

Stage Shift (Stage 3 to 4) Readiness Questions – January 19, 2020

From “Appendix A: Health and Safety Checklist” in [K-12 Schools 2020-2021 Guidance](#) and page 7 of [K-12 Guidance - School Metrics & Toolkit](#)

[K-12 Schools 2020-2021 Guidance](#) is to inform **how** to resume school in person and [K-12 Guidance – School Metrics & Toolkit](#) is for help in making decisions about **if/when** to resume school in person.

School Administrators and Staff

“Can the school implement the recommended COVID-19 health and safety measures?”

The risk of COVID-19 spreading in schools depends on the ability of the school to implement DOH’s K-12 health and safety measures and [L&I employer safety requirements](#).

Does the school have the plans, staff, space, and supplies to do the following?

1. How will/has the District protect staff and students at higher risk for severe COVID-19 while ensuring access to learning?



Plans:

- A. For staff, the District will continue the option to request an accommodation(s) as described in the [NTEA-NTPS Memorandum of Understanding](#) under Section 1: Health and Safety.
- B. For students, the District will offer families the option of “100% remote learning.” Family requests will be accepted-processed collaboratively by the District Office and schools. (Staffing done for Elementary?)



Staff:

A high-risk employee, in conjunction with an accommodation to work from home, may be offered/assigned (if available) to teach cohorts of students opting into 100% remote learning, reducing risk for both themselves and their higher risk students.

Space:



Supplies:

The District will supply additional/enhanced PPE, should a high-risk employee (as defined by the CDC) choose to work in a school and with students. Should enhanced/additional PPE not be available, the employee could work from home under the provision of Section 1: Health and Safety of the MOU

Related resources

[CDC Strategies for Protecting K-12 Students and Staff from COVID-19](#)

[CDC Operating Schools During COVID-19](#)

2. How will/has the District planned, staffed transport or facilitate drop-off and pick-up of students?



Plans:

- A. District is working on hiring bus drivers – continue to transport small groups and all grade levels impacted by hybrid implementation. Inadequate bus transportation could be a “limiting factor” to deliver students, if parents are unable to transport their own child/children.
- B. District will work to streamline teacher access to Skyward ID of Attestation completion.



Staff:

- A. Nurses, Non-Instructional Certificated and support staff (paraeducators), if necessary, conduct symptom screening to divert students with a symptom of COVID for further screening and for incomplete screening Attestations.
- B. Office staff will follow the District protocol for completing screening Attestations before a student is sent to class or returned home.



Space:

- A. Students diverted for further screening evaluation or completion of screening Attestation will be kept 6 feet apart, masked, and sedentary.
- B. Students will sit 6 feet apart and masked, while on the bus and as they depart and load.



Supplies:

- A. How many scanning thermometers (for morning symptom screening) are at our elementary schools (One fee-standing for main entrance/5 Touchless) Middle schools? High schools?
- B. All buses have enough extra masks to be able to mask every student.
- C. Required PPE (at least KN95 mask and face shield) for staff performing symptom screening and follow up attestations is available.

3. How will the District group students (required in elementary, recommended for middle and high school) for “cohorting” with the least adverse impact?



Reference elementary hybrid model – applies to all NTPS elementary work sites? YES
Recess and lunch will remain cohorted. E-mail of January 15. K assigned to A and B cohorts

4. How will/has the District planned for physical distancing of ≥ 6 feet among students and staff?



- A. Physical Markers/Visual Tools
- B. Student desk configurations/Alternative classroom locations
- C. Staff supervising and assistance with student movements and transitions.
- D. Meal planning. Kindergarten – Lunch delivered to classrooms.
Breakfasts and lunch for remote days will be given the night before to students. Any change to this plan regarding next grade levels will return to the bargaining team.

Plan: The unmasked time of student lunch should be limited to the first 10 minutes (to the extent possible) of the lunch period.

Space: Take students outside when weather permits.

Supplies: Additional PPE (KN95 mask and face shield upon request) for lunch supervision.

- NTPS OneNote Binder - Elementary Hybrid Logistics Planning (incomplete)

5. How will/has the District promote frequent hand washing or sanitizing.



- A. Class schedules
- B. Ample hand sanitizer

Related resources

[CDC Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Hand Hygiene in the Schools](#)

[CDC Handwashing Education and Training](#)

6. How will/has the District promote and ensure face covering use among students and staff?



- A. Signage around buildings
- B. NTEA Requested – additional communication to families and staff about proper mask use.
- C. Mask refusal – District plan/Discipline?/Proactive Family communication (Gen Ed) (CCL – Exclusion) OSPI 2020-2021 Discipline Q&A

[CDC Guidance on the Use of Masks in Schools](#)

