

HEALTH AND SAFETY REQUIREMENTS

Our goal is to promote the safe in-person return of as many students as possible in a school setting. For students and staff to return to school, we are preparing our schools and facilities to adapt operating procedures to adhere to medically-advised health and safety requirements. The district is following federal, state, and local safety requirements applicable to school buildings.

It is clear that it is not a single action, but the combination of actions that minimize risk, mitigate the virus's transmission, and help create safe environments. The Facilities and Operations Guidance provided by the state and collaboration with our local Board of Health have guided our plan. As the knowledge and research related to COVID-19 continues to evolve, appropriate adjustments will be made.

- **Masks.** Masks will be required for students in grades Pre-K-12 and all staff while in the buildings.
 - Students will be allowed to not wear a mask while eating at a lunch table in the designated area which will be 6 feet apart.
 - Mask breaks will be scheduled by building principals with predetermined locations for the breaks. Locations will be outside whenever possible.
 - Staff located near main entrances will have access to disposable masks for visitors, staff and children who have forgotten their own.
 - Masks will be required by all riding on a bus.
- **Handwashing and hand sanitizing.** Clean hands will be encouraged throughout the school district.
 - Sanitizing stations will be located at all main entrances and exits and other high traffic areas.
 - Hand washing is available in all elementary school classrooms.
 - Two lunch room portable hand washing stations will be available at both the Middle and High School cafeterias.
 - Handwashing will be required when students use the restrooms
- **Physical distancing.** While 3 feet of distancing is required, Norwell will promote 6 feet with a mask throughout the building.
 - Limitations will be placed on how many students access a bathroom at a time.
 - Classrooms will maintain 6 feet of distancing between desks while in a hybrid model.
 - Teacher desks along with teacher spaces will be 6 feet distanced from the students.
 - Lunchrooms will maintain 6 feet of distancing while acquiring lunches. All lunch tables will maintain 6 feet of distancing.
 - Limitations will be placed on how many people access all areas in the building including staff break rooms.
 - Classrooms in a hybrid model will have forward facing student's desks.
 - All other furniture will be moved, if necessary, to allow for adequate space to maneuver without compromising the 6 feet of distance.
 - All movement within the building will require 6 feet of distancing.
 - All office staff will maintain 6 feet of distancing within the office at all times.
- **Cohorts.** Students will be grouped in small cohorts to preserve social distancing requirements.
 - Elementary students will stay with their class throughout the school day.
 - Middle School students will be limited to other students in their grade level. During lunch

- and crossing periods.
- High School students will be limited by physical location as much as possible.
- Assigned seating will be utilized as much as possible throughout the district.
- **School cleaning and Disinfecting.** All Schools will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
 - WetOnes wipes will be available to all staff. WetOnes are safe for students to use in the classroom for cleaning only. These wipes will not disinfect.
 - Teachers will have access to a disinfecting spray. The spray is citric-acid based, green, and safe for use around students. Surfaces must remain wet for 5 minutes in order to kill the virus and may be used between student activities in the rooms.
 - During the day, custodians will regularly clean and disinfect bathrooms and other high touch areas, such as door handles, using a light disinfectant that is safe for children.
 - Every evening, custodians will perform a deep clean and disinfecting throughout the building. Twice a week the building will also be disinfected using an electrostatic sprayer.
- **Ventilation.** Fresh air is recommended over any kind of filtering of recirculated air.
 - Unit Vents are used by almost all classrooms throughout the district, which allows for filtered fresh air to enter the learning space. The air is exhausted out of the room allowing more fresh air to enter via the Unit Vents.
- **Movement protocols within facilities**
 - Plans for students not crowding in or out of the building while beginning and ending the day will be supplied by building principals.
 - Students will learn routines for moving throughout the buildings and entering spaces such as bathrooms.
 - Lockers will not be used throughout the district. Building plans will be made to address student items that need day storage.
 - Signage will be provided throughout the building to reinforce social distancing and mask wearing.
- **Other Issues**
 - Water fountains will have limited access. The ‘bubbler’ feature will be taken out of service and covered while all touchless bottle fill stations will remain active.
 - All Food service employees will wear masks while preparing food. Meals will be provided at each school level in a safe distanced manner. Meals will be preordered allowing for student pick up with limited interactions with staff.
 - One student will be allowed to sit per seat on the bus unless sitting with a family member.
 - Students will be assigned to a seat.
 - Boarding and unboarding the buses will follow district protocols.
 - Buses will maintain open windows.
- **Medical Waiting Rooms**
 - A space separate from the Nurse’s office has been identified in each building.
 - This medical waiting room will be used when a student presenting COVID-19 symptoms needs to be separated.
 - The medical waiting room will always be monitored by appropriate staff.
 - Students will be expected to wear masks at all times and building staff will be equipped with appropriate PPE.