

The Chimera Chronicle

The official school newspaper for Willingboro High School

March 31, 2021

Volume 2, Issue 2

By Aniya M. Davis

Welcome Back Chimeras! After months of studying and residing in quarantine, Willingboro High School Students will now have a chance to go back to school using a hybrid model schedule starting April 19, 2021. Students will continue learning virtually but will come to the building physically two days out of the week. This news comes as a relief to many students, as the quarantine has taken a toll on their performance and enthusiasm for academics. Despite this, administrators and teachers are adamant to give students the one-to-one focus that was missing through online learning.

Willingboro High School students are expected to follow an adjusted schedule that will ensure the safety of individuals while in the building. Students are expected to arrive between 7:05 a.m. and be prepared to start the school day with their Chromebook and other materials they may need to effectively complete their work. Students should not take their Chromebooks to school, as one will be distributed to them in homeroom each day, and collected at the end of the day. Then use their home Chromebook, when not in school. For the hybrid school day, breakfast will be served in the students' homerooms between 7:20 -7:35 a.m., and lunch will be served upon dismissal starting at 11:50. This will be a portable lunch that students will take with them on the bus.

Students will now have a chance to revive themselves both academically and socially, as well staying safe and aware of Covid-19 protocols. Hopefully, this will bring some normalcy back to their lives and education. A sample of our new school schedule is printed on in this newspaper on page 7. You can also see the full Option 1 district reopening plan by going to https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/966757/Willingboro_Public_Schools_Reopening_Plan_03.29.2021.docx.pdf

Welcome Back Chimeras!



Club Highlight Student Council! By Kierra Hunter

If you care about what is going on in your school climate, Student Council is the perfect club for you! Being involved in Student Government has so many benefits. One of the biggest benefits is YOUR thoughts and concerns are not only heard but acted upon! This extracurricular activity also gives you an opportunity to learn leadership skills. Student Council helps with managing fundraisers for your graduating class, enjoyable school wide events for staff and students, and many more things regarding your high school experience.

Continued on page 2.

"I am an example of what is possible when girls from the very beginning of their lives are loved and nurtured by people around them. I was surrounded by extraordinary women in my life who taught me about quiet strength and dignity."

— Michelle Obama

WHS Celebrates Women's History Month!

CDC Requirements And Masks Are Still An Issue

By Megan Omolo

Despite health officials' warnings, more states are removing the mask requirement. Maintaining proper social distance and wearing masks in public remain CDC prevention standards, but certain states have abandoned these regulations to establish their own set of guidelines. Despite the fact that Covid-19 is still looming, and actually on the rise, several states have lifted their mask mandates. These states include Texas, Mississippi, Iowa, Montana, and North Dakota.

Continued on page 2.



**Published as a service to the WHS community.
Committed to the students and families of Willingboro High School.
Go Chimeras!**

See the Table of Contents for this issue on page 2.

The Mask and Social Distancing Issue Continued

By Megan Omolo

This is on top of the 11 states that did not require face protection on a statewide basis (Alaska, Arizona, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Missouri, Nebraska, South Carolina, South Dakota, and Tennessee). Texas has recently made headlines with Governor Greg Abbot's decision to end their mandate, saying that "Texas is OPEN 100 percent," as their Covid-19 deaths have risen to an exponential rate of an average death toll in the state of 297 people per day from Covid complications. President Joe Biden responded to states removing their mask mandate "I think it's a terrible mistake...the last thing we need is Neanderthal thinking that everything is fine." Which begs the question, why do more states want to remove their mask requirements with so much scientific evidence to the contrary? And how will their choices impact the future? With the introduction of the vaccine, there is no way of knowing when the pandemic will end, but cases can be avoided if people use the correct precautions. Our country's survival is dependent on the protection of its people, and with mask mandates not being followed across the country, who knows what will change in the near future?

Source: <https://abcnews.go.com/Health/states-dropped-mask-mandates/story?id=76249>

People of Willingboro Are Dealing with Racial Issues

By Jenaya Ford



It's no secret that there's still so much change that needs to happen in the world regarding civil rights and racial discrimination. Now why does this relate to Willingboro, you ask? Well, 66.71 % of Willingboro is African-American, which means that 66.71% of people have dealt with or deal with the emotional and draining feeling of living with and witnessing racial discrimination and the lack of civil rights.

Let's dig into how Willingboro students can be affected by this. Racism has been something students have learned in history class. Not just for Willingboro students, racism is something learned about worldwide in school. They've gone from growing up learning about racism to witnessing it and even experiencing it.

