

NACKAWIC SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

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Nackawic Senior High School

Return to School Plan

2020 – 2021

INTRODUCTION

The Nackawic High School Return to School Plan follows the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development's provincial expectations and standards for the safe operation of public schools during the COVID-19 pandemic. This plan has been created in consultation with ASD-W Health and Safety personnel. The objectives of the plan are to limit the potential spread of COVID-19 while also providing for a safe learning and working environment.

ATTENDANCE

- Where Grade 9 students did not have the opportunity to have a transition visit to Nackawic High School in May, the first day of school, Tuesday, September 8, will be for Grade 9 students only.
- Beginning on Wednesday, September 9, high school students will attend school on alternating days. Students will be divided into two groups. Half will attend on Day 1 and half will attend on Day 2. Days on which students will attend will be communicated with parents before school begins.
- Students will be expected to complete work on their days assigned to home. Each teacher will communicate their individual expectations and processes during the first week of school.
- If a Grade 11 or 12 subject class has 15 or fewer total students (Day 1 and Day 2 combined), then a student may attend that class daily, only if they can provide their own transportation to and from school for that period. For example, if Metal Fabrication 110 has only 14 students total, a student may come daily for that class, but must arrive immediately before the class and leave the premises immediately after the class.

PHYSICAL DISTANCING

- Students and staff are expected to attempt to maintain physical distancing of 2 metres (6 feet) in all common areas including, but not limited to, hallways, cafeteria, lobbies, and washrooms.
- Students and staff are expected to maintain physical distancing of 1 metre (3 feet) inside the classroom.
- Congregating in all common areas must be avoided. Stickers will be placed on seats and on floors in the lobbies and cafeteria to identify safe areas at which to stand or sit in order to promote physical distancing.

- In order to prevent congestion in the hallways, when students enter the school in the morning, they are expected to go directly to any classroom. They may first visit the breakfast program, use the washroom and fill water bottles, if necessary.
- When the bell rings to end class, students again must go directly to their next period classroom. Again, visits to the washrooms or water bottle filling stations are permitted but congregating in the halls or lobbies is not permitted.
- At lunch, students may eat in classrooms, the cafeteria, the courtyard, or outside. Students may also eat only at indicated safe seating spots on benches in hallways or the upper lobby.
- Arrows will be placed in hallways and stairwells to encourage all students to always keep to the right and in single file when traveling through the school.
- The cafeteria stairwell will be one-way at a time only. Students must wait at the top or bottom for students coming in the opposite direction to exit the stairwell.
- Lockers will not be used by students this year, as their use would make it impossible to maintain physical distancing in hallways.
- Where students will need to carry all materials with them throughout the day, classrooms will be laid out so that each student's work station will include two desks, one for themselves to sit and work, and one for their bookbag and other belongings.
- For this year, student washrooms will have a maximum capacity of three students and the cafeteria will have a maximum capacity of 26 people.
- While students are permitted to leave the school grounds at noon hour, they are expected to maintain social distancing protocols while off campus.

MASKS

- Community masks are required to be worn by all students and staff in all common areas, including, but not limited to, hallways, cafeteria, lobbies, and washrooms.
- All students are required to bring their own community masks.
- Masks may be removed in the classroom once all students have entered and are seated. Masks must be worn when students move about the classroom, for example, to sharpen their pencil.
- At the end of class, students must put on their masks before leaving the room.
- Students may remove their masks in classrooms, the cafeteria, or indicated seats on lobby benches to eat their lunch or snacks.
- Masks should be washed daily.

BUSING

- Parents are encouraged to transport their own children to and/or from school this year in order to reduce congestion on busses.
- If parents are not able to transport their own children, bus transportation will be provided.
- All students must wear a mask when boarding the bus. Students will be refused entry on the bus if they are not wearing their community mask.
- Students who are sitting alone in a seat may remove their mask once seated.
- High school students sharing a seat, must wear their mask for the duration of the bus ride unless they are seated with a person from the same household.
- Students must wear their masks when exiting from the bus.

- Students must sit in the same seat on the bus each day in order to facilitate contact tracing, if necessary.

HAND SANITIZING AND DISENFECTING

- Hand sanitizing stations will be installed in each classroom and in all common areas. We will be using hand Sanitizer that is approved by Health Canada. For a list of approved hand sanitizers and disinfectants please refer to this list: <https://www.canada.ca/en/health-canada/services/drugs-health-products/disinfectants/covid-19/hand-sanitizer.html>.
- Students are expected to sanitize their hands upon entry to the classroom and wash their hand frequently throughout the day.
- Hand washing and hand sanitizing posters will be posted at appropriate locations throughout the school.
- At the end of each period, students will be required to disinfect their workstation (desks and chairs). Disinfectant and paper towels will be available in each classroom. Students will be instructed on the proper procedure for disinfecting.
- Any shared materials in a classroom such as gym equipment, art supplies, musical instruments, school computers, keyboards and mice, science lab equipment and MakerSpace supplies must also be sanitized by students after each use.
- Water fountains will not be available. In their place, water bottle filling stations have been installed. All students are expected to bring their own refillable water bottles.

SYMPTOM MONITORING

- Parents are responsible for reviewing the screening questions at the end of this document with their children prior to leaving for school and only sending their child to school when they are well and have met the criteria outlined in the survey.
- If a student has two or more symptoms of COVID-19 they must stay home and parents must contact 811 to determine whether COVID-19 testing is required.
- If COVID-19 testing is required, individuals must follow Public Health advice for returning to school. If testing is not required, they can return once fever (with no medications) and other symptoms have been resolved for 24 hours or if they have been directed to do so by a health care professional.
- If tested, Public Health will inform the individual or parent (when a student is involved) when isolation may be lifted.
- If a student becomes symptomatic at school, they will be taken to the sick room. Parents will be contacted and must come to the school as soon as possible to pick up their child.
- Parents should have an alternative plan for pick up.

