



Dear Wildcat Families,

Welcome to the 2020 - 2021 school year! I am thrilled to welcome you back to school! I am so delighted that you are part of our amazing learning community. For those of you who are new to our school, I want you to know that you are coming to an absolutely wonderful place.

Over the past several weeks, we have continued to define our school plans for a safe reopening. We formed 5 taskforce groups, made up of faculty and staff, to study the feasibility of our reopening. The groups studied within State preliminary guidelines, three pathways to opening the school: Face to Face, Hybrid, and Distance Learning. Each of these three scenarios was evaluated by each of the 5 task force groups; Logistics, Curriculum & Instruction, Community, Catholic Identity, and Technology. The taskforce groups carefully outlined and addressed the needs, concerns, and strengths of each plan. I am extremely thankful to the 30 faculty and staff members who gave of their time to help the institution create the Reopening Plan which will be sent to the State for review and approval.

Our priorities are focused on two critical concepts:

1. Protecting the health, safety and well-being of our community (school and at-large)
2. Upholding our mission to provide quality instruction to our students

With your health, safety and well-being in mind, we anticipate the following necessary precautions such:

- ✓ Preventive safety measures
- ✓ Social distancing
- ✓ Face masks or coverings: Face masks or coverings must be worn by all individuals on campus, in the presence of others and in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain (e.g., common workspaces, meeting rooms, classrooms, hallways, lobbies, etc.).
- ✓ Hygiene guidelines: Handwashing, sanitizer stations and frequent disinfecting of campus spaces will remain critical components of our fall return.
- ✓ Redesigned seating layouts and capacity restrictions

Nestled in the community, we rely on all stakeholders to help us advance the mission of health and safety for all. These are some practices that you may exercise to support us:

- ✓ Wear a face mask or covering at all times when in public spaces and unable to social distance from others.
- ✓ Maintain physical social distancing of six feet or more, whenever possible.
- ✓ Wash hands frequently and thoroughly.
- ✓ Ensure regular use of hand sanitizer in between hand washings.
- ✓ Cover one's mouth and nose if coughing or sneezing.
- ✓ Avoid participation in gatherings larger than stated guidelines and where social distancing cannot be maintained.

Partnering with families will be crucial this year as we face many obstacles due to the global pandemic. We appreciate your support as you work with students at home to practice safety protocols such as wearing a mask and washing hands. We encourage families to stay connected and informed by following our district website for important updates and information regarding our reopening plans.

### Wildcats Vision

Willis Foreman Elementary will provide every student with the highest quality standards-based education, which will enable them to be on or above grade level; contributing to the goal of preparing them to be college/career ready.



### Motto/Theme

I Learn...I Lead...I Succeed!



### Communication

Effective communication is an integral part of our partnership supporting your child's success. As such, we hope that you will find the WFES website informative. All of the information that you receive in print via the Thursday Communication Packet (Blue Folder) will also be available on the website. Additionally, messages are sent "real-time" using the Remind text messaging system. The Words from the Wildcat Newsletter is sent home monthly with important dates and information. Further, important information is shared on the school's marquee

and via Shout-Point phone messaging. Finally, please "Friend" us on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/willisforeman.wildcatden.3>

### Home-School Relationship

I believe that building strong relationships between home and school is a key factor in increasing student achievement. I welcome and value your positive energy and dedication to excellence in education, and I look forward to working with you and your children. As principal, my door is always open and I welcome your input. We extend a special, yearlong invitation to our families to join us at school activities and events whenever possible. We want . . . we need . . . and we value your involvement and support in your child's education! Your active participation is key to the success of your child.



## Initiatives

We are the proud host school of 2 phenomenal initiatives!



*I eagerly look forward to greeting students and families again. It remains an honor and privilege to serve as your Principal. Please stop by and say hello. Together, I know we will make this school year one of growth and achievement for all children.*

Warmest Regards,

*Shaunta Payton*  
*Principal*

If you have not done so...

Please **submit your updated Proof of Residence** as files are being reviewed.

