



NORTHWOOD LOCAL SCHOOLS
PLAN FOR SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON
INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF A LOCAL PLAN

1. **Policies for Mitigation Strategies:** Plan for incorporating eight different mitigation strategies included in current CDC guidance.
2. **Continuity of Services:** Plan to address academic and non-academic services for students and staff.
3. **Periodic Review:** Review at least every 6 months through September 30, 2023 and revise plan as appropriate.
4. **Public Input:** Seek public input and incorporate revisions as necessary.

DEADLINE: June 24, 2021

DIRECTIONS: Post the plan to the school or district website and then email that link (URL) to: continuityplan@education.ohio.gov

RESOURCES:

[ODE American Rescue Plan: Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plans](#)

[CDC Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention](#)

School District: Northwood Local Schools

District Contact: Jason Kozina, Superintendent

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Introduction:

Northwood Local Schools' goal is to have our staff and students remain on campus for the 2021-2022 school year, everyday, five days a week, at full capacity. As of June 2021, the safety guidelines for the 2021-2022 school year are unclear. The guidelines below are similar to those of the previous school year. We will continue to work closely with the Wood County Health Department and update our plans accordingly.

POLICIES FOR INCORPORATING MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Describe to what extent the following policies have been adopted to incorporate the following [CDC Mitigation Strategies](#) and provide a description of any policies being implemented:

- **Universal and correct wearing of masks**
Northwood Local School will implement mask wearing for students and/or staff based on guidance from the Wood County Health Department, The Ohio Department of Health or the Governor's office. Masks will be optional for all students to begin the 2021-2022 school year. Masks will be optional for all staff to begin the 2021-2022 school year. Changes were made consistent with directives from Ohio Department of Health Orders and Wood County Health Department and based on increased cases in our school or community.
- **Physical distancing**
Northwood Local Schools reopened to in-person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year with 6 ft. social distancing in all school facilities. In March all students returned to the building while maintaining 3 ft. social distancing when able. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, 3 ft. social distancing will be encouraged and utilized where feasible.
- **Handwashing**
Signage with illustrations of proper handwashing etiquette are posted in each restroom and throughout the buildings in locations with sinks.
- **Cleaning**
Northwood Local Schools implemented several new cleaning procedures including misting of buses, frequent disinfection of high-touch surfaces and the installation of numerous hand sanitation stations. Those protocols will remain for the 2021-2022 school year.
- **Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state and local health departments**
Northwood Local Schools conducted its own contact tracing of all students and employees, in consultation with the Wood County Health Department. The school district provided weekly updates to all parents via email when positive cases were identified. Those protocols will remain in place to begin the 2021-2022 school year.
- **Screening**
In conjunction with the Wood County Health Department, parents will continue to be expected to do daily checks with students of potential Covid symptoms. Staff members will also complete daily health checks following the same protocols.

- **Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and eligible students**

Northwood Local Schools staff were afforded an opportunity for vaccination in February and March 2020. Our school building has been, and will remain open to Wood County Health Department for vaccination Clinics as requested. We have hosted 3 vaccine clinics as of early June 2021 on campus.

- **Physical Barriers**

The district provided additional plexiglass in classrooms and lunchrooms during the 2020-2021 school year. These barriers never allowed us to deviate from the contact tracing requirements, and thus they will only be used if cases significantly increase in our school or community. Individual student needs can be addressed through consultation with the Director of Student Services.

PLAN TO ADDRESS CONTINUITY OF ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC SERVICES

Describe how you will address continuity of services for students and staff, where needed, in the following areas:

1. Academic Services

Northwood Local Schools has adopted the following Extended Learning Plan for the next 3 school years to address Covid's impact on our students and their learning. <https://www.northwoodschoools.org/resources/parent-resources-22/wellness--28/>

2. Social-Emotional

Social Emotional needs will be determined through small and class counseling lessons, student self-identification, parental input and teacher/counselor identification.

3. Mental Health

The district will continue it's partnership with Children's Resource Center (CRC) for mental health counseling services while also looking for opportunities to expand this partnership and provide more supports for students and families.

4. Harbor

The district will maintain it's partnership with Harbor Services for Northwood Local Schools staff members.

5. Health

The school nurse will be involved in all decisions regarding health/safety in regards to this plan. The district will be looking at continued options with the WCHD on contact tracing and notifications to families.

6. Food

The district has provided free breakfast and lunch offerings for all students K-12 during the 2020-2021 school year, and will continue to do so in the 2021-2022 school year. The district has repeatedly updated the P-EBT documentation to provide additional support to students and families.

PERIODIC REVIEW

1. Describe how you will conduct a review of your plan at least every 6 months.

The plan will be reviewed by the district administration every quarter.

2. Describe how you will revise the plan as appropriate.

The plan will be updated based on new or additional guidance from the Wood County Health Department, Ohio Department of Health, and/or public input.

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Describe how you will seek public input.

The plan will be posted on our district website with a link to submit feedback emailed to parents before the start of the 2021-2022 school year. The plan will also be shared at a public session of the Board of Education.

Northwood Local Schools has utilized surveys related to reopening and school services. We also have had community input provided through Zoom meetings, BOE meetings, staff meetings with WCHD, district and building staff, parent organization meetings, and administrative team meetings.

2. Describe how you will take public input into account when making revisions.

Public input will be reviewed as part of the revision process as changes are made.

3. Revisions to the plan will be dated below:

- a. *None to date*