

Northwest Passage High School
Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan 2022-23

Updated 8/16/22

Executive Summary:

NWPHS is in compliance with Federal government, Minnesota Rule, Local Public Health and universal business guidance requirements;

Face coverings:

- It is required all people present in school buildings and district offices wear a face covering if using the shortened quarantine/isolation procedure. See full details below.
- It is no longer required by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) order to wear face coverings on all public transportation conveyances including school buses and vans.

Screening, Quarantine/Contact Tracing and Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities:

- All members of the school community, including staff, students, families, visitors, and others should continue to be vigilant in monitoring for symptoms of illness and protect others by staying home when they are feeling ill and following COVID-19 specific exclusion and self-quarantine guidance when appropriate. NWPHS will continue to use the most current guidance from MDE/MDH to determine who should stay home and when staff or students may return.
 - FULLY VACCINATED STAFF OR STUDENTS DO NOT NEED TO QUARANTINE based on exposure only - those with symptoms must remain at home.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinate-d-guidance.html>
 - Staff or students may use shortened quarantine based on 3/15/22 guidance - full details below.
- For the safety of our staff and your children, we encourage all families to get tested for COVID-19. The Minnesota Department of Health recommends that school-age children who spend time near people who do not live in their home get tested regularly. You can visit a community testing site, order an at-home test kit, or get tested through your healthcare provider. All options are quick, easy, and free to you.
- NWPHS has partnered with Anoka County Public Health and local health care providers to offer and promote vaccination options to our school community. These opportunities have been communicated to families via email and social media as they become available. NWPHS also has posted links to Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector

Mitigation Strategies

- NWPHS has the unique advantage of a 3 building campus, whenever possible we will utilize outdoor spaces for learning. Also, we have more than recommended square footage per student available for distancing student desk spacing.
- NWPHS will continue to follow protocols around daily cleaning, handwashing, and respiratory etiquette in an effort to mitigate disease spread. Note should we experience an outbreak of Covid it is possible that NWPHS would shift learning models as needed.

Ensuring Access

- NWPHS will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services that address students academic, social, emotional and mental health needs in a variety of ways including access to in-person and online resources, school Counselor, Meal Finder resource, and more. Advisor, Counselor and other staff will identify and follow-up with students experiencing lack of progress, frequent absences or other issues such as equitable access or barriers to participating in instruction can be identified and resolved.
- Digital Equity - NWPHS will provide 1:1 chromebooks to each student. NWPHS will also work with families to obtain free/low cost home internet access or provide school owned internet hotspots for use as needed.
- Appropriate Accommodations for Children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies will be provided

NWPHS will continue to follow the most current MDE/MDH guidance around Covid-19 exposures and illness. Our current communications to families are as follows.

As we continue to monitor State and Federal guidance, this plan is subject to change based upon any future guidance from the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

NWPHS updated our isolation and quarantine periods to follow MDE/MDH/CDC guidelines. (See graphics)

In alignment with new guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH), NWPHS will be updating our isolation procedures effective Monday, August 22, 2022.

A shorter isolation period of 5 days (for asymptomatic and mildly-ill people) will now be in place to focus on the period when a person is most infectious. Students who test positive can end isolation **AFTER** 5 full days if they are fever-free for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication and their other symptoms have improved. The

5-day isolation period will start as day 0 being the first day symptoms started OR the day of the positive test if no symptoms are present. Day 1 is the first full day after your symptoms developed or your test specimen was collected.

Upon return, students should wear a well-fitting mask for the remaining 5 days.

Who is not included in the shortened isolation/quarantine recommendations?

- *Children < 2 years of age, or other individuals who are unable to wear a mask.*
- People who [cannot wear a mask](#), including children < 2 years of age and people of any age with certain disabilities, should isolate (if infected) and quarantine (if exposed) for 10 days.
- *People who have moderate or severe illness*
- People who have [moderate COVID-19 illness](#) should isolate for 10 days.
- People with severe COVID-19 illness (e.g., [requiring hospitalization, intensive care, or ventilation support](#)) should [isolate](#) for at least 10 days and may need to isolate longer after symptom onset. They should consult with their healthcare provider to determine the appropriate duration of isolation.
- *People who are immunocompromised*

If a family member tests positive for COVID-19 other students in the household do not need to quarantine unless displaying symptoms.

If your student is under isolation or quarantine your Advisor will work with you and your student on a plan for their time away from school.

If your student tested positive for Covid please inform the school office.



COVID-19 ISOLATION GUIDE

For schools, child care, and youth programming

What to do if you are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19* or have tested positive for COVID-19 (regardless of vaccination status or symptoms)

If you have COVID-19 symptoms:



Stay home.



COVID-19 testing is strongly encouraged, especially if you are at high risk for severe disease, if symptoms continue or worsen, if you develop additional symptoms, if you have been exposed to someone with COVID-19, or if COVID-19 transmission is elevated in your area.



If you do not get tested, follow instructions below as if you had tested positive for COVID-19.



If COVID-19 testing is done and the result is **POSITIVE:**

Stay home for a minimum of five full days from the date symptoms started or the date you took the test if you don't have symptoms.

Stay away from others, including household members, as much as possible. Wear a well-fitting mask.



If COVID-19 testing is done and the result is **NEGATIVE:**

Stay home until your symptoms improve and you are fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) before returning.

*CDC COVID-19 Symptoms (www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html)

After five days of isolation at home:

Have your symptoms improved and have you been fever-free for 24 hours (without using fever-reducing medication)?

NO:

YES:



Continue to stay home and away from others until **symptoms improve and you are fever-free for 24 hours** (without using fever-reducing medication).

Once both are true, return to school or program and continue to wear a mask when around others, including those in your household, until 10 days have passed since your isolation began.



Return to school or program. Continue to wear a mask when around others, including those in your household, for another five days.

“Improved symptoms” means that a person no longer feels ill; they can do their daily routine just as they did before they were ill, and any remaining symptoms, such as a cough or runny nose, are very mild, or infrequent.



People who are under 2 years old and others who are unable to wear a well-fitting mask should stay home for at least 10 full days from when they first felt sick or, if no symptoms, from the day they got tested.



For additional information:

If You Are Sick or Test Positive: COVID-19 (www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/sick.html)



Minnesota Department of Health | health.mn.gov | 625 Robert Street North PO Box 64975, St. Paul, MN 55164-0975 | 651-201-5000
Contact health.communications@state.mn.us to request an alternate format.

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