7. How will/has the District increase cleaning and disinfection.



- A. Shift tasks for custodians and elimination of community usage.
- B. Custodial staff responsibilities in OneNote Binder (Tab Custodial)
- C. BruTab disinfectant

[CDC Cleaning, Disinfecting, and Hand Hygiene in the Schools](#)

8. How will/has the District improve ventilation?



Current MOU Appendix A: Ordinarily our district uses MERV 8 filters to filter the air in our HVAC systems, and the air itself is exchanged with outside air on an ongoing basis so that complete air changes are happening at a rate of at least four times per hour. During this time of COVID response the district is moving to a higher grade of filter, a MERV 13 filter, which will filter out about 75% of particles that are 0.3-1.0 microns as well as over 90% of particles 3.0-10 microns. In addition to this upgrade in filters, air replacement at all of our sites has been

increased so that more outside air is being introduced into our sites. The effectiveness of our filters is optimal with a twice per year replacement schedule.

9. ***Are all staff trained on health and safety practices?***



- A. Safe Schools/ CDC recommends staff training on all health and safety protocols used by the District-school.
- B. Whole staff and sub-group overview/review training supervised by building principals.
- C. Training Review for grade-level staff before students arrive (week before).
- D. Training Log

[CDC Operating Schools During COVID-19](#)

Is the school and health system ready to monitor for and respond to suspected and confirmed cases of COVID-19? (Schools and Local Public Health COVID-19)

Cases in the school should be expected. The risk of COVID-19 spreading in schools depends on the ability to quickly identify and respond to suspected and confirmed cases and the level of community transmission.



10. How can **the District/school** ensure monitoring of symptoms and history of exposure among students and staff? (attestation acceptable – state language)


- A. Health Screening document in OneNote Binder
- B. Attendance OP must verify student attestation completion. (Skyward access for teachers would be helpful)
- C. Each building has a sign-in/sign-out process & Principal review staff attestations daily.
- D. Confirmed COVID Cases Report (weekly). (Dashboard -DO is working on application of this.)



11. How is **the District/school** prepared to manage students and/or staff who get sick onsite?


- A. See Health Updates sub-folder in OneNote Binder
 - o 12.17.20 Health Room Guidelines
 - o Letter 1: Process for Communicating About COVID-19
 - o NTPS Staff Letter/email 2 - Confirmed Positive COVID Cases
 - o Quarantine Room protocol

[CDC What To Do If a Student Becomes Sick At School](#)

 12. Does **the school** have letters drafted to inform families and staff about confirmed cases or outbreaks? For other languages?


A. See Health Updates sub-folder in OneNote Binder. Letters are available in English and Spanish. Examples below:

- Letter 1: Process for Communicating About COVID-19
- NTPS Staff Letter/email 2 - Confirmed Positive COVID Cases

 13. Is there adequate access to testing in the **community health system** for ill students and staff?


According to the [communication](#) released Friday, January 15, 2021 by Dr. Abdelmalek of Thurston Public Health and Social Services, our community, currently, has adequate access to test for COVID-19.

- [Thurston County COVID-19 Testing Locations](#)
- District website also shows testing sites.

 14. Is there capacity in your **local health department** to investigate confirmed COVID19 cases, quarantine their close contacts and assess whether transmission is occurring in the school?


According to the [communication](#) released Friday, January 15, 2021 by Dr. Abdelmalek of Thurston Public Health and Social Services, the agency has hired staff and has the capacity to investigate confirmed COVID-19 cases, quarantine their close contacts and assess whether transmission is occurring in the schools.

- [CDC Guidance for Case Investigation and Contact Tracing in Schools](#)

 15. Can **local public health** monitor the level of community spread to determine when a change in education modality is needed?

According to the [communication](#) released Friday, January 15, 2021 by Dr. Abdelmalek of Thurston Public Health and Social Services, the agency can monitor the level of community spread to determine when a change in education modality is needed.

Begin Learning Model and **Monitor**

 The District and NTEA collaboratively monitor [COVID-19 data](#) in our worksites to determine that the each school can “limit transmission”, to make decisions about changes to mitigation strategies, and to help determine whether school closures may be necessary and to determine when it is safe to add additional grade levels. (From [CDC Operating Schools During COVID-19/Emergency Operation Plans](#))

- CDC recommends developing a protocol for monitoring local COVID-19 data which should include daily review of official public health data for the community surrounding the school.
- Weekly Confirmed COVID Cases report from NTPS (Dashboard)
- A “Green Light” for next Elementary grade level(s) – NTEA & NTPS will continue weekly meetings to review Readiness
- Monitor fidelity to mitigation/prevention strategies, too (Building Reps help monitor?)
- Joint communication – NTEA & NTPS agree to shift to Stage 4 start Feb 1st for PreK & K. Additional grade levels added after further negotiation.