



*Newfound
Area School
District's
2021-2022
School Year
Opening
Plan*

**First Day of School
August 25, 2021**

School Board Approved August 9, 2021, Revised September 13, 2021 School Board approval.

Revised October 12, 2021 School Board Approved

SCHOOL OPENING PLAN 2021-2022

The Newfound Area School District will continue to follow New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services guidelines regarding student and staff safety, contact tracing and quarantines. The District is committed to providing an in-person education to all students while also emphasizing the importance of physical and emotional wellness for students and staff. To that end, the following guidelines will be implemented. These guidelines are based on current local COVID statistics including infection rates. District administration will continue to monitor this information and adjustments will be made if necessary.

Health and Safety

- Wearing masks will be required for students and staff, until further notice.
- The health management committee will continue to meet regularly to review the mask requirement and will consider all local data regarding COVID-19.
- The school board will review the opening plan modifications at each meeting and make changes as needed.
- Disposable masks will be available as needed. A supply of masks will be available in central locations (office, health office, athletic office, etc.)
- Physical distancing will be maintained indoors when possible at 3 feet.
- Volunteers and parents will be allowed in our buildings as long as they are masked, asymptomatic, and complete a health screening upon entry.
- All students and staff with COVID-19 symptoms will be assessed by the school nurse and sent home when necessary.
- School nurses will provide training to staff focusing on health and safety for students and staff, hygiene and sanitization, use of personal protective equipment, and other related topics.

Quarantine

- Unvaccinated individuals who are household contacts of someone diagnosed with COVID-19 will be required to quarantine for 10 days from the date of last exposure.

Academic Needs

- Students will attend school in-person full time, in the 2021-2022 school year. There will not be a remote learning option. ***Certain classes, grades, or schools may pivot to remote learning temporarily based on COVID-19 outbreaks in particular groups as determined by school and district administration.***
- Students who are required to isolate or quarantine due to COVID-19 will have access to their assignments through Google Classroom.
- The district will hire 2 full time literacy specialists to begin in the 2021-2022 school year to address the literacy needs of students K-12.

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- There will be an increased emphasis on the effective use of data to drive instruction through developing data team protocols to be used district-wide.

Athletics

- All sports will be played following the NHIAA guidelines for safe participation.

Facilities

- Facilities will be updated to improve health and safety, including the following:
 - New HVAC system at NMMS
 - Update ventilation systems in BES and NHCS
 - Window replacement at NMMS and NHCS
 - Roof replacement at BES
- Hand sanitizers are located at each entry point into the buildings, bathrooms, and classrooms.
- Appropriate signs are placed in the buildings with reminders of physical distancing, hand-washing, and the use of sanitizer, etc.
- New water fountains with bottle filling stations are available in all schools.
- All buildings will have extensive daily thorough cleaning of bathrooms, corridors, touchpoints, and classrooms at all schools.

Movement within the School

Entering the School at the Start of the Day

- We will return to pre-COVID procedures for school arrival and entry.

Large Group Meetings/Assemblies

- Meetings and assemblies will be organized to maintain physical distancing.
- Elementary schools will coordinate the movement of students to avoid large groups while indoors.

Cafeteria/Lunch Time

- Elementary students will eat lunch in their classrooms or other designated location within the school.
- Middle and High schools will expand spaces in the cafeteria to provide 3-foot spacing for students to eat lunch when possible.
- The administration will work with Fresh Picks, our food service provider, to ensure that they follow all safety protocols.

Recess

- Students will use wash or sanitize hands when going to and from recess.

Field Trips

- Students and staff will be required to wear face masks while being transported to and from any field trip.

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- Students and staff will follow all COVID-19 protocols required at the place the field trip is being held.

Project Promise After School Program

- All students and staff will follow the Newfound School District Opening Plan protocols while attending any Project Promise site.

Substitute Teacher Procedures

- Upon arrival in any school, the substitute teacher will check in at the main office, where they will have a health screening completed. This will be done each day in the district, even if the assignment is consecutive days in the same classroom.

Student and Staff Wellness

- Each school will have at least one full time school counselor. This is an increase at the elementary schools, where previously there were shared resources.
- The elementary school psychologist position will increase to full time from a part time position.
- Professional development in the area of social emotional learning will be offered to all district staff throughout the 2021-2022 school year.
- The district will continue to collaborate with the Central NH Public Health Network in the event future vaccination clinics are needed for students and/or staff.

Transportation

- Masks will be required by students and staff will riding a school bus.
- Our transportation provider, First Student, will keep the buses disinfected and safe.