



Matthew Keegan
Superintendent, Norwell Public Schools
matthew.keegan@norwellschools.org



Norwell Public Schools • 322 Main Street • Norwell, MA 02061 • v:781.659.8800 • f:781.659.8805 • norwellschools.org

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Dear Parents and Guardians,

We are excited and are thoughtfully planning for the opening of schools. There are important and challenging issues for the entire school community to consider. I am writing to let you know that there will be a Norwell School Committee meeting on Monday, August 23, in the Middle School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

During the meeting we will discuss the reopening of Norwell Public Schools for the 2021-2022 school year. We will be discussing the most recent guidance and recommendations regarding COVID-19. The guidance addresses wearing masks in schools, quarantine procedures, vaccinations, and COVID-19 testing options. There will be opportunity for public comment on agenda items. Since the meeting will be in person in a school building, we strongly recommend that individuals wear masks, especially if unvaccinated. Whether or not you are able to attend the School Committee meeting in person, we encourage you to review the attached [DESE/DPH Guidance for Districts and Schools](#) and [DESE/DPH Quarantine and Close Contact Protocols](#).

I encourage you to attend the meeting if possible. The meeting will be recorded by NSTV Cable, and will be made available online if you are interested but unable to attend. If you would like to participate in the public comment portion, I ask that you review the attached [School Committee Policy BEDH on Public Participation at School Committee Meetings](#). If you are unable to attend and would like your perspective to be reviewed, you can send an email to School Committee Clerk Christina Kane at christina.kane@norwellschools.org. This is an opportunity for many diverse perspectives to be heard in a respectful environment.

The School Committee will review and evaluate the information and perspectives offered. Final decisions regarding school opening guidance will be formally voted upon by the School Committee on August 30th.

Sincerely,

Matthew A. Keegan
Superintendent of Schools