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July 15, 2020

WHS Parents and Students,

Greetings! First and foremost, I hope that this finds you and your loved ones to be healthy and happy.

As most of you probably know, Governor Roy Cooper announced on the afternoon of July 14 that North Carolina public schools will reopen on August 17 with limited capacity and strict social distancing guidelines. The Union County Public Schools (UCPS) Board of Education followed up that announcement with a specially called meeting on that same evening. At that meeting, the UCPS superintendent's specific school reopening plan for Union County was unanimously approved by the Board. The main takeaway is that in the coming school year (and until otherwise changed), UCPS students will attend school one day per week. Approximately 25 % of each school's students will attend on an assigned day of the week, and Fridays will be a virtual learning day for all students. The student assignments have not yet been made, but the process is underway. As soon as those assignments are made, we will be communicating them with our WHS families. The approved UCPS reopening plan is available at the following link: https://spark.adobe.com/page/DeNYgLO8If4X6/.

Communication about the Virtual Academy (Plan D) will be shared with all UCPS families by the UCPS Communications Department on July 16. Families will receive information about the application process, deadline, and other key information related to this option for families.

At this point, there are more questions than answers. However, I can assure you that I am working closely with our district leadership, principals at other schools, and our WHS staff members to make sense of this rapidly evolving information and to translate it into our specific WHS plan to open our school safely and efficiently for faculty and staff on August 6 and students on August 17. We will do our very best to provide you with timely updates between now and August 17.

In closing, I feel compelled to share with you that because of the extraordinarily strong school culture that we have at WHS, I am extremely confident that we are well positioned to meet the challenges ahead of us with a great deal of success. Let's embrace the challenge TOGETHER!

Take care,

Jay Jones

Dr. Jay Jones, Principal

Growing Possibilities...