



New Rockford-Sheyenne School District

Smart Restart Plan: 2022-23



**Adopted:
New Rockford-Sheyenne Board of Education
July 31, 2020**



Introduction

Thank you for your patience as we've worked to create a plan for our students' return to school in August. Our Planning Teams have been working throughout the summer to re-evaluate our practices and procedures in our effort to create an educational plan that supports the safety of our students and staff while providing ongoing instructional opportunities for all students.

One of three colors will be used to assess the guidelines for learning on a daily basis, as illustrated below and referenced throughout this document.



Red Level:

This is the level with the highest disease burden and level of significant and uncontrolled community and school transmission.



Yellow Level:

This is the level of heightened exposure risk and transmission is mitigated through robust contact tracing, social distancing and other precautions as needed. Increased cleaning on high-touch surfaces will be routine.

Case based interventions will actively identify and isolate people with the disease and their contacts.



Green Level:

This is the level when most normal activity can resume, with standard precautions and awareness of health guidelines. Monitoring for illness and outbreaks will continue.

This color will be determined in consultation with our local public health officials, under guidance provided by the North Dakota Department of Public Health and the North Dakota Department of Public Education. The district superintendent will act as the COVID-19 Coordinator, in consultation with the NRS School Board and the COVID-19 Planning team, and will review the district response to changing health conditions.

Each colored level of guidance after red becomes progressively less restrictive. Every level protects public health and outlines the necessary mitigation strategies. Each level is guided by a rigorous measurement system, based on criteria such as the number of cases reported, positivity rates, testing capacity, medical facility capacity, occurrence of point-source outbreaks, level of community spread, vulnerable populations affected and ability to protect, the availability of personal protection equipment (PPE), etc. New Rockford-Sheyenne stakeholders should think of the guidance system as a dial that can be turned up or down by area based on the health risk.

School District color coded health guidance will be posted on our district website and updated daily.

This document details the educational program and sanitation protocols that will be implemented at each level.

Important Considerations

This plan is a result of the work of the New Rockford-Sheyenne COVID-19 Planning Team (made up of administrators, staff members and teachers) to best prepare for the 2022-23 school year and the many potential scenarios presented by the changing COVID-19 situation. Listening sessions were facilitated with parents, as well as staff and the board of education, to ensure their understanding and solicit their needs and concerns. Upon consultation with our local board of education, we will open our school year in the "Green" level. This decision will give us an opportunity to adjust nimbly to changing conditions, as we welcome our students and staff back into the school building. This level also provides a variety of learning formats for our families so that they can determine which model fits their students learning and safety needs. Finally, this plan was presented to and adopted by the New Rockford-Sheyenne Board of Education on July 31, 2020.

It is important to note that this plan is subject to change based on evolving conditions, status of the pandemic, and recommendations and guidance from public health authorities and the scientific community. We will communicate any necessary changes with our families as soon as possible.

Red Level: **School will be** **closed for general** **in-person** **instruction**



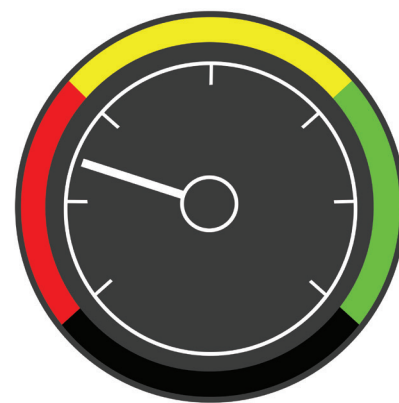
All instruction will continue via distance learning, through our digital platform, Google Classroom. All classes, other than select secondary electives, will be facilitated by NR-S staff. Off-site meal delivery service will begin immediately.

New Rockford-Sheyenne School District students will engage in full-time distance learning, as per the distance learning plan.



Yellow Level:

Modified instruction in-person or via distance learning



In yellow level, NR-S mitigates spread by clustering students in small, school family groups, and limits their movement during the school day. In addition, the district will offer families a third party, online learning platform for all learners who choose to distance learn at this level. Visitors to the school will be restricted to emergencies only.

District Transportation:

For students riding district transportation, buses will be sanitized daily and riders will be assigned to seating, based on family groups. No more than two riders will be assigned per seat. Masks will be required for all riders. (Exception: preschool students).

In Person Learning:

A capacity study has been conducted, assessing the square footage of each learning space in the building. Capacity limits are based on the Center for Disease Control recommended guidelines, 6 feet of distancing. Most typical classrooms at NRS can house 15-18 individuals. Staff will rotate into these school family groups to provide direct instruction and program supports, students will not be moving from class to class (other than P.E., in the gym and outdoors for exercise, fields trips, etc.).

- Processes will be identified for monitoring student and staff for symptoms, history of exposure and absenteeism.

- Masks will be required at school in communal spaces and in the classroom setting when interaction between two or more individuals is over 15 continual minutes. When students are properly distanced OR in close contact for less than 15 minutes, masks are not required. In addition, masks are not required in the gymnasium or outdoor settings.

