

NETTLE CREEK CCSD #24C TRANSITION PLAN FOR 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR

In-person instruction is strongly encouraged in areas of the state that are in Phase 4 of the “Restore Illinois” plan. In developing the Return to School Plan, the school district was governed by two important factors.

1. Guidance that was provided by the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) and the State Board of Education (ISBE) on June 23, 2020 in a document entitled, “Starting the 2020-21 School Year”, which can be found at <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Part-3-Transition-Planning-Phase-4.pdf>
2. Five mandates (requirements) provided by the IDPH / ISBE that must be followed for in-person instruction to resume. Nettle Creek’s Return to School Plan includes these mandates.
 - Require face coverings be worn by everyone in the school (clear face shields are not allowed)
 - Prohibit more than 50 individuals from gathering in one space.
 - Require social distancing be observed, as much as possible.
 - Requires that schools conduct symptom screenings and temperature checks OR require that individuals self-certify that they are free of symptoms before entering school buildings.
 - Require an increase in schoolwide cleaning and disinfection.

Nettle Creek will be returning to an in-person learning/remote learning hybrid model to begin the 2020-2021 school year. The following procedures and requirements will be put in place.

Please be aware that these plans are subject to change between now and the start of school based on changing conditions.

School Hours:

Nettle Creek will run on a half day schedule from August 25-September 11. 8:10-12:00pm. We will then re-evaluate our plan and see if we are able to bring students back to a full day, in person schedule. We will continue to do this every 3 weeks. We will not return to full day instruction until we feel that it is safe for our students to be in the building all day. Our staff is committed to providing the best possible educational experience for all students. We understand that the requirement of face masks may make a full day of instruction a difficult task, but we will be utilizing our outdoor space as much as possible throughout the day to help with mask breaks. Students will be leaving the building at noon, but they will be required to complete additional assignments and/or join meetings with their teacher(s) in the afternoon. This schedule will be given out to students/families as we approach our first day of student attendance.

Face Coverings:

Students and employees will be required to wear masks while in our building. Nettle Creek will have a limited supply of masks, but everyone is expected to bring their own appropriate mask and to wear it properly every day. The mask must be on before the individual enters the building.

Students or staff who are insubordinate regarding the wearing of masks will be required to leave school. Those with medical concerns will be addressed on an individual basis.

Bussing Requirements:

Students and drivers **MUST** wear face masks at all times while riding the school bus. Siblings will be seated together and we will do our best to provide social distance between families. The state is allowing up to 50 students on a bus at this time. Upon boarding the bus, your child will need to hand the driver a self-certification form that is filled out by you each morning. If a child does NOT have this form, he/she will be scanned with a touchless thermometer upon entering the bus and asked a few self certification questions. If their temperature is 100.4 or above, they will not be allowed to board the bus.

When students arrive at school and the bell rings at 8:10, students will be dismissed from the bus in reverse grade order. 8th first, followed by 7th, etc to minimize the amount of students in the hallway at one time. 8th grade will be first because they are in the back of the building. Kindergarten will be last because they are at the beginning of the hallway.

After each route, the buses will be sprayed down using an electrostatic sanitizing gun.

Arrival Procedures:

Students who will be dropped off for school will also be required to provide a self-certification form that is filled out each morning. Students will stay in their cars until a staff member has taken the form. Again, if you do not have the form, your temp will be taken before entering the building. To help with social distancing, we are asking that students are not dropped off before 8:00am. School begins at 8:10am. Once students leave their car, they will social distance outside until school begins. If the weather is not cooperative, students will be placed in the gym.

The same procedures as bus riders will apply to students who are dropped off when entering the building to go to class. Reverse grade order beginning with 8th grade.

Classroom Procedures:

Each classroom will have hand sanitizer readily available for students and staff members entering the room. Routine handwashing will also be conducted several times a day. Students will NOT be allowed to share supplies. Face masks will be worn at all times when in the classroom. In our 6-8 classrooms, tables/desks/chairs will be cleaned at the end of each class period and prior to the next class entering the classroom.

Water Fountains/Water Bottles:

We are encouraging students to bring their own refillable or disposable water bottle each day. Our water filling stations will be available, but the actual water fountain will be closed.

Procedures for students/staff regarding COVID:

Fever/COVID-19 Related Symptoms:

***There is a discrepancy in the guidance document and they are working on clarifying. Below it states that a student that exhibits one symptom of COVID 19, which includes a fever, has to be out 14 days but then it states that if there is a fever, they have to be out 72 hours.**

COVID 19 School Exclusion Chart as defined in https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Part-3-Transition-Planning-Phase-4.pdf	
<u>Student test positive for COVID-19</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">IDPH will clarify whether this period of exclusion starts from the date of the positive test or date of onset of symptoms (for now, we recommend from date of positive test)	14 days
<u>Student exhibits one (or more) symptoms of COVID-19</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Fever, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, chills, fatigue, muscle and body aches, headache, sore throat, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea	14 days
<u>Student had close contact with someone who tested positive for COVID-19</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">“Close contact” means that the student was within 6 feet of a symptomatic person for more than 15 minutesPeriod of exclusion starts on the date of the most recent close contact	14 days
<u>Student has a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius)</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">At least 72 hours must elapse from resolution of the fever without fever reducing medication before the student can return to school	72 hours
<u>Student has a temperature higher than 100.4 degrees Fahrenheit (38 degrees Celsius) and exhibits one or more additional symptoms of COVID-19</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Students must not return to school until 10 days have passed after symptoms first appeared	10 days
<u>Student has returned from a location with sustained widespread transmission, potentially including areas located within the United States</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Travel Warning Level 3 Locations: Travel Health Notices Travelers' Health	14 days

