



**We Are *NM***

## **NMRSD Update**

### **Sunday, October 25, 2020**

#### **COVID-19 Dashboard**

Moving forward, NMRSD will be utilizing our new COVID-19 Dashboard to inform the community of positive cases in our schools. The dashboard can be viewed directly by visiting the link below:

<https://www.nmrtd.org/covid19dashboard>

You can also view this on the district website under the Our District tab as "COVID-19 Response."

The dashboard will be updated as we are informed of positive cases by the Nashoba Associated Boards of Health. The dashboard will also reflect resolved cases.

#### **\*\*\*NEW\*\*\* NMRSD School, Student, & Family Compact 2020-2021**

The school-parent compact is a written agreement that outlines how families, the entire school staff, and students will share the responsibility for improved student academic achievement and the means by which the school and families will build and develop a partnership to help children achieve the State's high standards.

North Middlesex Regional School District believes in the experiential learning process, which has an **in-person** "seat" requirement; therefore, consistent attendance is necessary for a successful transition between grades and, ultimately, the attainment of a high school diploma.

For families who have chosen the **Hybrid Model**, this requirement has not changed. The compact is a culmination of input from the administration, North Middlesex Regional School District Teachers' Association, and the Parent Focus Group from the Return to School Steering Committee.

As we are over a month into this new type of schooling, it is essential to review the expectations of our stakeholders:

## **School Commitment**

### **HIGH-QUALITY EDUCATION**

- Work tirelessly to ensure that our students get the excellent education they deserve. We will neither make nor accept excuses.
- Work during the school day, offer students extra help and support and always provide our students the best.
- Provide an element of synchronous (live) instruction during their assigned class time each day. This should minimally include taking attendance and daily expectations/instructions. Teachers may expect students to be active in Google Classroom for an entire class.
- Structure instruction to engage in-person and remote students. This may include combinations of fully synchronous (live) instruction and asynchronous activities.
- Be responsive and available during designated times for student intervention. Staff will respond to email or messages within a reasonable timeframe. Emails or messages received after school hours may not be responded to until the subsequent day.

### **RESPECT and FAIRNESS**

- Encourage and respect every student. We will listen to students and their needs. We will not tolerate students disrespecting each other.
- Teach and enforce school and district values consistently and fairly. We will communicate with families when students fail to meet expectations just as when they exceed expectations. Decisions will be made in the best interest of our students.
- Give students recognition, incentives, and privileges if they do well and give consequences and remove privileges based on our student handbooks.

### **ATTENDANCE**

- Take attendance in accordance with the expectations communicated by building administration and enter it into Aspen.

### **COMMUNICATION**

- We will communicate regularly with families about their child's progress and make ourselves available in person, virtually, and on the phone. We will communicate with families regularly about student progress and areas of improvement.
  - Elementary Schools- Ongoing, consistent communication through Google Classroom parent/guardian summaries and/or emails.
  - Middle Schools- Ongoing, consistent communication through Google Classroom parent/guardian summaries and/or emails. Aspen will be updated prior to progress reports and report cards.
  - High School- Update (assignments, scores, student progress) in Aspen regularly, at minimum least every two weeks.

- We will return parent phone calls and emails as soon as possible, usually within 24 hours.
- Contact parents/guardians and/or related service or support staff (counselor, case manager, etc.) if there are concerns about student engagement and/or work completion.

### **HOMEWORK**

- We will assign quality homework to reinforce and support skills and concepts learned in class.

### **SAFETY**

- We will always work to provide a safe learning environment. We will always work to protect the safety, dignity, and rights of all individuals.
- We will monitor your safety and social and emotional health, and offer interventions and referrals to the guidance department, school counselor, or administration when needed.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

- Provide support and assist with problem-solving with staff and families.
- Manage systems and procedures to ensure student access to instructional resources/materials (i.e. Chromebooks, etc.).
- Provide communication and support as needed for Hybrid/Remote Learning.
- Keep a focus on student social-emotional well-being.
- Establish and/or support collaborative structures to best support teacher innovation and practice.
- Review and respond to a teacher, student, and parent feedback.
- Communicate with teachers and counselors to address questions or support needs.

### **Student Commitment**

#### **EFFORT and HELP**

- I understand that my education is paramount. Being a student is my job. I will always work, think, and behave in the best way I know how.
- I will do whatever it takes for my fellow students and me to learn. I will do all my homework and class assignments. I will work to exceed the school's expectations.
- If I need help, I will ask for it. If I can give help, I will give it. I won't criticize other students.
- I will be responsible for participating in all my classes. Having my camera on makes for the most effective learning environment.
- If my camera is off during class and I am called on to put my camera on, I will do so to answer the question. My camera has to be on during attendance on remote days. **Please Note:** *It is preferred that students keep their camera on during remote instruction, if possible.*
- Microphones should be muted when you are not speaking.

