



Everyone All In 2.0!

**Newark CCSD 66
2021 - 2022 Response Plan**

Updated 2/6/2022

Introduction:

For 2021 - 2022, our district will be fully in person five days a week. Students greatly benefit from being in person for learning instruction. Our goal is the health and safety of our students and staff. Based on last year's data, our district saw 8 positive staff cases and 5 positive student cases. These low numbers were due in part to the vigilance of our office and nurse staff and the quarantine efforts of our families. We remind everyone again this year, if you are sick, please stay home!

We will continue to layer prevention strategies to protect those who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff and other members of their households. The strategies implemented for this year remain critical to protect our students, staff, teachers and those who are not fully vaccinated. As with any plan, procedures may have to change/adjust throughout the year, especially if we see an increase in transmission levels. We will follow the data and metrics to base all decisions and/or any executive orders as required by state statute. This may change through the year where face coverings may become a choice. **Although the TRO decision does not apply to our district or the entire state at this time, we are temporarily suspending the highlighted items below.**

General District Guidelines

- ❑ Per Governor's Executive Order on August 4, 2021 - face coverings are mandatory while indoors for all staff, students and visitors whether vaccinated or not vaccinated. **New - Temporarily updated - Masks are optional for all students and staff. This will be temporary until we get further information from the appeals process and the Appellate Court. We were not named in the TRO order, nor do we have to follow this. If the Appellate Court decides a Stay order - the mask mandate comes back.**
- ❑ Face coverings **are required for all bus riders (students and staff)**. This is considered public transportation and masking is not negotiable. **This stays in place. The TRO does NOT negate the Federal Mandate.**
- ❑ The district has policy 4.185 - Face Coverings in force. (a copy is on pages 9 - 10 below). **This is temporarily suspended.**
- ❑ All staff and all student self screenings through Teacher Ease are required daily.
- ❑ Safe 3ft - 6ft social distancing in practice to the greatest possible extent.
- ❑ We will continue to have the ability to administer the Rapid Test onsite.
- ❑ School events and large gatherings will follow IDPH guidelines.
- ❑ Field trips will be scheduled as allowed following IDPH guidelines.
- ❑ All visitors are encouraged to call before coming in. Visitors will be required to wear a face covering in the building.
- ❑ Hand sanitizer stations are located in all classrooms and common areas.
- ❑ Cleaning checklists will be monitored in all building areas.
- ❑ Follow data and metrics from Kendall County and our local community and communicate to our stakeholders weekly.

Remote Learning Plan

- ❑ *Medically necessary only for students who are asked to quarantine AND are not eligible for the COVID19 vaccination or are not fully vaccinated.*
 - ❑ Students will utilize home learning packets and their district issued chromebooks for lessons.
- ❑ Focus on Equity

- ❑ Ensuring access and equity for all students
- ❑ Focus on Social Emotional Learning
 - ❑ Students will receive social emotional lessons through our social worker/classroom teachers using the Second Step program
- ❑ Focus on Quality Instruction
 - ❑ Students will have opportunities to communicate with their teacher throughout the day.

Physical Education Guidelines

- ❑ Classes will be held outside as much as possible when weather permits. Masking is not required outdoors.
- ❑ MJH students will NOT be required to change into PE uniforms.
- ❑ Students should have outdoor AND indoor shoes for PE to protect the gym floor.
- ❑ On days that we go outside, please send extra socks for your student as the dew is present during morning classes.

Extra and Co-Curricular Activities

- ❑ Before / After School programs
 - ❑ Facilities will remain closed for external organizations until further notice.
 - ❑ The SAFE program will not be available this year due to low enrollment.
 - ❑ Before/After school programs sponsored by the District may operate under IDPH guidelines.
- ❑ Extra - Curricular / Athletics
 - ❑ Activities must be pre-approved and will follow the IDPH guidelines to the best extent possible.
 - ❑ Hand Washing /sanitizing is expected when entering the facilities.
 - ❑ Physical distancing must be practiced.
 - ❑ Masking is required for all indoor activities per the executive order. **This is temporarily suspended.**
 - ❑ Spectators will be expected to wear face coverings, no exceptions. Face coverings will be enforced for all spectators. **This is temporarily suspended.**
 - ❑ Appropriate cleaning and disinfecting of spaces will be maintained.
 - ❑ Guidelines and other protocols may come from IESA or our local Jr. 10 Conference.

