



# North Rose-Wolcott

## CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

### Reopening to Diminish Risk to Public Health 2021-2022 School Year

This plan is subject to change with limited notice based on State, regional, and local circumstances.

This plan is effective **September 7, 2021**, at which time all NR-W students will fully return to in-person learning. The plan is applicable to all NR-W events and activities including the regular school day, athletics, and extracurricular activities.

This plan was created to maximize opportunity for in-person learning, reduce the risk of school closure, and stop the spread of COVID-19. Our schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this plan emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.

This plan was reviewed by Wayne County Public Health (WCPH) and the School District's Medical Director. The district, in conjunction with these entities, will monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to monitor this plan and make adjustments as necessary.

**Any questions about this plan should be directed to [questions@nrwcs.org](mailto:questions@nrwcs.org).**

CDC Strategies	School Implementation
Vaccination	<p>Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Vaccination is not required for school attendance. Vaccination, however, has a significant impact on COVID transmission.* As such, the health and safety measures in this plan will apply to everyone regardless of their vaccination status.</p> <p>*Those who are vaccinated can still contract COVID-19 but symptoms tend to be mild and significantly diminish severe illness, hospitalization and death.</p>

Consistent and correct mask use for students and staff

### **Minimum Expectations for Indoors\***

Given the new information from the CDC (July 27, 2021), "to maximize protection from the Delta variant and prevent possibly spreading it to others," masks are required indoors in all K-12 school facilities.

- *Face covering breaks are optional, and students may fully leave their face coverings on if they choose, with the exception of the meal break.*
- *When possible, face covering breaks will be staggered or occur outside or in other areas with good airflow, and where a minimum of 3 feet distance can be accomplished.*
- *Staff members will use care not to single out any student who opts to leave a mask on during face-covering breaks.*

For CDC Community Transmission level of Low, masks will be encouraged but not required as long as physical distance is ensured.

### **Outdoors**

Masks are not required for vaccinated individuals.

Masks are not required but are recommended for unvaccinated people. This is subject to change based on local rates of transmission.

### **Supply of Masks**

Parents are encouraged to supply face coverings for their child's use in the school setting. Employees are encouraged to supply a face covering for their use. The school will supply a face covering to any student who does not have one. PPE will be available to all staff members.

### **Transportation**

Passengers and drivers must wear a mask on school buses at all times. Students must be wearing a face covering at the bus stop at the time of boarding the school bus. Students who do not have a face covering will not be denied transportation; instead they will immediately be given a face covering by the bus driver. In order to ride the bus, all students must wear a face covering for the duration of the time aboard the bus. Students without authorized accommodations who refuse to wear a face covering will not be able to board the bus and the child will remain in the custody of the parent.

Physical Distancing	<p><b>Minimum Expectation for all subject areas*</b></p> <p>3' minimum distancing requirement to the extent possible</p> <p>For students having meals, 6-foot distancing will be implemented to the extent possible.</p> <p>Instruction is considered a core activity. As such, physical distancing may be diminished with mask use for shorter intervals of core activities.</p> <p>Large group assemblies where social distancing can be maintained are permissible.</p>
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	<p>Information will be shared with staff and students on how to follow COVID-19 protocols safely and correctly, including but not limited to hand hygiene, proper face covering wearing, social distancing, and respiratory hygiene.</p> <p>Hand hygiene stations will be maintained, including handwashing with soap, running water, and disposable paper towels, as well as an alcohol-based sanitizer containing 60% or more alcohol for areas where handwashing is not feasible.</p> <p>Should a person become ill and exhibit symptoms, they will be separated from others by at least 6' until they are picked up to leave.</p>
Ventilation	<p>Bus windows and roof hatches will be opened, weather permitting.</p> <p>Ventilation with fresh outside air shall be provided in all occupied spaces. The Director of Facilities or designee shall ensure that all occupied spaces will have an operable system to bring outside air into the space and that those systems are maintained to operate in accordance with the original design.</p>

<p>Staying home when sick and getting tested</p>	<p>Parents are responsible for screening student health every day prior to a student boarding a school bus or entering a building. The screening must include a temperature check and assessment of illness-related symptoms. Parents allowing a child to board a school bus or enter the school building for the instructional program are verifying that a health screen has been completed and that the child has not:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Knowingly been in close contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19;</li> <li>• Tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days;</li> <li>• Experienced any symptoms of COVID-19, including a temperature of greater than 100°F, in the past 14 days; and/or</li> <li>• Travelled internationally or from a state with widespread community transmission of COVID-19 per New York State Travel Advisories.</li> </ul> <p>Parent/staff submission of a daily health screen is not required.</p>
<p>Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine*</p>	<p><b>Seating Charts for Purposes of Contact Tracing</b> Students will be assigned a seat on a bus. Students will not be able to choose their own seat. Seating charts must be available for buses, cohorts, lunches, and other such pods.</p> <p><b>Contact Tracing and Positive Results</b> There will be a contact tracing protocol administered by WCPH.</p> <p>The School Nurse will immediately notify the local health department about any case of diagnostic test results that are positive for COVID-19.</p> <p>WCPH will not disclose personal information for those testing positive for COVID-19. Relevant parties will be notified appropriately by WCPH.</p>