Continued...

Student Council Highlight Continued

By Kierra Hunter

Elections are held at the end of every school year for new and returning students to take part in. You can run for a leadership role for the entire Student Body or specifically for your class. The roles of Student Council are President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Historian, Parliamentarian, and Representative. If you are ready to stand out and make a difference for you and your peers, you will fit right in. New members and ideas are always welcome, so I encourage you to become a part of this amazing organization. To learn more about the requirements and responsibilities of Student Council you can contact the advisors listed below.

Student Council Advisors:

Kelly Gauntt (kgauntt@wboe.net) • Felicia Collins (fcollins@wboe.net)

WHS List of Clubs and Advisors w/ emails:

*Chess Club:	
Adam Smith	(adamsmith@wboe.net)
*Bible Club:	
Charlotte Moses	(cmoses@wboe.net)
*Yearbook Club:	
Tanya Clark	(tclark@wboe.net)
*Student Council:	
Kelly Gauntt	(kgauntt@wboe.net)
*Freshman Class Advisor:	
Gabriella Bennet	(gbennet@wboe.net)
*Senior Class Advisors:	
Tara Gaines & Richard Brown	(tgaines@wboe.net)
(rbrown@wboe.net)	
*Academic Debate Club:	
Kelly Gauntt & Rachael McQuillen	(kgauntt@wboe.net)
(rmcquillen@wboe.net)	
*Chimera Chronicle WHS School Newspaper:	
Elizabeth Massaro	(emassaro@wboe.net)

Inside This Issue:

Welcome Back!
By Aniya M. Davis – Page 1.

Club Highlight Student Council!
By Kierra Hunter – Page 1

People of Willingboro are Dealing with Racial Issues
By Jenaya Ford – Page 2

CDC Requirements And Masks Are Still An Issue
By Megan Omolo – Page 1

Sung and Unsung Heroes of Women's History Comic
By Ceniya Austin – Page 3

It's Time to return!
By Kylah Prophet – Page 4

Just an Old Dog,
By E. Massaro – Page 5

Women's History Crossword Puzzle – Page 6

Option 1 District Reopening Plan
SampleWHS Student Schedule - Page 7

Teachers, administrators, and staff, do you have news you want the students to know about? Then you need to submit an article to The Chimera Chronicle. Just go to the district web page and type Chimera Chronicle in the search bar. You can submit your news to the form there also, or email or reach out to any Chimera Chronicle staff member.

...Racism is a virus. Everyone knows that a virus can be very difficult to deal with and even more difficult to survive once you have come in contact with it. That's the case for students at Willingboro and the people in Willingboro. A lot of them, 66.71 % of them to be exact, have been affected personally by this virus just because of the color of the skin that they were born with.

It's definitely draining and devastating seeing what's going on in America or should I say seeing that the same thing that we've learned in our history books growing up are still basically happening in America which is draining and devastating. "Being in Willingboro and being surrounded by others who can relate to the black struggles that we're witnessing and going through is definitely therapeutic because you know you're not going through it alone," according to Kareena Lucien, Senior at Willingboro High school

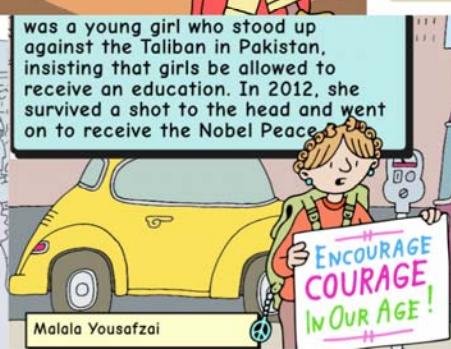
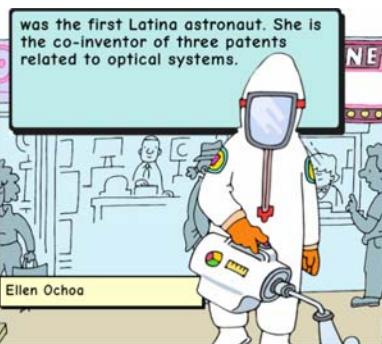
This is a virus that you can not run away from, there's no way to individually cure it because as black people, you're always going to be black. Being black means you are much more in danger of the virus of racism no matter how much you try to prevent it. So not only do a lot of Willingboro students encounter racism face to face, the students and the black community in Willingboro have been immensely affected especially because this is what they're growing up witnessing right now in the world.

