

Dear Parents and Friends of NMSD,

With all the twists and turns of the Covid epidemic, our district has had to innovate and make adjustments on short notice. We know that many of you have shared our frustrations with the uncertainty of our changing public health situation and the challenges of determining the earliest date it would be safe for our kids to return to school. Fortunately, this new year we will be able to reopen our schools—*but with some critical safeguards*.

As our kids return to school, here are some essential changes in our operating procedures, of which everyone needs to be aware.

School Hours:

- Elementary 9:20—3:50
- Secondary 8-2:30

Health Preservation

- Masks required
- Meals will be in the classrooms
- Recess will be 30 minutes

Daily Health Attestation

- The parent can complete it via Skyward for each student before they arrive at school or bus stop.
- Paper copies are available as an option, and staff will hand these out to students on the first day of school.
- The teacher will screen those students who do not have the attestation at their classroom door.

Arrival

- Students will leave the busses at staggered times to allow for temperature checks & social distancing.
- There will be marked pathways to direct students to their classrooms.
- Students arriving by car will be met by staff for health attestation before leaving the vehicle for the assigned walkway leading to their classroom.

Symptoms Checked for on the Health Attestation.

- ___ Cough, ___ Sore throat, ___ Chills, ___ Shortness of breath difficulty breathing, ___ Fever of 100.4 or higher or feeling fever coming on, ___ New loss of taste or smell, ___ Muscle or body aches, ___ Nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, ___ Congestion, runny nose (not related to seasonal allergies), ___ Unusual fatigue.

Classroom Teachers Will

- Require students to physically distance.

- Separate supplies to limit sharing of items.
- Assign seating in each classroom.
- Teach strategies and guidelines for students on handwashing and hygiene practices.
- Post notices on infection and transmission prevention best practice within classrooms.
- Require frequent hand washing.
- Disinfect and clean tabletops, desks, and chairs with Environmental Protection Agency-rated cleaners.
- Use sanitizing products for intermittent use on frequently touched surfaces.

RECESS

- Students will be required to use hand sanitizer before and after recess.
- Masks will be required at recess.
- Students will play in assigned zones with class groups. Balls, jump ropes, and other equipment will be available for use with class groups and sanitized after each use.

ELEMENTARY DISMISSAL

- At the end of the school day, walkers and students who will be picked up will be dismissed first. Family groupings can congregate on footprints to keep social distancing when waiting for pick-up.
- Parent pick-up: students will be dismissed from their classrooms and will use assigned pathways to exit the exterior doors of elementary classrooms and keep social distancing until they are picked up from parent.
- Students riding the bus home will be dismissed at staggered times beginning at 3:40 to go to buses. Using the PA system, Teams (a group of 3 classrooms - K, 1st, 2nd) will be dismissed 2 minutes apart.
- Students will use assigned pathways to exit the exterior doors of elementary classrooms and keep social distancing until they board the bus.

SOMETHING BRAND NEW!

Friends, I would not have believed this had I not seen it. No matter what grade in school your child currently is in outside his or her building there will be a slender machine with a screen. Your child's picture will be in the machine's memory. When your child passes the machine to enter the building the machine will welcome your child by name and take your child's temperature.

Let's all mask up and stay safe!

John Campbell NMSD Position #4