



# NORTH WEST HENDRICKS SCHOOL CORPORATION

104 N. Church St. (317) 994-4100  
P.O. Box 70 Fax (317) 994-5963  
Lizton, IN 46149-0070

Dr. Scott Syverson  
*Superintendent*

David J. Hobaugh  
*Assistant Superintendent*

July 23, 2020

Dear Parents,

We are continuing to work diligently on [reopening](#) NWHSC for the 2020-21 school year, including monitoring updates from the Governor, as well as, consulting with the local health department in order to make the very best decisions as we move forward. We know that many questions and concerns remain; therefore, the purpose of this communication is to provide information and answers regarding some of the most frequent comments and questions we have received, including clarification of expected use of masks and face coverings. We hope this information is helpful as you prepare alongside us for a successful 2020-21 school year.

## Health Screen at Home

Parents are asked to screen their children **every morning** for illness/signs and symptoms of COVID-19. Please use the screening tool found here:

[https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/20\\_School%20Parenting%20Screening%207-20-20.pdf](https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/files/20_School%20Parenting%20Screening%207-20-20.pdf)

While the CDC and Indiana State Department of Health (ISDH) use the temperature threshold of 100.4°, North West Hendricks School Corporation has always used **100.0°** as our gauge to send a student home; ISDH guidelines state we may use a lower number, so we will continue to use **100.0°** for this purpose. When screening your child/children at home in the mornings, please remember to use **100.0°** to determine whether they have a fever and do not give Tylenol, Advil, or any other fever-reducing medication prior to taking temperatures. **Keeping your child home if they are not feeling well is vital to keeping everyone safe.**

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## Face Coverings/Masks

As outlined in our reopening plan, guidance indicates that wearing face coverings is one of the most effective ways to prevent the transmission of COVID-19. By mandate from Governor Holcomb, anyone 8 years old or older in indoor public spaces, commercial entities, transportation services and outdoor areas where social distancing is not possible must wear a mask.

**Mask use in schools will be required for students in 3rd grade and up.** It will apply for faculty and staff, volunteers and anyone else in the schools. Masks will also be required for co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, as well as on the school bus.

If you send your child to school for in-person instruction, you acknowledge and support the following:

1. Administrators and teachers will require students to wear their masks in grades 3-12. Students in grades Pk-2 will be asked to wear a mask at times throughout the day when social distancing is not possible.
2. Students will be expected to agreeably comply with the requests to wear masks.
3. Students are expected to have face coverings or masks with them at all times.
4. Due to high risk health concerns, some Pk-2 teachers may ask students to wear masks in their classes at all times.
5. Administrators and teachers will model the wearing of masks throughout the day, including in the instructional setting and in the hallways during transition times.
6. The school has a limited supply of masks; therefore, we are asking parents to include the purchase of masks in their back-to-school shopping. Each student should have a supply of disposable or reusable masks to use every day.

**NOTE:** If students defy the requests or are unable to consistently follow the requests to wear masks, an administrator may contact the parents to determine the best instructional setting for the child.

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We ask for your assistance in practicing the use of masks with your children, especially wearing them for longer durations. The CDC has provided a helpful graphic to assist families with this effort, and you can find that information [here](#). Also, the Indiana Department of Education has developed some information regarding the use of masks which can be found [here](#).

### **School Buses**

We ask the assistance of parents in communicating the expectation of the use of face coverings by students while riding on school buses. We want our bus drivers to focus on the safe pick-up and drop-off of students; therefore, expecting our bus drivers to drive safely while also monitoring the use of face coverings by students is unrealistic. As some drivers wear eye correction or have medical conditions prohibiting them from wearing masks, we ask that parents understand that drivers are expected to wear face coverings, however, some drivers may not be able to model this behavior for our student riders. We will be reducing ridership to two students per seat (with the exception of siblings), using assigned seats, coordinating the filling and emptying of buses to reduce student proximity to one another, and cleaning and sanitizing buses twice each day.

### **Precautions and Safety Measures In Place**

We continue to look for ways to ensure our buildings are safe. As a reminder, some steps that have been or will be taken are found below:

1. Wearing of masks and face coverings at times (see above)
2. Hand sanitizer and sanitary wipes in each classroom
3. Use of sanitation backpack sprayers to sanitize buses, playground equipment, PE equipment and other surfaces
4. Additional lunch periods to minimize number of students in cafeterias
5. Use of masks, shields, and other protective devices for staff members
6. Installation of plexiglass dividers at point-of-sale areas in cafeterias, in office areas, and for teacher spaces in classrooms as needed
7. Water bottles for every student to use throughout the day in place of water fountains
8. Daily sanitation of playground equipment

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9. Twice-daily sanitation of buses
10. Additional nurse's station in every building for any student with COVID specific symptoms
11. Rapid response team developed to quickly identify and track student extra-curricular activities
12. Assigned seats on buses and classrooms as appropriate

## **General Description of At Home Learning**

The At Home Learning program is not a live interaction with the in-person classroom teacher. Some interaction may be live, however, oftentimes lessons will be recorded.

In grades K-5, the program will be a computer-based curriculum in the four main subjects of English, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science. Your child's teacher will post introductory lessons (PreK-2 on SeeSaw and 3-5 on Google Classroom) and monitor the student's progress of the coursework assigned through SeeSaw or Google Classroom. Although the curriculum may not include the same assignments as the in-person classroom, the classroom teacher can assign custom assignments or sequence the assignments in a manner that will attempt to match the pace of the work being completed by the in-person classroom students. Assignments will be graded, and attendance will be taken.

In grades 6-12, the At Home Learning students will be assigned courses to complete through Google Classroom. Students will be expected to engage in the courses daily. In addition to content, the program also utilizes assessments to keep students on track, make corrections to their work, and move successfully toward course completion. The courses have been customized by our NWH faculty to match (to the degree possible) the sequence of learning taking place in the classroom. Assignments will be graded, and attendance will be taken.

**Questions about the program should be directed to your child's school.**

Lastly, we greatly appreciate your completion of the At Home Learning / In-Person Classroom Survey. Your participation in the survey has greatly enhanced our ability to prepare for student instruction. As a reminder, the choice is a one-semester commitment that cannot be changed until second semester.

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Thank you for all you are doing to help us prepare for the upcoming school year!

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