Technology Guidelines

- ❑ Chromebooks
 - ❑ All students in grades 1 - 8 will be issued a chromebook for instructional purposes on and off campus.
 - ❑ Kindergarten students will be issued a laptop for instructional use on and off campus.
 - ❑ Agreement forms must be completed for device use.
 - ❑ Students who were issued chromebooks last year will receive the same chromebook they used.
 - ❑ 1st and 5th graders are being issued new chromebooks for 2021-2022.
- ❑ Chromebook support and repair
 - ❑ Chromebook support and repair is provided by the district.

- ❑ Parents/Guardians or students may request support by emailing Mr. Lee - nlee@ngsd66.org or Mrs. Turman - dturman@ngsd66.org or Mrs. Rowe - prowe@ngsd66.org.
- ❑ Loaner devices will be provided when possible during the repair process
- ❑ Connectivity
 - ❑ Families seeking solutions to broadband internet access at home are encouraged to review ATT, T-Mobile, Comcast and/or NewarkNet for example.
 - ❑ The District will have a limited number of hotspots that can be checked out.
- ❑ Student Online Safety
 - ❑ Internet content filtering - in compliance with the Children's Internet Protection Act, and the Children's Online Privacy Act, our district utilizes systems on and off campus to restrict internet content that students can access.
 - ❑ It is recommended that all online access is monitored by an adult.
 - ❑ The district archives usage and content in our systems.
 - ❑ Student Data Privacy - our district systems and practices comply with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act and the Student Online Personal Protection Act.
 - ❑ Digital Citizenship concepts are incorporated wherever possible.

Health Education

As part of planning days, all staff members will be required to participate in sessions from the school nurse about health/safety practices and procedures based on the guidance. Training includes, but not limited to social distancing, face coverings, hand hygiene, wellness checks, and when students should be sent to the nurse.

Face Coverings

Face coverings are required due to the Governor's Executive order. The district has a limited supply of face coverings. **This line is temporarily suspended until further notice.**

Face coverings are required for all bus riders (students and staff). This is considered public transportation and masking is not negotiable.

Handwashing

Handwashing opportunities will be provided upon arrival, before/after lunch, and as requested/needed. Hand sanitizer will be available in common areas and classrooms.

OnSite COVID19 antigen Testing

We will continue to offer this testing administered by our school nurse to staff and students who have a signed permission form and a signed doctor's order. Students or staff exhibiting symptoms consistent with COVID19 infection are eligible. The test is a simple nasal swab sample from both nostrils. Results are available within 15 minutes of testing.

Physical Distance

To the best extent possible, physical distancing will be established in common areas. Transition in the halls will be scheduled to limit the number of students in common areas.

Classrooms:

- ❑ Where possible, desks will face the same direction and/or students will sit on only one side of the tables, spaced apart in assigned seats.

- Desk Shields may be used.
- Hallways at MJH will be one way.
- Students will not share school supplies; students will use their own school supplies and keep belongings separate or in their backpacks during the day.
- Students are encouraged to bring a refillable water bottle from home to school. Bottles may be refilled during the day using the bottle refiller.
- Students are encouraged to leave unnecessary items at home.
- Hand sanitizer will be readily available in each classroom. Students will be given time to wash their hands throughout the day.
- All classrooms will have disinfectant wipes available for staff and students to disinfect high touch areas as needed throughout the day.
- Unnecessary furniture and supplies will be removed from classrooms.
- Restroom procedures will be established at each school to limit the number of students transitioning in the hallway and in restrooms at one time.

Signage

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) recommends posting signs and messages in highly visible locations that reinforce safety precautions and promote everyday protective measures (proper hand washing, safe distancing, etc). Posters promoting healthy practices will be displayed around the school. Posters may include:

- Hygiene - proper handwashing, coughing/sneezing procedures, etc.
- Social distancing reminders

Entrance to Buildings Protocols - Student Arrival/Dismissal

NGS - Arrival:

- Students will arrive at school through the main entrance at staggered times.
- Buses will arrive first and be cleared.
- Walkers/Drop offs please arrive by 7:55 am.

