



# Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District

## Return To School

### Reentry Plan and Procedures

### 2021-2022 (updated 12/15/21)

**The Nodaway-Holt R-VII School District** is preparing for the start of the 2020-2021 school year. Classes will begin on August 23 following guidelines from Holt and Nodaway County Public Health Center along with staff, parents, and community input. We plan to have all students attending in-person as we begin the new school year. The Nodaway-Holt reentry plan and procedures will be reviewed by committee no less than every 6 months.

District leadership, with collaboration from parents and community members, have been working to create the best possible plan for our families and staff as they prepare to return to school. Our goal is to provide a quality education, while at the same time providing necessary health, safety, and social-emotional support. Despite the collaborative and careful preparation, **we are prepared to adjust our plan to fit the constant changes going on around us.** The Nodaway-Holt reentry plan and procedures will be reviewed by committee no less than every 6 months. We ask for the patience of our patrons as we continue to address the ever-changing world in which we are living. If you need or know someone who needs this plan translated or read to them, please contact Jeff Blackford at (660) 939-2137 for further assistance.

The mission of the Nodaway-Holt School District is *"Quality Education Today for a Successful Tomorrow,"* and we remain steadfast in this commitment. Regardless of the challenges we may face, we are confident that we have all the components in place to meet these challenges. We have excellent staff, students, families, and our community support is second to none. We look forward to working in partnership with families as Nodaway-Holt prepares for the beginning of the 2021-2022 academic year!

# District Guidelines and Procedures

## General Building Cleaning and Sanitizing

- Each building will have increased sanitizing routines with special attention on high-touch surfaces. (Doorknobs, handrails, computers, etc.)
- Classrooms and desks will be sanitized multiple times a day.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be placed in prominent locations in both buildings.
- Restrooms and locker rooms will be thoroughly cleaned and sanitized multiple times a day.

## The CDC's Principles of Respiratory Etiquette

- Cover nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing. Do this either with a tissue or inner elbow.
- Wash hands frequently. This is the single most important thing to stop the spread of disease.
- In a hospital or medical setting, masks should be worn by anyone who has symptoms of respiratory infection (cough, fever). If in a waiting room and have these symptoms, please ask for a mask to wear so that others will not get sick.

## Transportation

- Parents/guardians are encouraged to drop off students at school instead of using bus service. Drop-off and pick-up systems will be organized to ensure social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- The school will only be open during posted hours. Early drop-offs will not be permitted.
- Students will have assigned seating. Students riding the bus from the same household will be required to sit together.
- Busses will be sanitized multiple times a day.
- Hand sanitizer will be available on the school buses
- Drivers will use personal protective equipment, such as masks.

## Classroom Environment

- Students and faculty have the option of wearing masks. If a student or faculty/staff member is unable to obtain masks, the district will provide masks. Homemade masks are acceptable but must meet the school dress code. Masks must be clean, in sanitary condition. Students may not share masks.
- Students will be guided to wash hands multiple times per day.
- Social distancing will be observed to the extent possible by all faculty, staff and students. Seating assignments in the classroom will be required.
- Student supplies will not be shared. Manipulatives will be thoroughly disinfected between uses.
- Hand sanitizer and wipes readily available in every classroom.
- Teachers will be encouraged to consider outside instruction when weather permits.

## Meal Services

- Breakfast and lunch will be served daily. Lunch shifts will be staggered as possible to minimize the number of students gathered. Social distancing at tables will be expected.
- All lunches will be plated or boxed. Self-serve options will not be available. Students may opt to bring their own lunch. No lunches may be brought in to students during the day without prior notification to the Principal's office.
- Condiments will be available in individual packages.
- All tables and counters will be cleaned and disinfected between uses.