	<p>Students who screen positive for COVID-19 symptoms can only return to school when approved by school medical authorities and in accordance with the protocols of the local health department. Any return to school will require signed documentation from a healthcare provider that includes negative COVID-19 testing and symptom resolution/release from isolation.</p> <p>In order to limit contacts and reduce risk of transmission in the school, visitors in buildings will continue to be substantially limited. Parents should continue to use designated drop-off/pick up procedures for each building and avoid entering the buildings.</p> <p>*The likelihood of having to quarantine is substantially diminished for those who are vaccinated, wear a mask, and physically distance.</p>
Cleaning and disinfection	<p>The district will adhere to hygiene, cleaning, and disinfection requirements from the CDC.</p> <p>Students will be trained on the developmentally appropriate disinfecting of personal equipment (e.g., desk, workstations, supplies) at intervals throughout the day as designated by school staff members.</p>
Instructional Model	<p>Per the NYS Education Department, the district is expected to prioritize a return for all students to in-person instruction. All students will attend school 5 days a week. There will be no virtual option. However, this may be revisited based on COVID numbers and local, state, and federal guidance.</p> <p>When singing and playing wind instruments, a 6-foot distance will be maintained when possible.</p> <p>All school buildings are staffed with school counselors, school psychologists, and community agency social workers/counselors. Students will be supported by a professional in the counseling office or other trained staff members. Staff member training will be offered by the Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) team regarding talking with and supporting students during and after the COVID-19 public health emergency. SEL teams with respective representatives are in place to employ existing practices for coping and resilience skills.</p> <p>Appropriate assistance to individuals with disabilities or other health care needs will be provided.</p> <p>Student hours will be as follows for each building:  ES-9:00-3:20, parent drop off at 8:45 &amp; parent pick up at 3:20  MS-7:30-2:15  HS-7:40-2:25</p>

**Student Absence from Instruction Due to Illness**

When your child is absent from school for illness or any other reason, parents or guardians must notify the School Health Office. Please remember to send in a written note of explanation when your child returns to school.

Missed work due to absence can be requested from the classroom teacher. For students in grades 7-12, call the Counseling Office prior to 10:00 AM to request missed work.

**School Closure**

Should a complete school closure be warranted as determined by the local health department in consultation with the school superintendent and district's medical director, the identified communication protocols will be used to provide information to families as aligned to the District's existing safety and emergency plans. A transition to fully remote learning may require 2 days planning time where remote instruction may not occur.

**Homeschooling (home instruction)**

Homeschooling is governed by the regulations of the New York State Education Department. Parents wishing to homeschool a child must follow the published guidelines, including the submission of an intent to homeschool and an Individualized Home Instruction Plan (IHIP).

The Stated Education Department has published a Q&A document to support parents in the homeschooling process at:

<http://www.nysed.gov/nonpublic-schools/home-instruction-questions-and-answers>.

Parents must submit a letter of intent to homeschool according to the established timeframe. Letters of intent are to be emailed to: Tina St.John at: [tstjohn@nrwcs.org](mailto:tstjohn@nrwcs.org) or by mail: 11631 Salter Colvin Rd., Wolcott, NY 14590. Once the original letter of intent has been received a school official will contact the family.

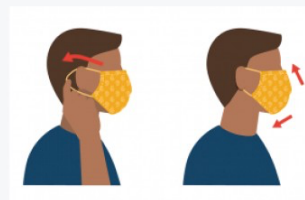
## APPENDIX A

### How To Wear Cloth Face Coverings

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/about-face-coverings.html>

#### Wear your Face Covering Correctly

- Wash your hands before putting on your face covering
- Put it over your nose and mouth and secure it under your chin
- Try to fit it snugly against the sides of your face
- Make sure you can breathe easily



#### Wear a Face Covering to Protect Others

- Wear a face covering that covers your nose and mouth to help protect others in case you're infected with COVID-19 but don't have symptoms
- Wear a face covering in public settings when around people who don't live in your household, especially when it may be difficult for you to stay six feet apart
- **Don't** put the face covering around your neck or up on your forehead
- **Don't** touch the face covering, and, if you do, wash your hands or use hand sanitizer to disinfect

