

SMART START 2020

Nome Public Schools

Re-Opening Plan

(Initial Plan as of 7/10/2020)

As we plan for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, our guiding principles are 1) Prioritize safety of students and staff 2) Students in school for as many days possible for as long as possible and 3) efforts must be made to ensure equitable access to education for all students. We must balance the educational, social and emotional needs of our students with the need for a safe and healthy school and community. **As health conditions evolve and more information is available, some areas of this plan may need to change.** We will work to communicate school specifics and student details as we get closer to the first day of school.

Our planning is based on guidelines from the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHSS), and we will work closely with our health partners at Public Health and the Norton Sound Hospital to anticipate shifts between Learning Models based on community case numbers and risk of community spread.

LOW RISK (GREEN)	MEDIUM RISK (YELLOW)	HIGH RISK (RED)
14 days without community spread cases; low risk of community spread	Some active cases from community spread, medium risk of community spread	Many active cases, high risk of community spread OR Active case(s) in school
Students in Class; Heightened Safety Precautions	Hybrid Learning Model; Students in Class Two Days/Week + Learning at Home	Fully Distance Learning; Method of Delivery Depends on Student Need & Access
CONDITIONS FOR LEARNING		
<i>Health and Safety Protocols</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masks/Face shields required for all staff Masks/Face shields strongly recommended for students (exceptions for Kindergarten students or students with documented medical conditions) Hand sanitizer available; frequent hand washing; sanitizing wipe buckets for frequently cleaning of surfaces 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Same precautions as GREEN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> School buildings are closed to students Gloves used to handle any paper packets prepared for delivery or received back for grading Buildings may be closed for 2-5 days for deep cleaning for cases identified within a school

(Revised 7/8/2020)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temperature/health screenings for staff & students – overseen by Community Health Nurse provided by NSHC • Symptom Free Schools – staff and students stay home if symptoms exist, staff and students who develop fever or other symptoms during the school day will be isolated and sent home 		
<i>Parent and Family Engagement</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication with families and the community will be timely and informative • The District will focus on a few key communication tools for parents – social media usage will be utilized for community-wide communications • Trainings will be set up early in the school year to help parents prepare for distance learning – trainings will focus on learning platforms/programs and communication tools 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased contact with families regarding academic and social emotional needs of students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as YELLOW
<i>Transportation</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bus ridership capacity will be less – empty seats and only household members allowed in same seat • Parents are asked to transport their own children if at all possible • Masks will be required to ride the bus • Bus drivers will wear masks • Buses cleaned/sanitized daily • Staff may ride the buses at the start of school and periodically to ensure safe behavior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as GREEN • Better social distancing on buses due to lower ridership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buses used for Meal Delivery Program
<i>Welcome Back Planning</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staggered Back to School Nights • Orientation Day for 6th, 7th and 9th graders at NBHS • Possible rolling start for NES and/or ACSA • Focus on preparing students and parents for moving between phases; discussion of new health/safety protocols 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Same as Yellow 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Virtual Introductions/Back to School videos and activities • Preparing families for expectations for distance learning

CONTINUITY OF LEARNING		
<i>Learning Gaps & Interventions</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Baseline assessments ● Lesson plans modified to account for gaps ● After school assistance/tutoring ● Intervention teachers & other support staff will work with students who need additional support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Identify critical learning standards & focus on mastery ● At-Home work focus on gaps/fluency of skills ● Vulnerable populations will attend four days/week 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Evening workshops for parents will focus on best practices for distance learning home support ● Limited face-to-face tutoring for some vulnerable population students ● On-line tutoring opportunities
<i>School Schedules & Instruction</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Normal start/end times; normal start date for school ● Enrollment in Alaska Virtual School (facilitated by District teachers) for parents who need/prefer an at-home model for their students; requires a minimum one-semester commitment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Blue/White cohorts – Mon/Thurs & Tues/Friday attendance ● Wednesday will be for professional development, additional teacher planning time, teacher office hours 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Distance learning mode ● Vulnerable populations may still participate in limited face-to-face tutoring/instruction
<i>Professional Development</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Professional development focus for staff will be on responding to learning gaps; mental health of staff and students; identifying critical learning standards; preparation for blended learning (virtual+face to face); and creating effective virtual lessons. Increased opportunities for teachers to work with their Professional Learning Communities and grade or content teams. 		
CAPACITY FOR LEARNING		
<i>Connectivity</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The District plans to survey families at the beginning of the year to determine access to internet ● Our ability to deliver virtual learning opportunities will depend on internet access; we are working with the Federal Communication Commission and our local internet providers for approval of a plan to provide access to the District internet signal for the community ● The District will be able to provide student Chromebooks/laptops for grades 3-12; iPads for K-2 		
<i>Student Activities & Travel</i>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ASAA will be providing guidance on ASAA sanctioned sports & activities ● Student and Staff travel will require District pre-approval and may be limited or restricted depending on quarantine requirements ● More information will be provided closer to the start of school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Same as GREEN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cancel practices and meets/games ● No student or staff travel