

# Edgecomb Eddy School

## Fall Reopening 2021



### Parent and Student Back to School Information

Edgecomb Eddy School is committed to safely having all students return for in-person learning five days a week.

The following guide will act as Edgecomb Eddy School's policies and protocols necessary for having students and staff return safely for in person learning. The following policies have been adopted from CDC guidelines and the Maine DOE "Framework for Reopening Schools and Returning to In-Person Instruction".

**1**

#### RED LEVEL

County has a high risk of COVID-19 spread and **in person instruction is not advisable.**

**2**

#### YELLOW LEVEL

County has an elevated risk of COVID-19 spread and schools **may consider hybrid instruction** models.

**3**

#### GREEN LEVEL

County has a relatively low COVID-19 risk and **in person instruction** can be adopted.



**Promoting  
Behaviors that  
Reduce  
Spread**

**Maintaining  
Healthy  
Environments**

**Maintaining  
Healthy  
Operations**

## Promoting Behaviors that Reduce Spread

### COMING TO SCHOOL

Beginning of the Day: Students can be dropped off between 7:35 and 8:00. Students must wear a mask while riding on the bus. All students must wear a mask upon arrival to school. Upon arrival, students will be met at the front door by staff, or they will meet staff outside.

To reduce congestion, parents/guardians/caregivers will not be allowed in the building during student drop-off or pick-up.



### PARENT VOLUNTEERS

We realize the valuable role that community plays here at Edgecomb Eddy and want to continue parent involvement to the greatest extent possible. If conditions permit, we welcome volunteers, provided that they comply with all campus safety protocols. Please coordinate with your classroom teacher and the office prior to coming on campus to volunteer. Opportunities for volunteering may fluctuate throughout the year, due to conditions. Thank you in advance for your understanding. Please know that in order to volunteer, there is paperwork that must be completed and approved.

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### HAND HYGIENE

All students and staff in a school must receive training in proper hand hygiene. All students will wash/sanitize their hands upon entrance into the building, before and after eating, before and after removing face masks, after using the rest room, before and after use of playgrounds and shared equipment, and upon entering and exiting a school bus. The school will provide reminders throughout the day for students to wash his/her hands. Signage will be posted in classrooms and bathrooms to remind students of proper hand washing procedures.

## Maintaining Healthy Environments



### FACE MASKS AND COVERINGS

Following CDC and Maine DOE recommendations, all students and staff must wear face masks or coverings when inside the building. The only exception will be during lunch time, when students will be appropriately distanced.

Edgecomb Eddy School, with assistance from the state of Maine, will provide disposable and cloth face masks to those students who do not come to school with their own.

### WHEN SHOULD STUDENTS AND STAFF STAY HOME?

Parents, caregivers and guardians must screen their children before sending them to school.

1. Do they have any symptoms related to COVID-19?
2. Have they been around anyone who is unwell?
3. Have they been around anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19?
4. Within in the past 24 hours, have they had a temperature of 100.4 degrees or higher, or used any fever reducing medication?

There will be more information forthcoming regarding at-home screening and expectations for households in reporting results.

### WHAT IF MY CHILD BECOMES SICK AT SCHOOL?

Edgecomb Eddy School, as directed by Maine DOE and CDC, has medical isolation rooms, should any student become ill with symptoms associated with COVID-19.

The school shall notify families immediately and ask caregivers to pick up their child(ren), as soon as possible. It is essential that parents and guardians have a number of accurate call numbers on file in the office. Students must be fever-free for 24 hours before returning to school. If tested positive for COVID-19, a minimum home isolation of 10 days is recommended. Parents should follow health care recommendation and CDC guidance for when students should return to school.

## Maintaining Healthy Operations

### COHORTING - STUDENT GROUPS

Small cohorts of students reduce the risk of transmission spread, as well as allow for contact tracing and quick response time to any possible outbreaks. If conditions require, the organization and scheduling of recess, snack, lunch, and diversified arts (specials) will be adjusted to provide a cohort structure.

This would mean that students would remain in their cohort classes for the large majority of the day, with the exception of lunch and recess. Edgecomb Eddy groupings are: Pre-K & Kindergarten, grades 1/2, grades 3/4, grades 5/6. At the times these groups are together, they will still remain separated by grade in order to minimize contact.

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### FIELD TRIPS

At this time, we will limit school gatherings as recommended by the CDC and the Maine DOE.

Field trips will be permitted if conditions allow.

Staff will be encouraged to conduct virtual field trips with students when possible, and/or have volunteers or experts participate in zoom meetings with classes.



## RECOGNIZE SIGNS AND SYMPTOMS

This can be an anxious time for all. Talking to your child about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 can keep us all safe. Staff and students will be encouraged throughout the day to check in with themselves and be aware of how they are feeling.

As a school, we will also take steps to support students and staff during this time. We will all pause to breathe and check in with ourselves and others. It is important for everyone to take breaks from watching, reading, and listening to news about COVID-19, especially if they are feeling overwhelmed. Please also encourage your child(ren) to talk about how they are feeling.



## PHYSICAL DISTANCING

EES will follow Maine DOE distancing recommendations for in person learning.

We understand the social aspects that go along with schools. We will do our best to encourage play that follows guidelines, but also meets the social emotional needs of our students.

## FOOD SERVICE

- \* Students should maintain appropriate distancing while eating, as they will not be wearing face coverings during this time.
- \* Students are encouraged to bring a full water bottle each day.
- \* Shared food is prohibited.
- \* Students will be required to practice proper hand washing/sanitizing before and after eating.

## CLEANING AND DISINFECTING

We are committed to maintaining clean and healthy environments. Our custodial staff has been cleaning and disinfecting the school this summer.

To reduce the risk of spread, students should bring water bottles or cups - drinking from the water fountain will not be permitted. High touch areas will be cleaned frequently throughout the day. To the extent possible, we will maximize air ventilation inside the building.

## SHARED OBJECTS

At Edgecomb Eddy School, we recognize the importance of cooperative play, especially amongst our youngest population.

Student belongings will be kept separate in individual cubbies, or areas. Students will not share electronics. Use of items that are difficult to disinfect will be discouraged. Adequate high touch supplies will be provided individually to students (crayons, pencils, etc).

Groups of students may use shared materials. Students will wash hands before and after use, and materials will be cleaned and disinfected between uses as much as possible.



## TRANSPORTATION

- Students are required to wear a face covering at all times while on the bus, including upon entry/exit.
- Students will be seated and distanced according to guidelines.
- Several windows will be slightly opened to improve air ventilation.
- Bus drivers will clean and disinfect frequently-touched surfaces between use each day.

It is important to remember that Maine's Department of Education (DOE), in consultation with the Center for Disease Control (CDC), may change our school and/or district's color level with little notice. The DOE will be reviewing data to determine such every two weeks; as a result, plans are subject to change.



### Acknowledgements

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- Bob Kahler, Superintendent
- Dr. Keith Laser, Superintendent
- Ira Michaud, Principal
- Sally Monroe, Pre-K Teacher
- Dawn Murray, Town Selectperson & Parent
- Heather Sinclair, School Committee Chair & Parent
- Tanya Thibault, Special Education Teacher