



## **NMRSD Update Thursday, January 6, 2022**

### **Testing**

Please be advised that COVID-19 antigen tests administered by the district are for in-school (including extracurriculars) transmission and close-contact/Test & Stay purposes only. We do not have enough tests to test students for out-of-school transmissions.

That said, there have been various social media posts this week alleging that NM had students who tested positive at home that are coming into school regardless. While we understand this could very well be the rumor mill, we are doing everything we can to keep our schools open and safe. Additionally, we can do nothing to monitor or enforce testing outside of school – we are completely dependent on parents and caregivers in this area. If your child(ren) is named a close contact or shows any symptoms outside of school, we ask you to follow guidance and get your child tested. We are all in this together. Please follow the guidance you have received.

With the quarantine guidance changing from 10 to 5 days, teachers are working hard to keep students caught up, which is much easier with the 5-day quarantine.

### **Mask Wearing**

We were notified yesterday that DESE would be making a decision next week with regard to mask-wearing after January 15th. Once we have that information, we will share it with the NMRSD community.

### **Is Remote an Option?**

Please understand that we cannot go remote without permission from DESE; otherwise, the days will not count towards the statutory 180-day requirement. DESE has already denied districts with much higher COVID rates, and it is not

supported by the Governor either. DESE will work with districts to look at classrooms and schools on a case-by-case basis.

### **Updated DESE COVID-19 Guidance**

Please click the link below for the updated DESE/MA DPH COVID-19 protocols for responding to COVID-19:

<https://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/protocols/protocols.pdf>

### **Important Dates**

#### **January 2022**

12            2 ½ Hour Late Start  
17            No School - Martin Luther King Jr. Day

#### **February 2022**

9            2 ½ Hour Late Start  
21-25        No School - February Break

#### **March 2022**

14 & 15      K-8 Early Release - Parent Conferences  
                  High School - In Session / Full Day

### **Tentative Virtual Coffees**

All coffees will be 30-minutes in length and will be held remotely. Please use the link below to join.

Tuesday, January 18th - 9:30 am  
Tuesday, February 15th - 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, March 15th - 9:30 am  
Tuesday, April 12th - 4:00 pm  
Tuesday, May 31st - 9:30 am

The link for all coffees:

For Video: [meet.google.com/vfc-wzau-yem](https://meet.google.com/vfc-wzau-yem)

For Phone: (US) +1 484-416-2706 PIN: 194 998 043#

### **NMRSD Adopt a Spot Program**

The NMRSD "Adopt a Spot" Program provides opportunities for companies, civic groups, and community members to adopt a "spot" (island/mulch bed/entryway) to create attractive, welcoming "oases" throughout the District. Adopters agree to invest "sweat equity" to maintain a spot at one of our schools, in return for which an Adopt a Spot sign recognizing the spot's adopter will be installed by the District. Adopters agree to maintain the area for one fiscal year (July-June) during the summer, fall, and spring seasons. Spots are available at all of our schools.

To begin the process of becoming a Spot Adopter, please contact Andrea Royer at 978-597-8713 ext. 1900 to find a spot that suits your interest and discuss guidelines.