1: When do we need to choose My Path vs. Our Path?
Families will be asked to select “My Path” by 8:00am on Thursday, August 20, 2020 following parent information sessions on Monday, August 17th and Tuesday, August 18th. Click on this link to select “My Path” to choose this option. Families do not have to select “Our Path” as that will be the automatic default.

“My Path” elementary parent guide  
“My Path” elementary curriculum  
“My Path” middle school and high school course offerings

2: If we want to continue virtual learning after other students go back for face-to-face, will it be a continuation of the learning path we chose initially? (My Path vs. Our Path?)
 a. Or will they be placed into Edgenuity as the other teachers will be back to teaching live?
At this point, we have in-person or My Path when we return Face to face instruction. However, we are getting feedback from our families on potential continuation of the Our Path option. Right now, our District priority and focus is on a successful start to both Our Path and My Path instruction but this additional possibility is being explored.
  b. Will they keep the same teacher?
We would anticipate that there is a potential of staff reassignments taking place when we return to Face to Face learning.

3. Will students be held back if they have not mastered the concepts from this current year?
Students will not be penalized by retention. Our commitment is to ensure that students can receive the support necessary to close any gaps in their learning.

4. Will chromebooks be available?
Yes. Chromebook distribution will be taking place over the next couple weeks leading up to school starting on August 31st.
 a. If we have multiple students, can we use more than one since Our Plan consists of 100% live, teacher-led from 9-4 with attendance and full interaction?
For families with multiple children choosing “Our Path” and needing to simultaneously sync remotely with their teachers during the day, each student may borrow a District Chromebook. We ask that families in need of devices have first priority as we are not a 1-1 device district.
 b. Is the chromebook available regardless of which path we chose?
Yes. Chromebooks are available for both “Our Path” and “My Path” options.
5. **What other resources will students have access to?** (books, math games, printed materials, other)
   We have been planning for safe materials pickups for our K-12 students across the District which include books, manipulatives, textbooks, printed materials and other necessary curricular resources. Dates and times of material pickup will be communicated in the next couple weeks. Elementary Schools will also be providing parents with a suggested list of school supplies that could be purchased to support at-home learning.

6. **Are there free internet plans available?**
   The District will continue to communicate about service providers who are offering free or reduced price internet service. The District is also surveying the need to supply hot-spots in certain situations.

7. **What do we do if we are sick? Have appointments?**
   Students in “Our Path” will be expected to attend school during the “school day” as normal. In the instance that there is illness or an appointment, parents and families should reach out to the school to call in their child(ren)’s absence just as you would in a face to face instructional setting.

8. **Is there any training available for parents?**
   The District will be working on parent training sessions to familiarize families with the technology skills necessary to support students in either online learning path. Dates and times of those sessions will be communicated in the coming week.

9. **Will teachers be held accountable for live sessions, meetings with students and feedback?**
   In the “Our Path” instructional model, teachers will be teaching “live” during the core learning blocks. In-person small group or personalized support will also be provided by teachers via two-way communication video platform. Feedback will be provided to all students on their work and performance. Grades will also be open in Skyward, our Student Information System and normal report card schedules will be followed. Students in “My Path” will receive feedback on assessments through the curriculum platform that is set up through Edgenuity. The Walled Lake Mentor Teacher will also be in contact to support students, coach and guide them, as well as monitor progress. Any parent concerns or questions should be directed to your student’s building principal.

10. **Prime Time**
    a. **Will Prime Time Care be available?**
       At this time, we are not opening our Prime Time Care programs.
    b. **Can we pre-register for November since it fills up so quickly?**
       As we are uncertain as to the status of Prime Time care, we are not accepting pre-registration at this time.
    c. **Is WLCSD ok with us having our child do their virtual work at their daycare?**
       Many families are arranging for their child to participate in their virtual school either at
their daycare provider or private daycare setting. It is up to parents to arrange this with their daycare and communicate the time commitment and support needed for students.

11. Will preschool be available?
At this time, we are not offering in-person or virtual preschool.

12. Is there any chance ASD/IEP/Special Ed students will be able to return in person for small classes? If not, what additional support is being offered to the students?
During the first month of the 2020-2021 school year, each student's IEP will be reviewed by the team of school personnel and parents, and assessed for the viability of transitioning to an online platform. This may not be feasible for all students with IEP’s. Depending on the individual needs of students, FAPE will be offered in the most appropriate manner.

13. What resources are available for ESL students?
Our ESL department will be arranging support in Our Path learning just as they would in face to face learning. Some supports in My Path will be limited.

14. Will special needs students be given the same resources as if they were in the school building? (one-on-one paras, face-to-face therapy, speech therapy)
To the extent possible, services provided for special needs students will be transitioned to an online platform with all teachers and support personnel. The special services department is currently working with ancillary staff to review all IEP’s and discuss services.