#### Follow Everyday Health Habits

- Stay at least 6 feet away from others
- Avoid contact with people who are sick
- Wash your hands often, with soap and water, for at least 20 seconds each time
- Use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available



\*current guidance states 3 feet



#### Take Off Your Cloth Face Covering Carefully, When You're Home

- Untie the strings behind your head or stretch the ear loops
- Handle only by the ear loops or ties
- Fold outside corners together
- Place covering in the washing machine (learn more about [how to wash cloth face coverings](#))
- Be careful not to touch your eyes, nose, and mouth when removing and wash hands immediately after removing.

# 2021-2022 Reopening Questions and Answers

## **Are students going to be able to attend school every day?**

Yes, all grade levels will attend school 5 days a week. Schools will have the following hours for student learning:

**Elementary:** 9 a.m.-3:20 p.m., parent drop-off at 8:45 a.m., parent pick-up at 3:20 p.m.

**Middle School:** 7:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m.

**High School:** 7:40 a.m.-2:25 p.m.

## **Will virtual learning be an option this year?**

All students will attend school in person.

## **Will my child have to wear a mask all day?**

Masks will be worn by all staff and students while at school, inside, and on school buses. Staff members will schedule mask breaks when students are seated and practicing social distancing (3 feet). In addition, masks may be removed when outside or when consuming food or beverages.

## **How do I request to homeschool?**

Homeschooling is an option that parents can choose at any time. Homeschooling is coordinated through the district office but in this model, parents are responsible for selecting and providing materials and instruction based on State Education Department regulations. Homeschooling is governed by the regulations of the New York State Education Department. Parents wishing to homeschool a child must follow the published guidelines, including the submission of a letter of intent to homeschool and an Individualized Home Instruction Plan (IHIP).

The State Education Department has published a Q&A document to support parents in the homeschooling process at:

<http://www.nysed.gov/nonpublic-schools/home-instruction-questions-and-answers>.

Parents must submit a letter of intent to homeschool according to the established timeframe. Letters of intent are to be emailed to: Tina St.John at: [tstjohn@nrwcs.org](mailto:tstjohn@nrwcs.org) or by mail: 11631 Salter Colvin Rd., Wolcott, NY 14590. Once the original letter of intent has been received, a school official will contact the family.

## **Will my student have to have a COVID test before returning to school?**

There is no requirement for your child to be tested before starting the 2021-2022 school year. If your child has been ill, you will follow your primary care physician's guidance as to whether a COVID test is needed or not.

## **What will recess look like for K-6 students?**

Recess will be held outside whenever possible and masks will not be required. Students will use hand sanitizer before and after any use of playground equipment. During inclement weather, recess will be held inside and include the wearing of masks when students are moving around their room to play with each other.



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# 2021-2022 Reopening Questions and Answers

## **What will meals look like for students?**

All students are eligible for free breakfast and lunch. Students will eat breakfast in classrooms while lunch will be served in the cafeteria. Students will have assigned seats so if quarantining needs to occur, there will be a consistent group of students who eat together.

## **How will I be able to communicate with my child's teacher?**

Teachers can be contacted via phone or email. Additionally, the district is implementing ParentSquare, a unified platform for school-home communication. ParentSquare provides a consistent way for district staff to communicate with families and you can choose the format that you would like to receive information in (email, text or mobile app).

In the coming days, the District will send out an invitation email or text for you to join ParentSquare. Once you receive the invitation, click the link to activate your account. You can use ParentSquare on any device using the free ParentSquare app or visiting the ParentSquare website, [www.parentsquare.com](http://www.parentsquare.com).

Our goal is for every family to join ParentSquare and engage with our school community.

## **Will my child still be able to attend their BOCES CTE program?**

Yes. BOCES will be offering instruction 5 days a week for CTE programs.

## **If my child attends a full time BOCES program for special education or alternative education, what will their schedule be?**

If the program is one that is housed at a BOCES facility and not in a school district, they will be attending 5 days a week as long as schools are allowed to be open.

## **Will my 7th or 8th grader still be able to take accelerated courses?**

Yes, students have been scheduled to take the accelerated courses that we offer when possible to receive credits before entering high school.

## **For the 7-12 schedule, how will students move through the hallways maintaining social distancing and mask protocols?**

Students will be expected to wear masks whenever they are moving around indoors. 3-foot social distancing will be encouraged.

*Additional questions may be emailed to [questions@nrwcs.org](mailto:questions@nrwcs.org).*



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