Continued – Page 4

Sung and Unsung Heroes of Women's History

By Ceniya Austin

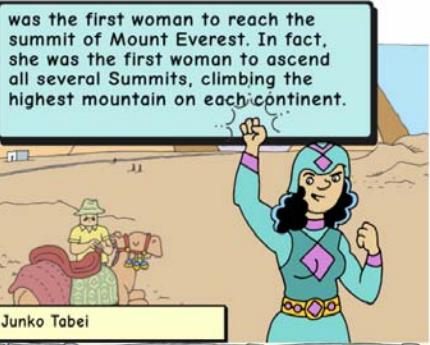
DID YOU KNOW THAT THIS WOMAN...



NO COUNTRY CAN EVER TRULY FLOURISH IF IT STIFLES THE POTENTIAL OF ITS WOMEN AND DEPRIVE ITSELF OF THE CONTRIBUTION OF HALF ITS CITIZENS.

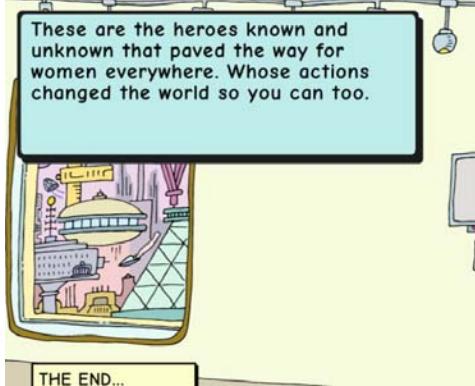
- Michelle Obama

Did you know that this woman . . .

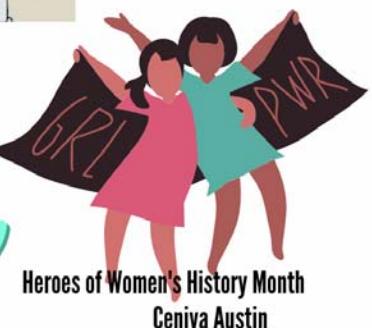


NEVER UNDERESTIMATE THE POWER OF DREAMS AND THE INFLUENCE OF THE HUMAN SPIRIT. WE ARE ALL THE SAME IN THIS NOTION: THE POTENTIAL FOR GREATNESS LIVES WITHIN EACH OF US.

-Wilma Rudolph



*Sung
&
Unsung*





It's Time to return!

By: Kylah Prophet

Things are beginning to heat up. Children have been officially home schooled for a year, and now it's time to RETURN. Now that authorities are talking about reopening schools, a lot of feelings are coming out at once causing chaos. Some parents want their children to return to school and some don't. Now that vaccines have come aboard it can be easier for kids to now go to school. However, it is not only for children. It's easier for staff too.

There have been many epidemics previously, the Ebola out break, for instance. This left many people in a frenzy similar to what Covid is doing to us now. Imagine a deadly virus coming and taking over, something that you can't control, something that can just sneak up on you and kill you. It's very scary.

Online school has not been great for everyone, but has been great for some. Parents felt many ways. In particular, parents wanted their children to be in school because it affected their daily lives especially with work and economic reasons. Some others felt as though it was safer for their children to be home during this horrific time. Not only did parents have feelings, children, like me, and a few others preferred online school. Others felt as though they weren't learning anything and falling behind. Some even say they were robbed of their high school experiences. Although these were the feelings, some prefer their safety over anything. Student Zaniyah Gary who is a senior in school says, "online learning has been a struggle for me, I prefer in school learning, but my health comes first." Students are more concerned about the rules that will be in place upon their return. This includes wearing a mask for hours, social distancing and other rules. What would being in high school actually feel like?



The matter of the truth is that people are moving on with this virus at a high demand. There are over 300 students in a high school building and social distancing will be so hard to overcome especially with students seeing their friends that they haven't seen in months. A mother of a high school student says "Of course I want my child to be in school, but I am very scared of my child contracting the virus." The truth is, it's still out there and we just can't ignore it," mom of 11th grade student Amilyah Prophet, and truth be told, she is correct. We can't just ignore it because authorities are putting people's lives at risk.

As time moves forward I am pro giving individuals the option to choose what they want to do. Not just students, but staff as well. In the future, I hope that authorities will take this into consideration and look at what can possibly be the bigger picture.