NGS - Dismissal:

- Students will be dismissed one bus at a time.
- After all busses are clear - walkers will be dismissed out the cafe door following social distancing
- Car riders - will be dismissed after buses clear the parking lot

MJH - Arrival:

- Students riding the shuttle bus to MJH need to be at NGS no later than 7:45 am.
- Students may arrive at MJH at 7:50 am.
- Parents/Guardians should drop off students in the gravel West side parking lot.
- As students arrive, they should keep their backpacks with them, not dropped off in the hallway or hallways.

MJH - Dismissal:

- Bus riders will be dismissed first by bus.
- Walkers and car riders will be dismissed by grade.
- All pick up/drop offs at MJH should use the side gravel parking lot..

Visitors

- Nonessential visitors, volunteers and activities involving external organizations with people who are not fully vaccinated are discouraged from entering the buildings.
- Unless parents are picking up their child, appointments are highly encouraged.

- Visitors will have to answer the COVID19 screening questions before entering the buildings.

Reporting Requirements

Students with a fever, loss of taste/smell, sore throat, and/or body aches will require clearance from a medical provider before returning to school. For these specific symptoms, vaccinated students may return after 24 hours of no symptoms.

- Students with a cough, runny nose, vomiting, and/or diarrhea will require 24 hours of no symptoms before returning. This is true for all students, regardless of vaccination status.
- Siblings without symptoms may come to school.
- If anyone in the student's household tests positive for Covid, the student must quarantine for 14 days. Fully vaccinated children in the same household will not need to quarantine if they are without 2021-2022 symptoms. This information would have to be confidentially volunteered to our health team, as the health team will not ask.

Reporting Positive/Negative COVID19 Test Results:

Please report all positive (and negative) test results to Newark CCSD 66 @ 815.695.5143. Upon reporting the positive test to the health team, you will receive specific instructions for your child, which may include isolation of your child and quarantine of others in your household.

- As a reminder, fully vaccinated children in the same household will not need to quarantine if they are without symptoms. This information would have to be confidentially volunteered to our health team, as the health team will not ask.
- While your child or anyone in your household waits for test results, please stay home.
- Your child will be able to continue with their education during quarantine, although significantly different and more simplified than the plan for the 2020-2021 school year.
- Contact tracing may be done for close contacts of positive cases. **This is temporarily suspended. Unless IDPH or the Kendall County Health Department provides.**
- In the event of a reported positive case, the district will notify the classroom contacts, bus route (if applicable), and the Kendall County Health Department.

Quarantine Procedures per CDC guidelines: Local health department will make the final determination on who is to be quarantined and for how long.

- Option 1:** Quarantine at home for 5 calendar days. Date of first symptoms or positive test result is considered day 0.
- Option 2:** Quarantine for 10 calendar days after the close contact's last exposure to the COVID-19 case. Date of last exposure is considered day 0. **Temporarily Suspended.**
 - The individual may end quarantine after day 10 if no symptoms of COVID-19 developed during daily monitoring.
 - SARS-CoV-2 PCR testing is recommended and may be required by the local health department.
 - The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.
- Option 3:** Quarantine period is for seven calendar days after the last exposure if: **Temporarily Suspended.**
 - No symptoms developed during daily monitoring AND the individual has a negative SARS-CoV-2 diagnostic test (PCR) that was collected within 48

hours of exposure day 7 (starting on day 6 or after).

- The individual is responsible for obtaining a copy of the negative results for documentation purposes.
- The individual can maintain physical distancing and masking at all times when returning to school; for classrooms where masking is strictly adhered to as required, physical distance of 3 to 6 feet is acceptable for return.

Regardless of when an individual ends quarantine, daily symptom monitoring should continue through calendar day 14 after the exposure. If any symptoms develop during or after ending quarantine, the individual should immediately self-isolate and contact their local health department or healthcare provider to report their symptoms. The health department can provide guidance on how to safely quarantine and isolate within the household.

