

## **Northwood Local Schools 2021-2022 School Year COVID-19 Guidance**

*While we plan to remain flexible with our decisions and base any changes on local data affecting our school building and community. We will continue to partner with the Wood County Health Department in the decision making process on protocol implementation. Keeping students in school face to face will remain the ultimate goal of our plan.*

### **Tier 1 protocols that will be in place to begin the school year and remain in place**

#### **Masks**

- All students and employees may choose to wear a mask at any time, but they are not required to do so.
- Masks will be required on school transportation as long as the Federal Mandate on transportation remains in place.

#### **Social Distancing**

- Maintaining distance when possible will result in lower spread for all communicable diseases, not just COVID-19.
- Maintaining distance will be a priority as applicable in classrooms and other spaces.
- Visual cues for distancing will remain in place to assist in social distancing efforts.

#### **Materials/Cleaning**

- Materials can be shared.
- Handwashing and sanitizing should continue as these are healthy hygiene practices that have always been encouraged.
- Employees will continue normal cleaning and sanitizing routines of common surfaces, as this falls under healthy hygiene practices that have always been encouraged.
- Materials removed from the classrooms and pods due to the pandemic may be returned.
- Regular disinfecting of school bus seats will continue.

#### **Reporting/Contact Tracing/Attendance**

- Positive individuals should stay home or be sent home immediately.
- Positive test results should be reported to the school nurse ASAP.
- Contact tracing is being conducted by the Wood County Health Department.
- Symptomatic individuals should remain home, contact the nurse, and seek input from their primary doctor.
- The school district will defer to the Wood County Health Department for return dates and decisions on isolation/quarantine.

#### **Attendance**

- Parents/Students will be asked to provide COVID test results whether positive or negative when relaying information regarding testing results.
- The school district will defer to the Wood County Health Department for return to school dates and decisions on isolation/quarantine.
- Communication to families regarding isolation/quarantine decisions could come from the Wood County Health Department or the school.
- Make-up work will be communicated by the classroom teacher as with any other illness.
- Teachers will follow their homework policies in terms of make-up assignments.

#### **Lunch**

- We will follow regular food and beverage guidance as required by health department regulations and as have earned our cafeteria repeated Clean Plate Awards.

- Social distancing is not possible with all students in the cafeteria, but seating charts will be maintained for contact tracing.

### **Meetings**

- Zoom is still an option for school district meetings.
- Parent/guardian meetings may continue to be conducted via Zoom when convenient. In-person meetings will be held when requested by the parent/guardian or deemed most appropriate by the team.

### **Guests/Visitors**

- Guests and visitors will be allowed in school district buildings for approved activities by building principals.
- Guests and visitors should self-screen for symptoms and stay home if symptomatic for any illness.

### **Transportation**

- Students will be socially distanced as much as possible on the busses and seating charts will be maintained for contact tracing
- Parents/guardians have the option of providing their own transportation.
- Masks will be required on school transportation as long as the Federal Mandate on transportation remains in place.

### **Capacity**

- Large gatherings indoors do not have a capacity limit.
  - Outdoor gatherings do not have a capacity limit.
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**Tier 2 additional protocols that may be implemented if cases and spread increase within the community and/or the school building. If cases or quarantines become significant within the buildings the following additional protocols will be reviewed for implementation:**

#### **Masks**

- Students and staff may be required to wear masks at all times indoors.
- Visitors may be required to wear a mask indoors.
- Event attendance may require masks at indoor events and crowded outdoor events.

#### **Social Distancing**

- Changes may be made to lunches and other activities to allow increased social distancing.

#### **Guests/Visitors**

- Guests and visitors may not be permitted in the building.

#### **Capacity**

- Events/Gatherings either indoors or outdoors may have capacity limits.

#### **Other**

- Plexiglass barriers may be utilized in classrooms and lunchrooms as needed, although these barriers do not currently change quarantine guidance.
- Temperature checks may be reinstated if fever is a concern

Revised 8/2/2021