**NOKOMIS REGIONAL HIGH**

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www.rsu19.org

August 21, 2020

Dear **Nokomis Warrior** and Parent/Guardian:

I am always excited to be welcoming our Warriors back to school; however, this year brings it to a whole new level! We have a strong sense of community and we definitely will need your patience and support. We know everyone is in a difficult situation as they make educational decisions for their child. We’ve worked very hard over the summer to craft a plan that allows us to have students attending in-person as well as supporting those who will be attending remotely. With that being said, we have a lot of moving parts to this plan and are asking for everyone to work with us, be patient, and communicate directly with us when you have questions. I hope to answer some of your big questions with this letter.

**SCHEDULES:**

* Class schedules are enclosed and viewable online through the Infinite Campus (IC) portal. Email tech@rsu19.net to get your IC user/password if you do not have yours.
* The **first day** of school is Tuesday, September 8, 2020 and it is an A day. Group 1 will attend that day in-person.
* **Wednesday** is a remote support/work day for students. All students will be expected to join their advisory online from 9:00-9:45.
* **Schedule Changes:** Since we need to closely monitor class sizes, any schedule changes need to be made before the start of school. Contact your guidance counselor ASAP as space in classes is limited. There will be no add/drop period once school starts on September 8.
* **TCTC:** Students who are scheduled to go to TCTC will go **every day** they are scheduled to go, **including** Wednesday.
* We will use our normal **A/B day rotation** so we stay aligned with TCTC. (Sched Enc)
* **Arrival** time: Students may be dropped off between 7:50-8:10 in the morning.
* **Dismissals**--Will look more like an elementary/middle school model. Bus students will be dismissed by town starting at 2:00 pm, students who drive at 2:10, and students who get picked up at 2:20. All students need to leave campus by 2:30 pm.

**ATTENDANCE:** Attendance will be taken daily for all students whether they are in-person, remote, and/or attending TCTC. On the days students are not scheduled to attend in-person, any remote meetings or assignments will serve as attendance measures.

**HYBRID GROUPS:** In order to maintain appropriate social distance, we are splitting our student body into two groups based on alphabetical order. We will make accommodations for family members with different last names to attend on the same day. As you can imagine, we’re dealing with a lot of moving parts, so we will not be switching students to different groups unless there is a compelling reason.

* Group 1: Last name A-Kenney attends In-Person Monday and Tuesday
* Group 2: Last name King-Z attends In-Person Thursday and Friday

**REMOTE:** We’ve designed our schedule so whether you are in-person or remote, you will follow the same schedule. The only difference is remote students will be joining classes live via google meets. See enclosed sample schedule.

**PANDEMIC RELATED ADJUSTMENTS:**

* All students and staff must wear masks on the bus and at school; mask breaks will be periodically allowed. Face shields are only allowed with a doctor’s note or as a result of an IEP determination.
* Use the daily health screen questions posted on the RSU 19 website to determine if your child should be coming to school. Please keep sick students home.
* To maintain group sizes, we’ve asked parents to indicate if your student will be eating school lunch or bringing their own. At least in the first few weeks, please stay with the choice you’ve made.
* Everyone needs to be mindful of maintaining a social distance of 6 feet at all times both in and outside of the building.
* Students need to check their student email accounts regularly, if not daily, once school starts so they have up-to-date information.

**SCHOOL MESSENGER SERVICE:** It is critical we have your current phone number, email, and mailing address. Periodically, we will mail home information, but we want to use electronic communication as much as possible. For example, I sent out an automated call this Friday to announce this information going in the mail, so if you didn’t get the call--we do not have your phone number.

**LUNCH:** Full pay Breakfast is $1.75 and lunch $2.95. Please return your lunch forms ASAP.

**FALL SPORTS:**  We are awaiting a final determination on whether or not there will be a fall sports season. Contact our Athletic Director, Mark Babin, mbabin@rsu19.net if you have athletic questions.

**VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE:** Open House for any and everyone will be Wednesday, September 2 from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. I will provide an overview of the school year and take your questions via the Chat Box on Zoom. The link will be posted on the RSU19 website, Nokomis Facebook and emailed to students.