Fall Learning Options:

At this time, families will have the following options for learning in the Fall

- In Person/Remote Learning (Students would follow our plan that begins with half days of in person learning and then remote learning in the afternoon)
- FULL Remote Learning (Remote Learning Contract would be signed by parent/student)
- Homeschooling (see ISBE website for more details - link below)
<https://www.isbe.net/Pages/Homeschool.aspx>

Lunchroom/Recess Procedures (1st Draft):

The lunchroom supervisors will be wearing masks and gloves while supervising students during lunch. Students will be socially distanced and we will help them maintain that distance as much as possible on our stage. There will be no more than 3 classrooms eating lunch at a time and the potential to have 1 class eat each day in their classroom to provide for more space between students. We are also looking at using our gym floor to accommodate all 3 classes at once and change our specials schedule. This procedure will be determined when full day in person learning begins and the number of students in each class is established. Students will be allowed to remove their masks while eating and while social distancing at recess outside. Playground equipment will be sanitized in between recesses and then again after the last recess is done for the day. This will be done with an approved sanitizer and a spray bottle.

Classroom Arrangements:

Classrooms will allow for social distancing as best they can. Teachers will work to make sure there is 6ft between students, but again, this may not always be possible. Students will wear their masks while in the classroom, even if they are 6ft apart. Other procedures will be in place in each classroom with regards to drink breaks, snack, and general movement throughout the classroom.

Students in all classrooms will apply hand sanitizer or wash their hands prior to entering and if they leave the classroom to use the restroom.

In our 6-8 classrooms, the desks and chairs will be sanitized at the end of each class and before the next class enters.

Specials Classes:

Students have 3 specials during the week. PE, Music and Technology. Each class will have ample time in between classes to sanitize any equipment/manipulatives that are used during the class periods. In most cases, staff members are looking to utilize different equipment for each grade level. For example, if jump ropes are used for K-2 students, they will not be used at the same time for 3-5 and 6-8.

Additional sanitizing of the building:

Mr. Ripp will follow all of his same cleaning procedures during the day, with additional attention to cleaning of door knobs and commonly touched surfaces. While we are in a half day schedule, he will be able to maintain the level of sanitation needed for our building. When we move the full days, we will be looking to add additional cleaning each evening.

REMOTE LEARNING CONTRACT

Nettle Creek CCSD #24C is offering remote learning opportunities for those students who are medically fragile, for those students who may need to quarantine or test positive for COVID-19, and for those who are not willing to wear a mask as outlined under current ISBE guidelines.

For those students who are not willing to wear a mask or for those students who are medically fragile, your participation in remote learning will take place on a quarterly basis. So if you opt for remote learning, you will remain in remote learning for a minimum of 9 weeks. You will then be given the option of staying in remote learning or coming to in-person instruction. If your child needs to quarantine due to a positive COVID test, he/she will remain in remote learning until it is safe for your child to return to school.

Remote learning will remain an option for our students until the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has determined that it is safe for students to return to in-person instruction without a mask.

Students who are in remote learning will be required to be present throughout the day in their classes. A live stream to the classroom will be provided where students will learn their lessons remotely from their teacher. If you choose remote learning, your schedule will be given to you based on your grade level. At the K-2 level, your child will be asked to go live 1-2 times per day for less than 30 minutes each day and instructional videos will be sent out each afternoon.

I, _____, understand that my child _____, is required to login throughout the day during remote learning. I understand that in order to be counted present for the day, he/she must follow their given schedule and show up remotely for all lessons. I have an internet connection that is able to accommodate remote learning.

Date

Parent Signature

Date

Student Signature

K-2 REMOTE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

- Lessons will be recorded each day and then sent to students by 4pm
- All work to be completed is due by 4pm the following day
- Students will be expected to log in live 1-2 times daily. Times will be given per grade level

3-5 REMOTE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

- When you enter the virtual classroom, mute yourself
- Your video must be turned on at all times
- You must be in a distraction-free environment
- The use of cell phones is not permitted (if applicable)
- Appropriate clothing must be worn at all times
- You must be present for all classes (schedule is given)
- Have all appropriate materials and supplies ready to go for each class
- All assignments are due by 8:30am each morning
- All grading procedures are the same as in-person learning

6-8 REMOTE LEARNING EXPECTATIONS

- When you enter the virtual classroom, mute yourself
- Your video must be turned on at all times
- You must be in a distraction-free environment
- The use of cell phones is not permitted
- Appropriate clothing must be worn at all times
- You must be present for all classes (schedule is given)
- Have all appropriate materials and supplies ready to go for each class
- All assignments are due at the beginning of each class period
- All grading procedures are the same as in-person learning