Recipe Corner by Anyia Davis

Bowl Baked Oatmeal ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Prep Time: 5 minutes Cook Time: 35 minutes Total Time: 45 minutes Yield: serves 9 This baked oatmeal combines simple ingredients that can be adapted for any allergies or flavor preferences. It's like bread pudding for breakfast— creamy, so, chewy, and delicious all in one! Make ahead and enjoy all week long. Try my baked oatmeal cups, too!

Ingredients: 1 and 3/4 cups (420ml) milk (dairy or nondairy) 2 large eggs* 1/2 cup (120ml) pure maple syrup* 1/4 cup (60g) unsalted butter, melted and slightly cooled* 1/4 cup (60g) unsweetened applesauce or mashed banana 3 cups (240g) old-fashioned whole oats* 1 teaspoon baking powder 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon 1 teaspoon pure vanilla extract 1/4 teaspoon salt 1 and 1/2 cups mixed berries, fresh or frozen (do not thaw)* optional for topping: 1/2 cup chopped walnuts or pecans

Directions: Adjust the oven rack to the lower third position and preheat the oven to 350°F (177°C). Spray a 9×9 inch or 11×7 inch baking pan with nonstick spray. Any similar size or shape pan works, though 8×8 inch would be too small. See recipe note for 9×13 inch pan. 1 Whisk all of the ingredients together in 1 large bowl. Pour into prepared baking pan. Top with nuts, if desired. (Or stir into the oatmeal.) Bake for 35 minutes or until the center appears *almost* set. For drier and more solid baked oatmeal, bake until center has set. Cool for 5 minutes before serving. Spoon or slice and serve with yogurt, if desired. Cover loafers tightly and refrigerate for up to 1 week.

Find it online: <https://eallvhakingaddiction.com/baked>

People of Willingboro Are Dealing with Racial Issues Continued.

By Jenaya Ford

Civil rights and racial discrimination have always been issues, but since social media has become a huge thing, it is now spoken about more than it was before and now there's more racism being brought to light to show how much we still need to improve upon in America. It is a very important and can also be a sensitive topic to talk about, but it needs to be talked about especially in schools that are predominantly black like Willingboro High school.

With all of this being said, one thing that can't be denied is that the black community in Willingboro has definitely stuck together, had leaders, and showed love during the hard times. There was someone named Willie James who was a civil rights activist in Willingboro during the 1950s. He stood up for the issues that were going on and was a huge voice in Willingboro at the time.

In 2020, decades later, lots of students and the people in Willingboro came together and protested after the death of George Floyd. It was a hard tragedy to witness and hear about for many, but it was beautiful to see how the people and students in Willingboro persevered through all the pain and draining of back to back violence, hatred, inequality, and injustice against black people. We came together and spoke up as one for what is right.

"We get killed like we're a threat to America or something. They give us no chance. I think our students and parents from Willingboro were very brave for going out there and protesting during the time when George Floyd was killed because a lot of things could have happened. It's not easy being black. But it is a blessing," Tatiana Bryson, senior student at Willingboro high school said when interviewed.

The future is unclear for not just the Willingboro community, but worldwide. When comes to racial discrimination and the lack of civil rights, are issues not just for the black community, but for all races that experience discrimination continuously. However, in spite of this discrimination the students and people of Willingboro will continue to have hope and stand for what's right. Most importantly, we will stick together, no matter what and we will do our part. Because if one voice can make a difference, then the collective voices of the people of Willingboro together can make a difference too.

Active Newspaper Club Members:

Megan Omolo – President
Current Events

Aniya Davis – Vice President
School News and Recipes

Kierra Hunter – Secretary
Clubs and Activities

Ceniya Austin –
Comics and Creative Writing

Contributing Writers This Month: Janaya Ford,
Kylah Prophet

Elizabeth Massaro – Editor, Club Adviser

Just An Old Dog



I don't know why I love this old black and white dog so much. He's almost blind from cataracts. Every now and then, he smells terrible, not because I don't bath him, but because of flatulence. He's always at my feet, usually sleeping. When I got him he was so energetic. He could jump straight up, without exaggeration, at least three feet in the air. He could balance a volley ball on the tip of his nose and hit it and bounce it back to me every time I bounced it at him. He did that for years, but then one day I bounced the ball and he let it go passed him without jumping. I still throw it once in a while in the yard for him, but he usually just stands or sits next to me wags his tail and pants.

