



RETURN TO SCHOOL FALL 2020

A Guide
for
Families

This plan is intended to provide guidance to staff, families, students, and the community regarding the Hope Page Public School District in Fall 2020.

COVID-19 is an evolving pandemic and the information in this document is subject to change.

The latest updates will be available on our website at <https://www.hope-page.k12.nd.us/>.

WHAT FAMILIES CAN EXPECT WHEN SCHOOL RESUMES?

When schools reopen in the fall, they will look different. Here's what you can expect:

Families will have the choice between traditional on-campus learning and a full-time distance learning option. This plan outlines both the full-time distance learning and traditional on-campus learning programs that will be available to families.

Traditional On-Campus Learning: **

Families who opt to participate in traditional on-campus learning will be expected to follow new health and safety guidelines to keep your children, their classmates, the staff, and our community safe. County, state, or federal mandates as well as health concerns could lead the traditional on-campus learning program to move to the district distance learning plan.

Here is an overview of the expectations for families, students, and staff when schools are open and the traditional on-campus learning program is in session:

- All students (K-12) and staff members will be required to wear masks when physical distancing is not possible or as directed by a staff member.
- Staff and students must complete a self-screening assessment before coming to school each day. If you have any of the listed symptoms, ***stay home***. Families are expected to notify their school as soon as possible if a child tests positive for COVID-19 or if required to quarantine by health officials.
- Students who present symptoms at school will be isolated and sent home immediately. Families should have a plan to pick up their child in the event they are sent home. Please update your emergency contact information so we can quickly contact you in the event a student has symptoms. Staff members with symptoms will also be sent home immediately.
- The information in this document will be updated as the year continues. Students and adults should follow posted guidelines at all times and physically distance wherever possible.

Full-Time Distance Learning Option:

- In addition to the on-campus instructional model we recognize that some students and families may choose to self-quarantine. In order to serve these families, a K-12 virtual learning option via a consortium of North Dakota Schools in partnership with Arizona State University is available.
- **Families who select this option must commit to a semester at a time, and that commitment must be made at the beginning of the semester.**
- In order to maintain the integrity of the academic program, it is necessary for students in this option to have consistency that is only offered a semester at a time. Students will not be allowed to move back and forth between the distance learning and the on campus option during a semester.

**** When school closures occur, students in on-campus instruction will continue their learning remotely led by Hope Page School District Teaching Staff as detailed in the “HP Distance Learning Plan – Spring 2020.”**

TRADITIONAL ON-CAMPUS LEARNING

A traditional, 5-day per week schedule for PK-12 students will be the predominant instructional model for Hope-Page students whenever possible. This will closely resemble a typical school year, with additional safety procedures and precautions in place as outlined in this plan.

Please note that school closures can, and likely will, happen over the course of the coming school year. Families should be prepared to transition to the “HP Distance Learning Plan – Spring 2020” should the District be required to close for an extended period of time.

Here are additional guidelines for students and staff when the traditional on-campus program is operating:

Screening at Home

- Families and staff members must screen themselves daily for symptoms using the district provided screening tool.
- Families are recommended to take temperatures daily before going to school. Anyone with a fever of 100 degrees F or higher should not attend school.
- Students and adults should also screen themselves for respiratory symptoms such as cough and shortness of breath prior to school each day. Students and adults experiencing those symptoms should not attend school.

While at School

- Staff will be wearing masks. Parents and visitors will have limited access to school campuses and may be asked to complete a self-screening questionnaire.
- Access points to and from the building may change and could affect arrival and dismissal times slightly.
- Physical distancing will be encouraged wherever possible.
- Cleaning and sanitizing of high contact areas will occur regularly throughout the day, including areas like cafeterias or any time groups of students must change rooms.

General Safety Precautions Throughout the Day

- Schools will follow disinfection guidelines developed by the NDDoH to keep classrooms, workspaces, outdoor spaces, and playgrounds clean.
- Physical barriers may be installed where physical distancing is not possible.
- All students and staff will be encouraged to wash and clean their hands regularly.
- Handwashing stations with soap and/or hand sanitizer will be available throughout our facilities.
- Schools will limit the sharing of supplies between students and disinfect between uses if sharing is unavoidable.
- Schools will keep accurate records of anyone who has been inside a building or in particular classrooms to assist with contact tracing efforts.

Personal Protective Equipment

- ***Masks will be required for staff and all PK-12 students when physical distancing is difficult or not possible.*** Masks must also be worn by students when they are directed to do so by staff. Students should bring masks to school with them each day and follow directions on when to use them.
- Proper guidance on how to wear a mask should be followed whenever a mask is required.
- Gloves are not recommended for use by students or staff with the exception of those conducting duties such as cleaning, first aid, or food service.

On Campus and in the Classroom

Physical Distancing: The District will follow recommendations from the American Academy of Pediatrics.

- Schools have implemented the following strategies to maintain smaller groups of students in shared spaces.
 - Please see specific details in communication from your child's school.
 - Non-essential visitors will not be allowed into schools
 - Non-contact options will be used whenever possible for parents checking in students
 - Keep students in smaller groups
 - Serve meals in small group settings
 - Space desks further apart to ensure physical distancing while in the classroom
 - Serve individually plated or boxed meals
 - Where possible, keep student cohorts from mixing
 - Stagger lunches, recesses, and other transition times
 - Do not host large gatherings such as assemblies and dances
 - Identify a sick room for students who are not feeling well to minimize contact with others until they are able to go home

In order to maintain social distancing, activities that require students to congregate will be limited and modified as guidelines change.

Social distancing is important to ensure the health and safety of our students and will impact how some courses will be taught and which extracurricular activities students will be able to participate in safely. [NDHSAA Co-Curricular Guidance](#)

Social and Emotional Well-Being

District and school staff members are committed to supporting students' social/emotional wellness and offering resources to ensure students transition back to school smoothly.

Support will include social/emotional learning, building relationships, community building activities, and increased access to mental health and wellness services.

Families and schools will need to work together to check how students are feeling and assess their individual needs to provide the proper support to students.

The health and safety of our students, staff, and families is of utmost importance.

We must maintain a focus sharply on academic instruction to enhance student performance. At the same time, we will do our best to maintain extracurricular programs, clubs, and athletics, which are important to the physical, mental, and social well-being of our students so long as we can ensure the health of our students and staff.

District plans will continue to be updated as the situation evolves. Please check the website for updates.