



"Engaging all learners to succeed in their ever changing world"

Serving the Communities of Belmont and Canterbury

2021 - 2022 School Opening Plan

Introduction:

The following plan focuses on staff and student safety and well-being, flexibility, and our responsibility to educate our students. We cannot predict what will happen with the pandemic prior to the start of the school year or throughout the year. The district realizes that this remains a dynamic situation. **It is the district's goal to open schools safely and maintain a full, in-person teaching and learning model throughout the year.** This plan is a working document and will need to remain flexible for adjustments in the future.

The Plan:

The district will open the 2021-2022 school year with a full, in-person learning model. Remote learning (Cohort C) will not be an option for students at any grade level.

Weekly Schedule:

Monday through Friday - full, in-person learning.

Daily Schedule:

All schools will operate on a traditional, pre-pandemic, schedule. There will be no shortened-day schedule.

District-wide protocols – Public Health Protections (logistics)

Physical Distancing:

Classrooms and common spaces will be configured to maximize physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. The district's goal is to maintain a minimum distance of 3 feet and a goal of 6 feet where feasible.

Masking:

Face masks serve two purposes:

1. Face masks protect the person wearing the face mask;
2. Face masks help to prevent the spread of COVID-19 from the person wearing a face mask to others.

Face masks are recommended indoors in all SRSD buildings for all individuals, regardless of vaccination status. The district will consult with the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NH DHHS), monitor local and county data, and use district metrics to

determine if a targeted or universal mask requirement is necessary. The district will use local data on active cases in our towns, relevant COVID-19 data within our schools, local data on new cases (last 14 days) in our towns, local levels of vaccination for our towns and community transmission levels as reported by NH DHHS and CDC at the county level (town level data is not available). Masks will not be required in lower-risk outdoor settings, such as during recess and in outdoor learning spaces.

Targeted or Universal Masking Metrics for indoor settings (Universal metric is based on 1-2% of the total student and staff population for each school):

BES and BMS

Targeted: One active case in a grade level, all students and staff in that grade level will be required to wear a mask for 14 calendar days.

Universal: Four or more active cases, all students and staff school-wide are required to wear a mask for 14 calendar days.

CES

Targeted: One active case in a grade level, all students and staff in that grade level will be required to wear a mask for 14 calendar days.

Universal: Two or more active cases, all students and staff school-wide are required to wear a mask for 14 calendar days.

BHS

Universal: Four or more active cases, all students and staff school-wide are required to wear a mask for 14 calendar days.

****Note** - There are other situations where individuals will be required to wear a mask. (Ex. If a student is sent to the nurse's office with COVID-19 symptoms, the student will be required to wear a mask while waiting to be dismissed by the parent/guardian.)

Screening:

Self-screening for COVID-19 symptoms will be encouraged, but not required to be recorded on a daily basis. The district will continue to monitor students with respiratory illness (i.e colds) and will send them home for evaluation and/or COVID-19 testing. People with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 are expected to stay home and be evaluated for COVID-19 testing.

COVID-19 related matters:

The district will document, report, and coordinate with public health officials to investigate and respond to any person with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.

Promoting Hygiene:

Students and staff will be encouraged to wash their hands frequently and use hand sanitizer if/when washing hands is not possible. Staff and students will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes with their elbow or with a tissue.

Cleaning and Disinfecting:

The district will use CDC guidance for cleaning and disinfecting, use EPA-approved disinfectant, and maintain a schedule for cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting surfaces that are frequently touched.

Limiting group sizes:

The district will attempt to keep group sizes small when possible.

Classroom Configurations:

Classrooms will be configured to maximize physical distancing to the greatest extent possible. The district's goal is to maintain a minimum distance of 3 feet and a goal of 6 feet where feasible. Circulation of outside air will be increased by opening windows and opening up ventilation systems to the greatest extent possible. Outside spaces will be used as learning spaces when possible.

Other Areas**Communication:**

District-wide communication will come from the Superintendent. Building-level communication will come from the Building Principal. The district will use websites, email, newsletters, learning management systems, social media channels, phone/text alert systems, and local media sources to communicate with the community. Classroom or student support communication will come from the teacher or student support staff (school counselors, nurses, etc.).

Visitors, Volunteers and Outside Organizations:

Visitors, volunteers, and outside organizations will be permitted to enter the schools in accordance with district-wide protocols.

Athletics:

The district will follow state and New Hampshire Interscholastic Athletic Association (NHIAA) guidelines in addition to the district's own safety protocols.

Co-Curricular Activities:

Co-curricular activities will take place following the district's safety protocols.

Food Service:

Food service will serve meals in the cafeteria as was done prior to the pandemic. Schedules may be adjusted to accommodate physical distancing in the cafeteria to the greatest extent possible.

Bus Transportation:

The district will follow the current Federal [Order](#) requiring drivers and students to wear a mask while riding the bus. Seating on buses will be arranged to maximize physical distancing to the greatest extent possible.

Resources used to develop this plan:

[New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services](#)

[Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](#)