- Time outside of the/google meets will be spent to complete the assigned work, notes, projects, tests, quizzes, etc.
- I will attend all in-person days unless I do not meet the district's health requirements. **Please Note:** *If a student is expected to be in-person as part of their hybrid schedule and attends virtually during their assigned in-person learning day, s/he will not be able to participate in any in-person activities held after school, including athletics and extracurriculars.*
- Attend all live events scheduled during their assigned class time on remote days.
- I will log onto Google Classroom for each of my classes and will be responsible to complete all assignments posted.
- I will abide by all school policies in the student handbook, including the acceptable use policy for technology.
- I will reach out to teachers, counselors, or building administrators to communicate any needs related to engaging in Remote Learning.
- I will follow all safety guidelines (including wearing a mask and maintaining physically distancing of 6 feet) while attending school in person, on the bus, or on school property.
- By acting responsibly and respectfully, we will enjoy our time online together and utilize technology/internet and other resources appropriately.

### **ATTENDANCE**

- I will come to school and ready to learn both in-person and virtually.
- I will attend class as expected (virtually or in-person).
- If I need to miss class or school, I will ask for and make up all assignments.

### **COMMUNICATION**

- I will listen to directions. I will read and re-read directions before asking for help. If I cannot complete the task myself, I will raise my hand and ask for help. I will help my classmates if they need help. I will not make excuses. I will be honest with my teachers and myself.

### **RESPONSIBILITY and HONESTY**

- If I make a mistake, I will tell the truth and accept responsibility for my actions. I will do the right thing, even when no one is watching.

### **Family Commitment**

#### **ATTENDANCE**

- I will ensure that my child comes to school every day, all day either virtually or in-person based on their schedule.
- It is my responsibility to notify the school of any changes in my child's schedule. If my child is scheduled to be in-person, then it is my

responsibility to notify the school if they will be attending remotely and why before school starts.

- I will not schedule family vacations during school time. I will do my best to schedule important appointments for out of school time.

### **HOMEWORK and ACADEMIC SUPPORT**

- I will provide a quiet place to study and complete work.
- I will check my child's homework, if needed, to make sure expectations are met.
- I will help my child study, advocate for help, and give them support when they need help and praise when they do well.

### **BEHAVIOR and DRESS CODE**

- If student behavior requires it, I will come to the school immediately.
- I understand that the school follows a strict bullying prevention and intervention plan and if my child violates that plan they will face consequences stated in that plan.
- I will send my child in proper dress code every day, both virtually and in-person.

### **FAMILY SUPPORT and COMMUNICATION**

- I agree to work as part of a team for the academic success & behavioral growth of my child. I will return phone calls, review & sign documentation sent home including progress reports & report cards, as required. I will attend parent-teacher conferences and meetings about my child.
- Ensure that my child is only attending in-person instruction days when they meet the district's health requirements.
- Support my child to complete all assigned work.
- Call the school's attendance line if my child is absent due to sickness, college visits, family vacation, etc. for both *remote* or *in-person* days, prior to the start of school.
- Communicate concerns with teachers, related service staff, and/or support staff.
- Consider appropriate working conditions that are in accordance with school rules for my child to find success throughout the entire hybrid/remote learning period.
- Ensure that my child has the appropriate learning environment (space, free from distractions, necessary technology, etc.).
- Support my child's participation and engagement in remote learning.

Signatures will be required for Title I schools.

### **School Closures**

Something that we will likely need to address in the coming weeks is the potential for the entire district to go remote on a given day due to staff absenteeism.

The fall is always a difficult time due to the flu, but now with the uptick of COVID cases and the number of staff who may need to quarantine, there may be days where there are too many holes to fill.

If and when a decision like this needs to be made, it will be for the entire district as closing one or two buildings will have unintended consequences.

Please know that this will be a last resort and the entire administrative team is willing to substitute as needed to avoid this. Unfortunately, we simply do not have the number of substitutes we have had in the past.

### **Congratulations - NMRSD Commit Alert**

Congratulations to Stephanie Sutton-Brown (Ashby) of the Class of 2021 who has committed to play Division II Women's Field Hockey for St. Anselm College in Manchester, New Hampshire.

Wishing Stephanie an excellent senior year as she wraps up her career as a Patriot and prepares to become a member of the Hawks!!! Best of luck Stephanie!!!

### **Community**

Girl Scout INTRO TO OUTDOOR SKILLS events for girls in grades K-3. You and your girl are invited to join us at one of our free Intro to Outdoor Skills Events, for girls in grades K-3 who are not current Girl Scout members. Your girl will earn her first Girl Scout patch while learning basic campfire building techniques, first aid, and jackknife safety.

Saturday, 11/21 • 2 - 3PM  
*Camp Green Eyrie, Harvard*

RSVP by November 2 at <http://bit.ly/GSCWMIIntro>

All COVID safety precautions will be followed

For more information about Girl Scout visit <https://www.gscwm.org/>