NASHUA SCHOOL RE-OPENING PROPOSAL

2021-2022

UPDATED 12/2021

The mission of the Nashua School District is to provide an educational program that expects excellence and accommodates individual needs, interests, and abilities providing the highest quality educational program to the children and adults of our school district.

This proposal is a product of the hard work of the Nashua School staff both classified and certified, the Nashua School Board of Trustees and the Nashua School Re-Opening Committee.

It is based on guidelines received from the following educational and healthcare entities:

1. MT OPI (MT Office of Public Instruction)
2. MTSBA (MT School Board Association)
3. MTPEC (MT Public Education Center)
4. CDC
5. Valley County Health Department

As a group we have tried to establish the best protocols to ensure that our students and staff are safe. We understand that the best place for our students to learn is inside our building. There are however going to be aspects that are going to change. Some are going to be small but some are going to be very noticeable. All of these however have been put in place to allow us to have our students return and to create as safe a learning environment as possible.

1. Student Return Model:
   1. All students in the building engaged in face to face learning.
   2. The Nashua School Board is NOT MANDATING masks be worn in our building.
   3. If a student or staff member feels more secure in wearing a mask in the building they are free to do so.
2. Transportation and Arrival of Students to the Nashua School
   1. The Nashua School will use our established bus routes for transporting students. There will be some added guidelines to our transportation routine.
      1. Students who ride the bus will be required to wear a mask as stated by the CDC mandate. https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/travelers/face-masks-public-transportation.html
         1. Students will be allowed to remove their mask if they are drinking from a water bottle.
      2. We will be adjusting our bus route times to accommodate some of the changes that have been made to our day to day routines.
         1. Elementary Students will be dropped off in the morning at the elementary entrance to the building.
         2. JH and JHS students will be dropped off in the morning at the main entrance to the building.
      3. In order to help keep out students safe and healthy we will have the following protocols in place for seating on our buses
         1. 1 student per seat on the bus except if the students are siblings then they can sit together.
         2. Students will have assigned seats on the bus
3. Daily Routine
   1. Due to the COVID-19 outbreak schools have received guidelines to follow in order to help ensure the safety of their students and staff. These guidelines will necessitate change in many of our day to day activities in the Nashua School. In order to establish as safe an environment as possible for our students we will be taking the following steps. Our goal however is to return to as normal a daily routine as possible for this upcoming year.
      1. Social Distancing in our classrooms and hallways when possible.
      2. Breakfast and Lunch will be eaten in our lunchroom
      3. We will have built in periods during our classes for students to sanitize their current classrooms and work areas
      4. We will monitor COVID 19 conditions as we begin to plan for large student gatherings. These will be determined by the information that we have at those times.
      5. Other protocols may arise during the year
4. Safety Measures
   1. Hand sanitizing stations in each classroom
   2. Cleaning supplies to be used at the end of each class period to clean tables, desks, supplies
   3. All areas of the building will be cleaned and sanitized at the end of each day by the Nashua School custodial staff.
   4. In the event of a identified positive case inside the Nashua School the following process will be followed
      1. The Nashua School will help identify any students who may have been in contact with the positive case and that information will be given to the VCHD
      2. The VCHD will contact and work out any medical procedures that need to be followed
      3. The Nashua School will take steps to ensure the health and safety of all of our students and staff.
      4. THE NASHUA SCHOOL DOES NOT TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE VACINATION STATUS OF ANY INDIVIDUAL WHEN TAKING ACTIONS IN REGARDS TO THE COVID 19 VIRUS
5. Return to School Protocol
   1. The Nashua School has worked with the VCHD to create a return to school protocol for individuals when they have been identified as a close contact to the COVID-19 Virus
   2. This policy is designed to allow staff and students to return to school as quickly as possible in the case of exposure to COVID-19
      1. If a student/staff member is identified as a close contact, they may request a test from the VCHD on day 5 of their quarantine. If that test is negative and they are showing no symptoms of illness they may return to the Nashua School on day 7 of their quarantine under the following conditions,
         1. They present to the school documentation of a negative test from the Valley County Health Department.
         2. Wear a mask at all times inside the school (it can be taken off for eating, drinking etc.)
         3. Students will not participate in PE class (alternate assignments will be set up for the student with the instructor)
         4. Students WILL NOT RETURN to extracurricular activities or attend practice until their quarantine period is over
   3. This protocol is intended to help our students return to the classroom as soon as possible to help them in the classroom.

***The Nashua School does not take into consideration the vaccination status of any individual in this process or any other decision making in regards to the normal operation of the Nashua School.***

1. Extra-Curricular Activities
   1. We have not had any guidance from MHSA on activities. They have left that to local districts to work out. We are scheduling and planning on having all activities with full fan attendance for this year.
2. Final Thoughts
   1. This is the framework of our plan. Please understand that this plan can and does change regularly sometimes even daily. We need to be flexible and keep in mind that it will likely change.