Return to Work/School

In accordance with state and federal guidelines, employees or students who have been absent due to COVID19 illness, exposure or quarantine should not return to work or school until they have met the criteria to return from their health care provider. Employees or students returning should provide medical documentation required for their return.

Operations and Management

Bus Transportation

- Parents/Guardians are required to complete the self certification checklist in Teacher Ease before letting their child enter the bus. Any temperature over 100.4 or any of the symptoms listed, your student must stay home.
- Students will be asked to comply with physical distancing guidelines when waiting at a bus stop, during boarding, and while exiting the bus.
- Bus riders will board the front of the bus and move to the back of the bus and then unload from the front of the bus to the back as much as possible to minimize passing other students on the bus.
- Siblings or children from the same household will be seated together.
- Windows will be opened on the bus to increase air circulation if weather permits.
- Buses will be cleaned and disinfected per CDC guidelines to the greatest extent possible between routes with a thorough disinfection at the end of the day.
- All students are required to wear face coverings on the bus whether vaccinated or unvaccinated.**
- There is no cap limit on the number of students on a bus, with the exception of the bus company limit (71 passengers on the regular buses).

Cleaning

- Daily cleaning
 - Cleaning and disinfection of chairs/desks/tables multiple times throughout the day.
 - Main touchpoints will be cleaned and disinfected (switches, handles, doors).
 - Bathroom touchpoints will be cleaned and disinfected daily.
 - Additional disinfecting throughout the day for:
 - Push bars on doors
 - Door handles
 - Soap dispensers
 - Sanitizer dispensers
 - Toilet seats
 - Flush handles
 - Paper dispensers

- Faucet handles
- Sink handles in classrooms, bathrooms
- Main office countertops
- Teachers/Students to add additional disinfecting (using wipes or spray) to the following areas:
 - Students sanitize and/or wash their hands throughout the school day.
 - Wipe down desk before and after lunch in classrooms
 - Disinfect back of chairs
 - Gloves will be available in all classrooms
- After School Cleaning
 - Deeper cleaning/disinfecting of chairs, desks, tables, etc.
 - Deeper cleaning/disinfecting to all classroom surfaces, tables, lounge areas, sinks, toilets, urinals.
 - Deeper cleaning/disinfecting to all dispensers, restroom doors, office doors/spaces, etc.

Recess and Playgrounds

- Playground will be sprayed down with our E23 cleaner once a week.
- Students will hand sanitize before and after recess.

Safety Measures

- Nursing and office staff to be provided with gowns and gloves to limit exposure.
- Students and staff are encouraged to bring refillable water bottles to school. Bottle fillers will be available.
- Each school will establish bathroom protocols to ensure student safety.
- Adequate hand soap and/or sanitizer available in all restrooms, classrooms and common areas.
- Cleaning supplies inventory to remain sufficient for classrooms and offices.

Food Services

- Bringing in outside food is discouraged as class treats, unless individually wrapped and store bought.
- The National School Lunch Program extended free meals to all students, regardless of income, through September 30, 2021. - **Extended through May, 2022.**
- Those who qualify for free lunch will remain free. The reduced price lunch is .40 cents.
- Free/Reduced applications are available from Mrs. Hauge at the district office at NGS.

Social and Emotional Needs

Students

Our Social Worker will be available to help assess students and develop both small and individual groups. Second Step Social Emotional Curriculum is the district adopted curriculum for grades K - 8. COVID19 has had an impact on everyone. Our social worker will be available to teach the Second Step curriculum in coordination with our staff and provide social and emotional support to students. Students with disabilities and services related to social and emotional deficits will receive SEL instruction and services in accordance with the Individual Education Plan (IEP). Resources are available for parents to address social and emotional concerns of students in weekly communications and on our website: www.ngsd66.org.

Staff

We recognize that educators are among the hardest hit group of professionals during this pandemic. The pandemic has placed a strain on all both physically and emotionally. Faculty

meetings and resources will focus on self-care, remote communication/collaboration, instructional planning and maintaining social connectedness.