ACCESS TO THE BUILDING

- To help with contact tracing, access to schools will be limited to control the flow of people.
- The flow of school personnel and other individuals between schools will be limited when possible.
- Additional health and safety protocols, such as temperature checks, will be in place for anyone who is not a student or member of school personnel entering the school building.
- Parents will be only able to enter the school if they have an appointment. If picking up a sick child, contact the office at 575-6020 to inform us of your arrival.
- Parents must sign the visitor log if they enter the school to assist with contact tracing, if necessary.
- Parents will need to wear a mask, maintain physical distancing and follow any other health, and safety protocols while in the school.
- The parent open house and parent-teacher interviews will be conducted virtually or by telephone.

OUTBREAK MANAGEMENT

1. The Regional Medical Office of Health will contact the school or the school district if a positive case of COVID-19 is confirmed. The school principal must follow the orders of the Regional Public Health Office.
2. The school will communicate to the school population of a positive case of COVID-19 in a school and inform the school population that more information will be coming from the Regional Public Health Office.
3. Regional Public Health will be involved to manage the outbreak, ensure contacts are identified, ensure public health measures are in place, and lead any communication that is required.
4. Communication to the school community will be guided by the Regional Medical Officer of Health, in collaboration with the school principal and superintendent.
5. Confidentiality of a suspect or confirmed case is paramount. It is important that all personal health information remain confidential unless Public Health requires the information for contact tracing. Only a limited amount of school personnel, on an as needed basis for contact tracing, will be informed of the name of the individual who has tested positive for COVID-19.
6. Public Health Officers will contact those individuals who must self-monitor or self-isolate. Public Health Officers will decide if a class, classes or the entire school population needs to be sent home to self-monitor or self-isolate. They will inform the school principal and the school district of the actions needed.

7. If exclusion/isolation is required, principals must ensure that measures are in place to inform parents and school personnel of the situation and of how important this control measure is with resources from Regional Public Health. Proper exclusion/isolation is one of the most important and effective measures in controlling the spread of disease to others. Parental and school personnel cooperation is critical.
8. Public Health Officers or Public Safety Officers will monitor anybody who has been ordered to self-isolate.
9. In the event a school is required to closed due to an outbreak, the Regional Medical Officer of Health will give the directives in collaboration with the superintendent. The Regional Medical Officer of Health will notify the Office of the Chief Medical Officer of Health. The superintendent is required to notify the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.
10. In the event a school, region or the province is in the red phase, students will not be permitted inside the school building. School personnel will continue to work in the school building unless the school has been closed to school personnel by Public Health. This means that school personnel are expected to report to school and continue offering education to students at a distance.
11. Teaching and learning must not stop if students are sent home because of an outbreak. As part of their preparations for the upcoming school year, school personnel must develop contingency plans for continued learning when students are not physically able to be in school. For example, teachers may have kits that they can send home with younger students, they may be ready to teach on-line, etc.
12. Public Health Officers will inform those individuals who have been ordered to self-isolate of when the order ends. Public Health Officers will inform the principal or the school district of when a class or a school (students and/or school personnel) can physically return to the school building.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- The cafeteria will not be open until October 26.
- Students are encouraged to bring a device with WiFi capabilities to school each day. As per EECDD directives, it is vital that students have access to a laptop, tablet or similar device to work from at home.
- All student assemblies will be conducted virtually.
- Extracurricular activities which can respect physical distancing may take place. NBIAA sports have new protocols which must be followed and which will be communicated by coaches.

APPENDIX A

SELF – MONITORING CHECKLIST FOR STUDENTS AND STAFF

Prior to leaving for school/work each day, please verify that you do not have two or more symptoms of COVID-19, even if mild.

Do you have any of following symptoms:

- A fever of above 38°C
- A new cough or a worsening chronic cough
- Sore throat
- Runny nose
- Headache
- A new onset of fatigue
- A new onset of muscle pain
- Diarrhea
- Loss of sense of taste or sense of smell
- In children, purple markings on fingers or toes

If you answered YES, and have ONLY ONE symptom, you may phone 811 to discuss COVID-19 testing. As a precaution, please self-monitor for onset of additional symptoms that may develop.

If you answered YES, and have 2 OR MORE of the symptoms, then self-isolate at home, and call 811.

If you answer YES to ANY of the following below, then you must stay home and self-isolate for 14 days:

- Have you had close contact within the last 14 days with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
- Have you had close contact within the last 14 days with a person being tested for COVID-19?
- You have been diagnosed with COVID-19 or are waiting to hear the results of a lab test for COVID-19.
- Have you returned from travel outside of Newfoundland and Labrador, New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Nova Scotia within the last 14 days (IF for work purposes, you are not required to self-isolate upon return, but should self-monitor for symptoms)?
- You have been told by public health that you may have been exposed to COVID-19.

If you develop symptoms, please refer to the self- assessment link on the Government of New Brunswick webpage.

Follow Public Health advice if you are waiting for testing results for COVID-19 or have been told to self-isolate.

If you develop symptoms, please refer to the self-assessment link on the Government of New Brunswick webpage.

For the latest information visit: www.gnb.ca/coronavirus