15. What is in place to address social and emotional well-being virtually?
Just as our curriculum planning teams have been working to move our daily instruction online, we have a group planning for Social Emotional lessons for teachers to utilize with their classes. Specific professional development will be provided to teachers in order to help them build a classroom community, provide a safe and welcome space for learning, allow students opportunities to make and build connections with others virtually and more. The lessons will be age/grade appropriate and will also be topic specific so that teachers can select lessons that will best meet the needs of their class.

16. What resources do you have for parents to help children get the most out of this type of learning when the child does significantly better with teachers and classmates?
Parent training sessions that will be offered virtually will focus on more than technology skills. Parent help sessions will also focus on how to structure the learning day (balancing time on-screen and off-screen), set up an at-home learning space, and how to encourage children to keep and maintain a schedule that works for your family. These sessions will be offered for parents choosing either Our Path or My Path learning.
17. If my child is advanced in a subject, how can we ensure his/her schedule reflects that?
Students in Our Path will still have access to advanced coursework and classes such as Honors and AP courses. Students selecting My Path will still have access to advanced and AP courses but on a more limited basis.

18. If possible, can neighborhood children be put in the same class so we can create a learning pod?
We know that many families are creatively planning for learning pods in their local neighborhoods. Specific decisions on placement of students in classes will be left to the individual school staff who know the students best.
a. If not, is the curriculum the same for all teachers in the school so the students can still work together?
Our curriculum planning teams have been aligning instruction so that pacing and lesson progression is more uniform from class to class. Students each having a different third grade teacher, for example, may find that their teachers are covering the same material at relatively the same time.

19. Can elementary students forego FAPES so they don’t have as long of a day at a screen?
Many of our students find that FAPES are some of the most exciting and fun classes of the day. Students in Our Path will be expected to join with their FAPES teachers for instruction. However, we anticipate that this learning time will be a welcome break where students can be free to express themselves through art, music, physical education and media. Our FAPES teachers will also not be requiring students to be on-screen the entire FAPES time. They will follow a similar structure as all teachers with a lesson introduction followed by independent practice time off-screen and then closing with a gathering back together for sharing at the end.

20. Can my child attend OSTC if parents/child can drive?
UPDATED 8/18 – WLCSD learned that OSTC has now gone fully virtual. Letter to parents from OSTC
As of right now the Oakland Schools Technical Campus is still offering in-person classes for our high school students enrolled in their programs. With our block schedule at the secondary level, we believe that students selecting Our Path will be able to attend their OSTC classes while still being able to join in with their teachers upon returning home each day.

21. How do we register high school and middle schoolers for classes?
All high school and middle school students selected courses last spring for the 20-21 school year. In the My Path learning option, the classes will be aligned as close as possible to what the student chose. If there is a conflict, the student’s counselor will contact the student to resolve the conflict. In the Our Path learning option, we anticipate being able to meet the courses selected.
22. Will Band, choir, gym, etc. be available with virtual learning? Our Path only?
Performing Arts classes such as band, choir and certain physical education classes will be offered in Our Path only.

23. Will AP classes be available?
AP classes will be offered in Our Path and select AP classes will be offered in My Path. A complete list of course offerings will be made available to parents at the parent information sessions coming up on Monday, August 17th and Tuesday, August 18th.

24. Will tutoring be available?
At this time, tutoring will not be provided by Walled Lake Schools.

25. Will NHS service hour requirements be waived?
School administrators and NHS sponsors will be developing National Honor Society expectations after the school year begins.

26. Will SAT be available in the fall? Do students sign up independently?
The District will be administering the SAT and PSAT this September. Dates and times will be made available and a structure for safe proctoring of these assessments is being planned.

27. How will students take tests? Mid-terms?
At this time, we are waiting for direction from the Michigan Department of Education regarding state assessments. Class assessments will be delivered online.

28. How much screen time will there be if we choose My Path for my child?
Parents can essentially schedule screen time for their child(ren) in the My Path option using the Edgenuity lessons as best meets their child(ren)’s individual needs. Recommendations from Edgenuity are as follows based on age and development:

- Grades K-2 = 1-2 hours of course work daily (broken up as parents deem appropriate)
- Grades 3-4 = 3-4 hours of course work daily (broken up as parents deem appropriate)
- Grades 6-12 = 4-6 hours of course work daily (broken up as parents deem appropriate)

29. If I enroll my son into My Path, and it doesn’t work out well, when can I switch him to Our Path?
We encourage families who wish to make a change to do so within the first two weeks of the class. However, if unusual circumstances arise after the initial two week period, families should reach out to their home building principal to express their desire to switch paths.

30. Will Our Path learning continue once we return to face-to-face?
We have been receiving many questions from our parents regarding this. Our focus and priority right now is ensuring that we can begin the year smoothly in Our Path and My Path. However, we are continuing to examine feedback from our community. As of now, My Path will continue once the students go back to face to face. The additional possibility of continuing Our Path will continue to be explored.
31. Is it possible for OSTC students to do the My path option?
Yes, both Our Path and My Path students can do OSTC.