Special Education Considerations

ISBE has determined that the school district remains responsible for ensuring the needs of our special education population. IEP and 504 teams will meet to determine whether any amendments to students' IEPs are necessary to address student levels of performance. Students must receive their education in the least restrictive environment per federal and state laws. To the greatest extent possible, school-based service providers will provide in-person services and/or approved teletherapy options using Google Meets or Zoom for direct services.

Communication Platforms

- Email (employees, Parents/Guardians/student gmail)
- Telephone
- District Website: www.ngsd66.org
- District Mobile App: Newark CCSD IL
- Messaging System - thrillshare
 - Phone & text
 - Email
- District Social Media:
 - Facebook - Newark District 66
 - Twitter - @Ncsd66
 - Instagram
 - Youtube channel

- All classroom teachers grades 3 - 8 use Google Classroom as the main hub for classroom instruction.
- All classroom teachers grades K - 2 use Seesaw.com for the technology platform.

Face Coverings

General Rule – Face Coverings Required

The School Board acknowledges the continuing need to follow the Joint Guidance¹ issued by the Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) and Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) with respect to health and safety protocols for the return to in-person instruction. Accordingly, except for individuals younger than 2 years of age, any individual present in any building, facility or transportation vehicle (i.e. bus) owned, operated or used by the District, shall at all times wear a face covering, even when social distancing is maintained.

When Face Coverings May Be Removed

Face coverings may be removed when:

1. Individuals are eating and/or drinking in spaces and at times so designated by the District;
2. Teachers and students are engaged in band activities necessitating such removal;
3. Individuals are outside and social distance (at least six feet apart) is maintained; or
4. Individuals are having trouble breathing.

Reasonable Accommodations

Individuals who cannot tolerate a face covering due to a medical condition or disability related condition, or who present other bona fide reasons for not being able to wear a face covering, may be permitted to utilize alternative options such as a face shield or other reasonable accommodation. The Superintendent or designee shall have discretion to determine whether an employee, visitor, or third-party individual qualifies for a reasonable accommodation. For a student with a medical condition or disability, the student's education team (i.e. IEP team, 504 team, health plan team) will determine whether the student qualifies for a reasonable accommodation and the accommodation to be provided. As a condition to granting a reasonable accommodation, the District may require an individual to provide a physician's note and/or other relevant information, documents, or certifications with respect to the condition or circumstance. Requests for reasonable accommodations from the face covering requirement shall be assessed in accordance with applicable state and federal law.

What Constitutes A Face Covering/Additional Resources

For purposes of this section, "face covering" means a cloth face covering, N95 mask, surgical mask, or other material that fully covers the nose and mouth and is approved by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. For additional information and resources regarding face coverings, please see:

Illinois Dept. of Public Health - <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/community-guidance/mask-use>

Illinois State Board of Education - <https://www.isbe.net/Documents/Part-3-Transition-Planning-Phase-4.pdf>

CDC DIY Cloth Face Coverings (April 4) – <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/diy-cloth-face-coverings.html>

CDC Recommendations for Cloth Face Covers – <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html>

U.S. Surgeon General How to Make Your Own Face Covering (YouTube) – <https://youtu.be/tPx1yqvJgf4>

CDC Cloth Face Covers FAQ – <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover-faq.html>

Consequences for Violating Policy

An individual's refusal to wear a face covering in accordance with this policy shall constitute a violation of the District's applicable rules of conduct, and may subject the individual to disciplinary action and/or prevent the individual from entering the District's buildings, facilities or transportation vehicles until the individual complies with this policy. Face covering designs and images must comply with the District's Student Appearance Policy and must not disrupt the educational process, interfere with the maintenance of a positive teaching/learning climate, or compromise reasonable standards of health, safety and decency. The Superintendent or designee shall apply and enforce this policy.

Application and Duration of Policy

This policy shall apply any time ISBE and/or IDPH Joint Guidance recommends that face coverings be used in Illinois schools. Upon any change in or withdrawal of the Joint Guidance, the School Board hereby delegates to the Superintendent authority to establish temporary rules and procedures, and/or to suspend this policy, consistent with such change or withdrawal.

Adopted: July 20, 2020