I got him totally by accident. I wasn't looking for him. It was a sunny spring day, and I was just walking around a local farmer's market when I saw two boys walking towards me with him. Someone had cropped his ears, which should have been floppy, but his tail was still intact. They were calling out that the dog was for sale. He was a little thing, mostly black with a white muzzle and chest. His front feet and tail were tipped white and he had a white streak coming up the middle of his forehead.

The boys weren't carrying him right and he was squirming. I stopped them and said, "Here, let me show you how to hold a dog." The boy holding him, handed him to me, and I picked him up with one hand and supported his butt with my other hand. I had my right hand holding his chest so that my fingers could hold him in place around his shoulders. He was warm and velvety and I liked holding him, of course. Who doesn't like puppies? He breathed a long sigh of relief or acceptance of his fate in my hands and relaxed and sat quietly, while I held him. I held him longer than I should have because I didn't give him back. The two boys walked away with my fifty dollars, and he went home with me.

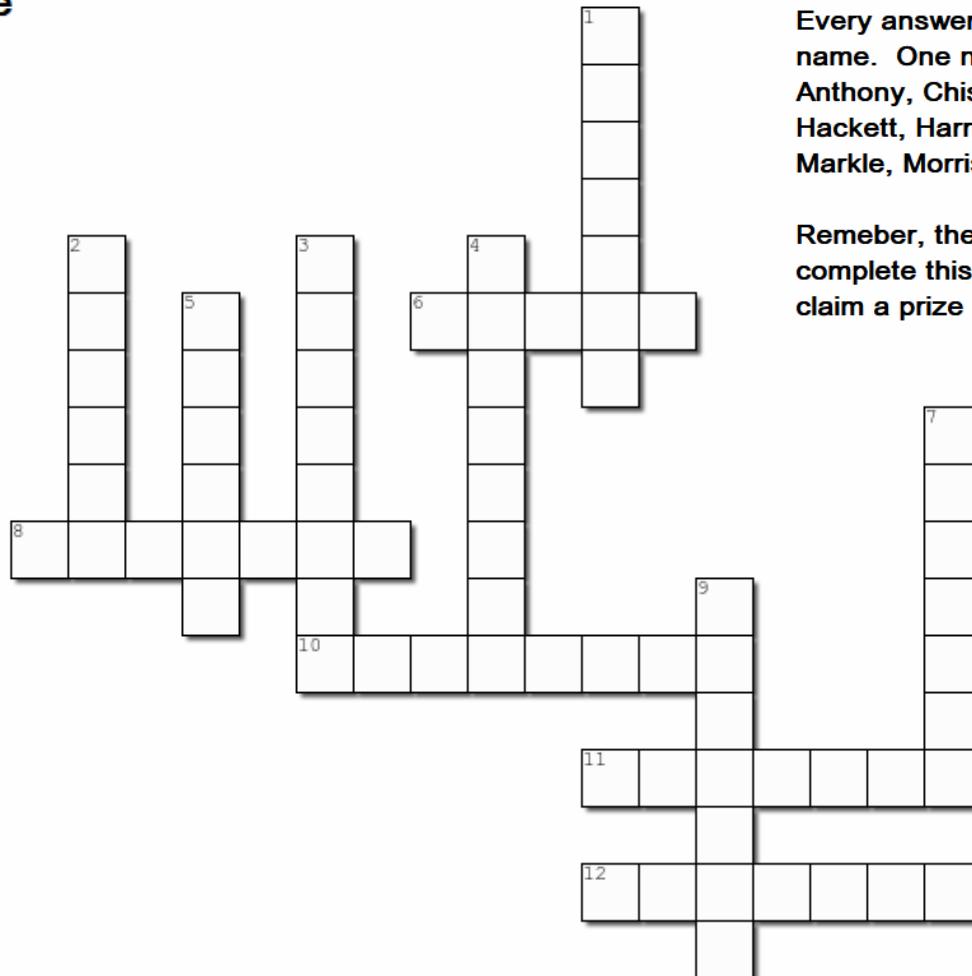
That was thirteen years ago. For thirteen years he's been sitting here with me, or if I wasn't home, he waited, I'm told, by the door, until I got there. He's snoring at my feet right now while I type this. He is always happy to see me. For some reason, I am always happy to see him too. He smells terrible. He makes me laugh, and sometimes he makes me angry, but I don't think he realizes that he's funny or frustrating.