32. How much parental involvement will there be from a teaching aspect for elementary students?
Parent involvement will be specific to each child’s tech skills. At first, parents will find that they need to facilitate the technical aspects of joining up with their teacher’s live sessions. As time goes on, students will become more familiar with the process and may not need as much support from a parent/caregiver. Any tech issues during class should be communicated to the teacher by the parent.

33. Will the assigned teacher be from my student’s home school & grade level?
Students in Our Path will be assigned to a teacher from their home school and most likely from their grade level.

34. Will the daily lessons be recorded in Our Path, so that the students are able to review again for reference and/or extra practice?
Teachers will be recording their live instruction sessions for Our Path students to refer to in case of absence or other tech-related issues.

35. Will there be a daily or weekly to-do list or requirements provided to parents in Our Path?
Just as teachers put out a weekly classroom newsletter, they will also be communicating weekly schedules for the upcoming week with parents of students in their class.

36. What types of materials will be printed by their home school for pickup?
We are working with principals and staff to identify necessary materials for at home learning and arrange for a safe drive-thru pickup. Dates and times will be communicated as the plans are finalized.

37. How much time will be off-screen throughout the day in Our Path?
Students in a typical 7 hour day could expect that 4-5 hours would be “off screen” but potentially would be spent on independent practice of skills and assignments given during the live instruction portion of the class period. Students would typically be “on screen” or watching live sessions or collaborating with peers anywhere from 75-105 minutes per day.

38. Will the students be using paper & pencil for assignments or will they be typing answers?
We anticipate that younger students will use paper pencil but there may be some online tech tools used throughout instruction in which a student may need to respond verbally or type a short response (depending on the grade level). Most secondary students will be using their devices.
39. How much one-on-one interaction will students have with their teacher?
Students can expect 1-1 or small group interaction with their teacher multiple times throughout the week. The structure of the daily lessons are that the teacher begins with instruction, may break out into 1-1 or small group with a select number of students while others are practicing, and then bring closure to the lesson with the entire group. Just like in face to face instruction, most students receive small group and/or 1-1 support several times per week.

40. What resources will parents have to help their children with assignments (i.e. recorded lessons, math "family letters" with answers, etc.)
Live teaching sessions will be recorded by the teachers and made available for review. Teachers will be communicating through typical weekly newsletters with families. Teachers are also able to respond to email inquiries from families to help answer any questions parents may have.

41. Can we use our iPad instead of a Chromebook?
Using an iPad is at your discretion if it fulfills your needs. We have heard it works but can have challenges depending on the user. Remember you can request a Chromebook now (via form sent in email) or contact your principal if you decide you need one after the start of the year.

42. We would like to buy a Chromebook for our student. What specs should we consider?
Any Chromebook will work well with reliable wifi. There is no software loaded onto a Chromebook like there might be on a laptop or desktop. They are safest to go with a middle-priced device. A good suggestion would be a HP, Dell, and Samsung they are the current largest Chromebook suppliers. Our current unit is a HP.

43. I don’t understand the difference between the two schedules on this chart from the Parent Meeting. Please explain. (HS chart example shown.)
The proposed schedule in the big chart on the right (and in grey) was taken from the original Return to Learn plan as a “sample”. You should only look to the Bell Schedule on the left side of the slide. This is true for all grade levels. Use the Bell Schedule only.
44. Have changes been made to resolve the technical difficulties we experienced in the spring?
Our platform will be Google Meet, etc. instead of ZOOM. There should be no issues. We will be providing additional tech support resources in the coming days.

45. Who should we contact to resolve problems with Skyward, Family Access and/or Student Access?
You should contact familyaccess@wlcsd.org if you need help resetting a password. For all other changes (address, phone number, main contact, new married name, emergency contact, etc.), please email your student’s school directly.

46. When will we see my child’s schedule?
Schedules will likely be ready late the week of 8/24 because the entire master schedule has to be redone to re-align the My Path and Our Path students.

47. Can we delay school starting until after Labor Day since teachers and students are just getting their curriculums?
We will not be delaying school until the week after Labor Day. Instead, we are working to ensure teachers are trained, parents receive teacher assignments for their children, and that we get back to virtual learning in a timely way in accord with the 2020-21 school year calendar we published back in June. Our teachers have their Google Classrooms set and they are ready to go. Our teachers, administrators and staff are ready and excited to build connections with our children. Please contact your school principal if you are not able to assist your children in the first day or two of school.

48. Will LifeTouch be taking school pictures this year?
As of now, we have tentatively rescheduled LifeTouch photos for December. It is the District’s plan to have student photos, but to reschedule them to when we can do them safely in person and schedule them with LifeTouch.

49. Will preschool be available this fall?
Virtual preschool will be available for GSRP and Head Start starting Sept. 21. Please see the Preschool page of the District website for more information and links to enroll. https://wlcsd.org/programs/preschool/