## **Academics**

- Research indicates breaks or slowdowns in instruction have a greater impact on math as compared to English Language Arts however; both show significant declines. In the early fall, the district will be assessing each student utilizing the NWEA testing to determine gaps in learning. Teachers will provide interventions within their instruction to help each student understand lost content and fill those gaps before moving on.
- Students will have access to all classes which include PE, Art, Music, Library Media, Special Education, Title 1 services, intervention groups and other electives as deemed grade level appropriate.
- In the event of the inability to reopen buildings or another closure to the district, we will implement the Nodaway-Holt Alternative Method of Instruction (AMI) Plan. The AMI plan allows the students and teachers to continue teaching and learning.
- The district will continue to provide students with Chromebook and Ipad devices. These devices will be cleaned and disinfected on a regular basis. The district will continue to provide technical support for students and examine the possible solutions to expanding internet access.
- Nodaway-Holt School District is dedicated to making sure our students' and staff's social-emotional needs are being met at all times and especially during the times of the COVID-19. We recognize that COVID-19 may cause additional stress and anxiety on our students and staff. We will be proactive in our approach and have been working on a plan to address these fears or concerns through our school and community resources.

## **Staff, Parent, Students**

- Parents and students, as well as staff members, are encouraged to self-screen for potential COVID-19 symptoms before coming to school. Anyone with symptoms of illness should stay home.
- Students at school who display health symptoms that could suggest COVID-19 concerns will be checked by the nurse. If evaluation by the nurse suggests potential for COVID-19 infection, the student will be masked until picked up by a parent/guardian.
- Students with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will be sent home.
- A student excluded from the school environment due to COVID-19 concerns may return to school in accordance with guidelines provided by the health department unless the parent chooses the stay in school option.

Please understand that guidelines may change over time. At the time of this publication, the guidelines are as follows:

- Students/staff with symptoms, but not tested for COVID-19 may return if the following conditions are met:
  - No fever for 72 hours or more without use of medicine that reduces fever and showing significant improvement for 7 days after the onset of symptoms.
- Students/staff with symptoms, but tested negative for COVID-19, may return if the following conditions are met:
  - No fever for 24 hours without use of medicine that reduces fever and shows significant improvement of symptoms.
  - The student/staff member has received 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with at least 24 hours between tests:
- Students/staff that have tested positive for COVID-19 may return if the following conditions are met:
  - 10 days from onset of symptoms or 72 hours without symptoms

- Student/staff member has received 2 negative COVID-19 tests in a row, with at least 24 hours between tests.
- Released and given written approval to return by a healthcare provider.
- Other scenarios regarding student health will be handled according to guidance from and consultation with the Holt and Nodaway County Health Center.
- Vaccinations are encouraged and can be obtained at local health agencies.

### **Test Positive/Isolation**

- Clinical Positive Test
  - Follow County Health Recommendations
- Home Based Test
  - 72 Hours from onset without any Covid symptoms with the exception of the loss of taste and/or smell.

### **Isolation Defined As:**

Isolation is used to separate people infected with COVID-19 from those who are not infected. People who are in isolation should stay home until it's safe for them to be around others. At home, anyone sick or infected should separate from others, stay in a specific "sick room" or area, and use a separate bathroom (if available).

### **What to do:**

- Monitor your symptoms. If you have an emergency warning sign (including trouble breathing), seek emergency medical care immediately.
- Stay in a separate room from other household members, if possible.
- Use a separate bathroom, if possible.
- Avoid contact with other members of the household and pets.
- Don't share personal household items, like cups, towels, and utensils.
- Wear a mask when around other people if able.

### **Quarantine – Close contact at school**

- Vaccinated
  - Stay in school – Must wear a mask when unable to social distance during the quarantine period. Monitor for symptoms.
  - Extra-Curricular – Ok to participate
- Unvaccinated
  - **Parent/Guardian Choice**
    - Quarantine at school – Social Distance. Must wear a mask when unable to social distance. Monitor for symptoms for 10 days from exposure. Nurse check daily.
      - Extra-Curricular – Must wear a mask and/or social distance. No contest allowed. Can test a minimum of 3 times during the first 7 days of quarantine to participate in any contest if test negative.
    - Quarantine at home – Follow County Health Recommendations
    - Extra-Curricular – Follow County Health and MSHSAA Recommendations

Someone who tested positive for COVID-19 with a viral test within the previous 90 days and has subsequently recovered and remains without COVID-19 symptoms does not need to quarantine. However, close contacts with prior COVID-19 infection in the previous 90 days should:

- Wear a mask indoors in public for 10 days after exposure.
- Monitor for COVID-19 symptoms and isolate immediately if symptoms develop.
- Consult with a healthcare professional for testing recommendations if new symptoms develop.

