and updating our marquee on an as needed basis. The most effective way to communicate remains through email. I ask that all concerns and questions during the school year go through the appropriate channels to ensure proper communication and a timely response to issues as they arise. For all scheduling questions and teacher concerns, please contact your child's school counselor. For questions on assignments or grades, please contact the teacher directly. For questions regarding other matters, please contact the main office where they will be able to direct you to the appropriate person. John Jay's Main Office number is 845-897-6700 ext. 30000.

Questions for Faculty & Staff

While we work from a distance, I encourage all concerns about academics and instruction to be directly communicated with the teacher. As we navigate instruction from a distance, teachers will be able to explicitly communicate the needs for that class. All teacher contact information can be found on the John Jay web page under the heading "Teachers" or on their Google Classroom. If after speaking with the teacher you have more questions, I ask that you contact your child's school counselor who will be able to help assist.

School Counselors

Our school counselors are accessible each day except for weekends. Please do not hesitate to create relationships or continue your conversations with them as in the past. Our school counselors have a wealth of knowledge and are happy to assist. Working together creates a unified team to provide the best support for your child. For additional information or resources, please refer to the John Jay homepage under "parents" then "[counseling](#)". Any further questions you may have, please refer to the contact information below. All calls to guidance should be directed to 845-897-6700 ext. 30017. If you have a schedule change request, please complete the form by following this link [Add/Drop Form](#). Email requests will not be honored.

Guidance Secretary

Lori Mettam, School Counselor Secretary, Lori.Mettam@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30017
Jen Musci, School Counselor Secretary, Jennifer.Musci@wcsdny.org

School Counselors by Grade and Alphabet

9th Grade

Heather Daley, Heather.Daley@wcsdny.org (A-L)
Alicia Aguado, Alicia.Aguado@wcsdny.org (M-Z)

10th Grade

Suzanne deSimone, Suzanne.deSimone@wcsdny.org (A-Man)
Michele Wells, Michele.Wells.@wcsdny.org (Mao-Z & ENL)

11th Grade

Karrie Brenner, karrie.brenner@wcsdny.org (A-McH)
Jenna Frangione, Jenna.Frangione@wcsdny.org (McK-Z)

12th Grade

Stacy Marshall, Stacy.Marshall@wcsdny.org (A-Ho)
Nicole Kunkel, Nicole.Kunkel@wcsdny.org (Hu-Z)

Pupil Personnel Services

Pupil Personnel Service (PPS) staff includes school counselors, school psychologists and social workers. These professionals are in an ideal position to protect the health and safety of all students. John Jay High School has a complete PPS staff to assist in student success. They are highly skilled and have been trained to evaluate factors that contribute to student difficulties with behavior and academic achievement. Now more than ever students are experiencing higher anxiety, stress, and the feeling of detachment. While difficult, we encourage students to reach out to our support staff as needed. The PPS staff can make unique contributions because they work in different ways and in different settings with students and their parents. Specialists in PPS can work cooperatively with other specialists to enhance the intellectual, as well as social and personal development of each student. These professionals are available to assist all students and can be contacted using the information provided below. They have created a website to provide support for [social emotional health](#).

Please see each professional's website for additional resources.

School Psychologist, Beth Rizzi (A-K) Elizabeth.Rizzi@wcsdny.org

School Psychologist, Heather Dahl (L-Z) Heather.Dahl@wcsdny.org

Social Worker, Mary Beth Boylan, Marybeth.Boylan@wcsdny.org

Social Worker, Deborah LoCicero, Deborah.LoCicero@wcsdny.org

Student Services (IEP & 504)

Assistant Directors of Special Education, along with their respective offices, will contact families and teachers via phone or email to schedule Committee on Special Education (CSE) meetings. These meetings will be held in a virtual platform that will be communicated to you through each office.

Any family considering a 504 plan, please contact your guidance counselor. The grade level counselor can review your concerns and discuss any interventions that have been implemented. A current medical diagnosis along with treatment plans can assist committees in determining what impact there may be in your child's educational setting. If your child continues to struggle, the documentation along with a written request to convene a 504 committee can be emailed to Ms. Reilly at eleanore.reilly@wcsdny.org. Ms. Shelia Powell, her assistant, will contact you to schedule a virtual meeting.

If your student has an existing plan that you feel needs to be amended, please contact Ms. Reilly in the same manner; copy the guidance counselor and/or grade level administrator and Ms. Powell will schedule a meet. As previously stated, any/all documentation that describes the change and thus the need to amend should be attached to the request.

Council on Addiction Prevention and Education (CAPE)

CAPE is a Dutchess County prevention agency that provides support to students with at risk behaviors and their families. If you have a concern about your child's risk-taking behaviors, we will continue to provide CAPE resources. CAPE will offer prevention and education services utilizing Telehealth apps and services during the COVID-19 state of emergency. These apps are temporarily approved by NYS OASAS and the U.S Dept. of Health and Human Services to ensure best practices and confidentiality. Students can continue to receive the following services by contacting their Student Assistance Counselor, Mollie Orlowski.

- Individual Prevention Counseling (Project Success)
- Group Education Counseling (Project Success)
- Teen Intervene Sessions

Students will need parental consent. CAPE will provide all appropriate consent forms. Students will also need reliable internet/telephone access and a device that allows for video and audio capabilities.

Student Assistance Counselor

Mollie Orłowski, Mollie.Orłowski@wcsdny.org

Administration

As always, each administrator is directly available to those who have additional questions by grade level. As an administration, we are happy to help where we can during this difficult time and look forward to continuing the relationship with our community. Please feel free to contact us directly as needed.

Building Principal

David Kedzielawa, David.Kedzielawa@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30002

9th Grade House Principal

Jeanine Chapin, Jeanine.Chapin@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30020

10th Grade House Principal

Eleanore Reilly, Eleanore.Reilly@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30051

11th Grade House Principal

Wilson Castro, Wilson.Castro@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30043

12th Grade House Principal

Paul Albanese, Paul.Albanese@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30082

Assistant Director of Special Education

Karen Brown, Karen.Brown@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30048

Assistant District Athletic Director

Maureen Myers, Maureen.Myers@wcsdny.org 845-897-6700 ext. 30096

Chromebook Loaner Program

For those families who need a Chromebook, please click on the below link to request a Chromebook. Once received, the district will coordinate a time and pick up location for you to receive your Chromebook. When picking up your Chromebook, a driver's license or Government Issued ID will be required. In addition to your request, all students will be required to sign the user agreement form. This form will be sent home electronically for your convenience. [Chromebook Request Form](#)

Capital Improvement Projects

Many of our capital improvement projects are well under way and are anticipated to be completed by the start of the school year. Those projects include new windows throughout the school, two newly renovated school counseling hubs and a new Main Office located on the second floor. In addition to capital improvement projects, there has been logistical changes to counselors and support staff. When we return to school, please take the time to locate your counselor and any additional support you may seek.

Sports

Gov. Cuomo has announced that low risk sports may begin their Fall season on 9/21 with high risk sports given the ability to practice only. This announcement brings about more questions than answers on the feasibility to safely do so. At this time there is ongoing communication between the NYSPHSAA Executive Director, Robert Zayas, and the Directors of each of the sections within NYS as well as the NYSPHSAA COVID Task Force. **All sections of NYS athletics remain on pause pending further discussions and guidance.**



In Closing

As a community member and parent of an incoming Kindergartener, I too am impacted personally and professionally by these trying times. I will continue to update you with information as we receive it. I have provided the link to our parent resource page to help further assist with any questions you may have. [Parent Resource to Page](#).

Warm Regards,

David Kedzielawa
Principal
John Jay High School