- Students will be assessed for symptoms daily upon entry into the building. Students grades 6 – 12 will enter the building through the south, high school wing door. Elementary students' grades K – 5 will enter the building through the front door. Doors will open at 7:45 am. to accommodate parents and caregivers. All students will proceed directly to their learning environment following their health assessment at the entry point. No individual student lockers will be used at this time.

- Breakfast will be provided for those who choose in their classroom. Sign up procedures will be developed.

- School will begin at 8:30 am.



PK: Pre-Kindergarten programming will occur at the East Central Special Education building. Parents are invited to drop their children off at the entrance on the south side of the building. Sanitation procedures will occur between the morning and afternoon preschool sessions. Parents may encourage their students to wear masks, however, they are not required for students or staff teaching in this program. The natural behaviors of preschool students are such that masks do not provide a mitigating measure in this environment. Supply lists may change to reflect a need to isolate instructional materials for each individual student. Communication information and additional details will be provided directly to our families. The a.m. preschool session will run from 8:00 – 10:30 am. The p.m. preschool session will run from 11:30 – 2:00 pm. If a preschool student rides district transportation, they will be transported directly to the preschool site.



K-5: Elementary programming will occur in self-contained classrooms. The curriculum will focus on priority standards in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Instruction on Social Emotional Learning will be provided weekly to each classroom by the counselor. In addition, instruction in art and physical education will occur as available. Students will eat lunch in their classrooms. They may bring their lunch or lunch will be delivered to their room. Students will not be using their individual lockers; school supplies will be stored in their self-contained classroom. Proper handwashing and sanitation procedures will occur throughout the day in the classroom environment. Water bottles will be required and will be filled at water dispensers. No direct drinking fountains will be available. When weather permits, the utilization of outdoor spaces will be recommended. Again, masks will be required, with respect to social distancing guidelines. Classes will be dismissed at 2:00 pm. to allow teachers a preparation period at the end of the day.



6-7: Middle school programming will occur in self-contained classrooms. These grade levels will meet daily. Teachers will provide instruction in English, mathematics, science and social studies, rotating to each students group as needed. In addition, instruction in art and physical education will occur as available. Opportunities for electives will be explored, provided each group maintains is self-contained structure.



8-12: Secondary programming will occur in self-contained classrooms. The curriculum will focus on the required content standards and courses needed for graduation. High School students grades 8 – 12 will take four courses, prescribed for their grade level, meeting in one self contained room. Licensed teachers will rotate to the students. Students will take one distance learning course, to be completed off site, to ensure that students are offered 2.5 credits first semester, putting them on track to secure the needed graduation credits. Students in grades 8-12 will be split into two groups, Group A and Group B. These groups will come into the building for direct instruction every other day. This is necessary to ensure that: 1. Small groups of learners are maintained with respect to room capacity(per. CDC recommendations). 2. Content area licensed teachers are providing direct instruction, as required by the state. On the ‘off day’ learners will be off site, working on coursework through Google Classroom, or on their distance learning course. 8th grade students will follow a





similar format; however, they will be required to take four core courses, directly delivered by NRS staff. No distance education will be required/offered. Again, 8th grade will be self contained, the instructors coming to the student's classrooms.

- The Personalized Learning Academy will be available for all students grades 7-11. Students will come to school daily, self-contained in the PLA classroom, receiving online, third party instruction in four or five classes.

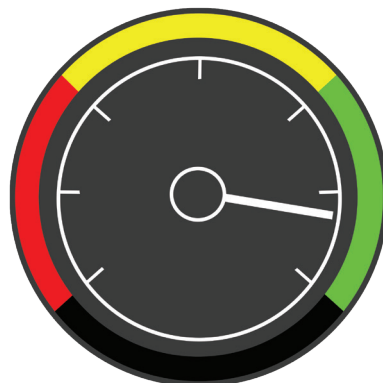
Distance Learning:

For those families who choose distance learning, students will have an opportunity to utilize their 1:1 devices for distance learning. However, please note, the online learning platform will be provided by a third party. Your online learner will be assigned to an 'online coach', one of our NR-S instructors, whose role is to coach, mentor and monitor your students' progress as they work through their content online. The online coach will act as a resource and liaison to parents/caregivers to ensure that students are mastering the intended content.

Elementary students will have an opportunity throughout the year to transition in and out of distance learning as needs and conditions change. This curriculum, while standards based, is not credit bearing and not required for graduation. This transition will happen in consultation with the classroom teacher and administration.

Secondary students choosing online learning at the beginning of the fall semester will have a 2 – 3 week opportunity to pilot our online learning platform. This period of time will allow students and parents/caregivers to assess whether or not this option best meets their needs. If a student chooses this option following the trial period, they will need to complete the semester through this platform. Secondary courses are credit bearing and the continuity of the scope and sequence are critical for the mastery of skills directly related to graduation.

Green Level: School resumes regular, in-person instruction



Transmission and community spread of COVID-19 is such that normal instruction can resume.

Classrooms will resume their traditional configuration: elementary compacted, high school, everyday instruction. Enhanced sanitation protocols will continue. The need for large group activity will be restricted to critical events. Visitors will be allowed to enter the building.