He is spoiled and doesn't eat dog food. I give him his own plate of liver, and gizzards, and chicken and ground lamb or turkey. When I get a steak, he always gets at least a third of it, sometimes more. He sits next to the table expecting scraps, which I'm told is totally my fault, but I really don't mind sharing my food with him. When I eat chicken, I always save him the cartilage, the soft spongy bone at either end of a chicken leg. That is his favorite thing to eat, I think. I'd never give him hard chicken bones because they splinter, even though I had a chicken on the table once, and he managed to pull down the table cloth and when I got to it, the whole thing was gone, bones and all. He had a huge smile on his face. Not his best day. Once, he ate steel wool pads from a box of Brillo pads that I used to keep under my sink. Now I keep them up high in the cupboard so he can't get them. He scared me that day, but when I called the vet, I was told not to worry, he'd poop them out. His breath smelled like soap for a week.

I don't know why I love this dog so much. After all, he's just an old black and white dog. He doesn't do tricks, and he doesn't fetch, even though he used to. When there's a thunder storm he trembles and tries to sit very close to me or he jumps in my lap and hides his head in the crook of my arm. After a while, he might get brave and bark at the storm, once or twice to show he's protecting me, but we both know he's the one who's seeking protection.

I look at him getting so old, the hair on his face getting grey and white, and I wonder how much longer he's going to stay with me. Some times, if you get too close to me and he doesn't know you, he'll bark, and growl at you and show his teeth, although he's never, ever, in thirteen years, bitten anyone. I nicknamed him Scary Boy, but the only thing that scares me is how much pain I'm going to feel when he leaves me. I don't even know why, he just and old dog, after all.

Women's History Crossword Puzzle



Answer Key:

Every answer is a woman's last name. One name is repeated twice. Anthony, Chisholm, Crumpler, Hackett, Harris, Jemison, Johnson, Markle, Morrison, Truth, Winfrey

Remember, the first three students to complete this puzzle correctly can claim a prize from Ms. Massaro.

Across

6. Nicknamed Grandma Moses because she helped so many people escape slavery.
8. In 1992, she flew into space aboard the Endeavour, becoming the first African Am
10. She is an American novelist, her books include 'Tar Baby' and 'Beloved.'
11. She was a mathematician for NASA. Her first name was Kathrine.
12. She is one of the most successful people in the media industry today.

Down

1. Our new Superintendent of Schools. She is Dr. Nealy_____.
2. The first African-American to become a member of the British Royal Family. Her son, Archie is 7th in line for the throne.
3. The first African-American woman to be elected to the House of Representatives. She won seven consecutive terms. Shirley...
4. She was the first Black female physician in the United States. Born Rebecca Davis in Delaware o
5. First woman Vice President of the United States.
7. She was the first real astronaut to appear on Star Trek.
9. Promoted women's voting rights. Her first name was Susan.

Students, in an effort to assist you with coming back to our school building, we have included a sample schedule for you here. This schedule was copied from The Willingboro Public School District's Reopening Plan, which is a 171 page document you can view in its entirety by going to https://core-docs.s3.amazonaws.com/documents/asset/uploaded_file/966757/Willingboro_Public_Schools_Reopening_Plan_03.29.2021.docx.pdf

Students have been grouped into four different categories for the purposes of Option 1 reopening. These Categories are

- A Group, attending school in the building on Mondays, and Tuesdays.
- B Group, attending school in the building on Thursdays and Fridays,
- C Group, attending school in the building on Monday, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays
- D Group, attending remotely all 5 days of the week.

All students will work remotely on Wednesdays, which is the designated cleaning day for all schools.

It is important to remember that you will follow your current schedules, as far as subjects are concerned. However, the Google Meet and in person instruction times will change. For instance, homeroom currently begins at 8:30 for Option 2. On April 19th, beginning Option 1, homeroom will begin at 7:20 am. and end at 7:35. Block 1 begins at 7:39, not 8:30. See the schedule below.

Questions about your schedule should be directed to the guidance office. Please understand that groups A, B, and C, can not be switched unless an error was made concerning your schedule. Once you choose to be placed in group D, remote instruction, you can not be placed back into one of the groups returning to the building.

WILLINGBORO PUBLIC SCHOOLS REOPENING PLAN: 2020 - 2021

Appendix F: Sample High School Schedule (Option 1)

- Teacher arrival 7:00 a.m.; Teacher release 2:00 p.m.
 - Teacher preparation period is 40 minutes-A-G Rotations
 - Breakfast will be served in the classroom
 - Lunch will be distributed at dismissal
 - Breakfast and Lunch for Wednesday (occupant-free cleaning day) will be **available** at Levitt Intermediate and Memorial Middle