



DRAFT

Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan for 2021-22

Information for Parents and Staff Members

June 15, 2021

Purpose, Public Comment, and Community Engagement

As a requirement for Federal COVID funding, the district must develop a “Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan.” This draft version is intended to begin the discussion about how the school district can safely return to in-person learning for the 2021-22 school year.

NLCS will finalize the plan after receiving public comment and conducting community engagement opportunities. To provide public comment, which will be published on the school website, email Mike.Hamernick@nlcschool.org on or before Wednesday, June 30, 2021.

The plan is subject to change, especially because of the changing circumstances related to COVID.

Learning Options for Students

Students have the following learning options:

- In-Person Learning for five days per week.
- Full Distance Learning – only if approved by the legislature.
- Distance/Online learning will only be available to students who are in quarantine

Mitigation Strategies

To prioritize the health and safety of students, employees, and community members, the following mitigation strategies are currently planned for the beginning of the 2021-22 school year:

The district will follow all requirements of State law, executive order, Minnesota Department of Education, Minnesota Department of Health, and Minnesota Department of Human Services.

- If mandated by the State, masks will be required.
- Students and adults are expected to stay home if sick.
- If the district is required to quarantine students due to close contact with someone who tests positive for COVID, quarantined individuals may return after their 10th day of quarantine if they can provide evidence of a negative PCR test on the 8th day or later of quarantine. Otherwise, they will be quarantined for 14 days.
- COVID tests will be encouraged and may be available on district grounds, if possible.
- Vaccinations for ages 12+ will be highly recommended, but not required for enrollment/employment
- Social distancing of at least 3 feet is encouraged when feasible – 6 feet when possible.
- Plexiglass barriers and personal protective equipment will be used as needed.
- Handwashing will continue to be prioritized.

- Hand sanitizers will remain in place
- NLCS will follow all cleaning and sanitizing protocols required by the State.

School Health Services

A school nurse (licensed RN) will continue to be available on a daily basis (AM hours only).

Technology Services

NLCS will provide each student a Chromebook to use at school and at home. School financial support for hot-spots or home internet will depend on decisions made by the legislature later this summer. If Distance Learning is an option mandated by the legislature, the school will continue to provide internet service for families who need it and request it.

Food Services

Thanks to funding from the State and Federal governments, students will continue to receive free breakfasts and lunches. Meals will be served in the cafeteria. Home delivery of meals will depend on the decisions of the legislature regarding Distance Learning.

Transportation Services

Bus transportation will be offered to students via contract with AEOA. Pick-up and drop-off times will be shared with families in August.

Students will be expected to follow all safety requirements set in place by AEOA in order to ride the bus. AEOA will have their own safety protocols that may differ from school rules.

Activities

Any activities after school will follow all safety protocols required during school.

EAT – Emergency Action Team

The EAT will continue to meet regularly to discuss health and safety concerns as they occur.

Student and Family Resources

Please refer to Itasca County Public Health (<https://www.co.itasca.mn.us/397/Public-Health-Division>) or Saint Louis County Public Health and Human Services (<https://www.stlouiscountymn.gov/departments-a-z/public-health-human-services>) for family resources during these challenging times.

Links to other support services can be found on our website: <https://nlcschool.org/covid-19-response/>

Requests for ADA Accommodations for Students and Employees

Student requests for ADA accommodations can be emailed to Josie Pitts-Lobe, Special Ed. Coordinator, at Josie.Pitts@nlcschool.org. Staff ADA accommodations can be emailed to Mike Hamernick, Director, at Mike.Hamernick@nlcschool.org. If a staff member is at risk and feels he/she been denied a reasonable accommodation, they can contact EdVisions Cooperative at (507) 276-5830, or call the Minnesota Department of Human Rights' Discrimination Helpline at 833-454-0148.