**SCHOOL PORTRAITS:** Lifetouch Studios will be taking school pictures on a date to be determined later--sometime towards the end of September.

**WELCOME NEW STAFF**: I am pleased to welcome a talented group of professionals to Nokomis’ Staff:

Allyson Gudroe, TCTC Early Childcare Isaac Walton, Math

Cynthia Lees, French and Spanish Kyle Ravana, Science

Dean Neal, Music Joanne Elwell, District Librarian

Andrew Henry, Guidance Counselor, last names A-F

**SCHOOL SUPPLIES:** We will be providing each student with a package of pens, pencils, and highlighters; we have enough calculators for classroom use. Additional recommended items--a water bottle and notebooks. Contact me if I can help with any of these items.

SCHEDULE FOR IN-PERSON & REMOTE:

|  |
| --- |
| **Use the normal A/B rotation we would normally use to align with TCTC.** |
| *SC: Student Collaboration/G1: Group 1/G2: Group 2/ADV: Advisory* |
|  | **MON** | **TUE** | **WED** | **THUR** | **FRI** |
|  | **A or B** | **A or B** | **A or B** | **A or B** | **A or B** |
| **IN PERSON** |  |  | ALL STUDENTS ONLINE FOR ADV: 9-9:45 AM |  |  |
| PD 1: 8:15-9:28 | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC |
|
| PD 2: 9:32-10:45 | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC |
| All Students Community/Experiential Work & Independent Work Time |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| PD 3: 10:49-12:29 LUNCH: 1st: 10:49-11:14 2nd 11:14-11:39 3rd 11:39-12:04 4th 12:04-12:29 | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC |
|  |
| PD 4: 12:33-1:46 | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | G1-In-Person G2-Remote SC | Teachers Following Up with Students  | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC | G2-In-Person G1-Remote SC |
|
| ADV:1:50-2:25 Begin Dismissing: Bus--2:00 Drivers 2:10 Riders 2:20 | G1 ADV  | G1 ADV | G2 ADV | G2 ADV |
| Late Bus (Will start at some point) |  |  | Fit Like a Warrior Time | TEACHER OFFICE HOURS 2:30-3:15 | Fit Like a Warrior Time |

**REMOTE-ONLY STUDENTS**: These students will be assigned to either Group 1 or Group 2 and follow the same schedule except they will join their In-Person day classes using Google Meets.

**NON---In-Person Day:** On the days a student’s group is not scheduled to be in-person, they will have the equivalent of 90 minutes of work assigned for each class. It will be split into 3-30 minute segments to include 30 minutes of small student-to-student groups collaborating on a project/assignment using Google Meets, 30 minutes of Project/Experiential work and 30 minutes of independent work--like research, reading, or typical homework. Teachers will use Google Classroom to support students on their non-in-person day to reinforce the work they need to get done. Students will NOT be joining classes live on the non-In-Person Day. Our rationale for this model is as follows:

* Students sitting in front of a computer all day is neither healthy nor engaging over a longer period of time. We learned that last spring.
* Teachers will use project-based lessons to get our students excited about learning by providing them some choice with how they are learning, learning with and from their classmates, and capitalizing on learning opportunities and resources at home and in their communities.
* We wanted to provide a balance of increased rigor from what we did last spring but also maintain a measure of flexibility. Many of our students worked and/or had responsibilities at home and we want to honor that. However, students that do work will still be responsible for classwork and will have to coordinate Meets sessions with their classmates.
* We want to support the development of our students' independent work skills. This is a career and college ready skill our students must have. We learned last spring that this is an area we must help them to improve on. We absolutely need and want parents to support our students academically at home, but it is appropriate for high school aged students to assume more responsibility for their learning and commitments.

**ABSENT STUDENTS:** We anticipate there will be an increase in absenteeism as we’re asking parents to keep students who are sick, exhibiting symptoms, or been exposed to COVID-19 to stay at home. However, if students are feeling well enough at home, they should join their scheduled in-person classes remotely so they do not fall behind.

Call the Main Office, 368-4354 or email me at mnadeau@rsu19.net, if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



Mary Nadeau, Principal