## Building Procedures

### Elementary

- Visitors:
  - Parents or visitors are expected to self screen before entering the building. Visitors may be subjected to temperature check and/or screening questions.
  - If a student has a doctor's appointment and needs to be picked up, parents are asked to wait just inside the front doors and their students will meet them there.
  - If a parent wishes to meet with a teacher or administrator, prior arrangements must be made to do so. These meetings will be held before or after school.
- Before School:
  - All students (bus riders and those dropped off by parents) are to enter the school through the gym doors.
  - Each class will have designated assigned seats in the gymnasium. Students will be spaced out to accommodate social distancing.
  - In the morning, students will have the option to go to breakfast beginning at 7:40 am.
  - Students will be picked up by their classroom teachers no later than 7:55am
- Students:
  - The school is committed to keeping students within cohorts throughout the school day as much as possible. Cohorts are as follows: (Pre-K) (K & 1st) (2nd & 3rd) (4th, 5th, 6th)
  - Students will have seating charts in each classroom so that if a need were to arise for contact tracing by the Health Department, the district could assist in every way possible.
  - Students will maintain social distancing (6' apart) when possible.
  - Students are discouraged from sharing equipment or supplies. If supplies are shared, they should be sanitized between usages.
  - All elementary students will be assigned a school device. There will be no sharing of chromebooks or iPads.
  - We encourage our students to wear masks, but are not requiring them.
  - Weather permitting, teachers will be encouraged to take their classes outside to learn.
  - An individualized approach for COVID-19 may be needed for individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities who have limited mobility and difficulty accessing information, require close contact with direct service providers, have trouble understanding information, have difficulties with changes in routines, or have other concerns related to their disability. The district will make accommodations with respect to the individuals health and safety.
- Meal Service
  - Each grade will have an assigned table for breakfast.
  - Staff members will hand out milk at both breakfast and lunch.
  - Meals will be prepared as they are served.

- Recess
  - Recess will take place in cohorts.
  - Each class will have assigned totes with recess equipment to limit sharing items.
  - Teachers will continue to monitor to ensure social distancing.
- School Release
  - Students will remain in their classrooms until they are called for their release.
  - Bus riders will be dismissed one bus at a time in designated areas.
  - Students being picked up or walking will be walked out by a teacher or staff member. Students will remain in their cohorts throughout this process.
- Miscellaneous:
  - Bottle fill stations will be available for use with clear, wide-mouth bottle openings only.
  - Class restroom breaks will be staggered to ensure no classes overlap.
  - If we are required to go solely online for virtual learning, student grades will reflect what they earn.
- Isolation and Quarantine

## High School

- Visitors:
  - Parents or visitors are expected to self-screen before entering the building. All visitors may be subjected to temperature check and/or screening questions.
  - If a student has a doctor's appointment and needs to be picked up, parents/guardians must either call the school informing the office they are outside to pick up their student (and must be visually seen) or they must buzz in to speak with someone in the office.
  - If a parent wishes to meet with a teacher or administrator, prior arrangements must be made to do so. These meetings will be held before or after school.
  - The main entrance doors near the principal's office will no longer be unlocked, but instead anyone wishing to enter the building must be let in by a district employee. This will only occur once that district employee deems your admittance as being necessary.
- Before School:
  - No one will be allowed in the building before 7:40 unless they are an elementary student waiting for the bus during winter. In that instance, only those students will be allowed inside the building, but no earlier than 7:30.
  - Students will no longer meet in the gym before school starts. Instead, students will be assigned a Homeroom teacher.
  - Homeroom locations are as assigned:
    - Seniors - Mr. White
    - Juniors - Mr. Messer
    - Sophomores - Mr. Hamilton
    - Freshmen - Mr. Sherlock
    - 8th Grade - Mrs. Morris
    - 7th Grade - Mr. Barbosa
  - In the morning, students will have the option to go to breakfast or to their Homeroom class.
  - If a student needs help on homework, they can go to a teacher to receive help with prior arrangements being made.
  - Day #1, in their Homeroom, students will be assigned a chromebook and a carrying case. Each day they will check this chromebook out and carry it with them to each class. At the end of every day, students will return their chromebook to their Homeroom teacher

and plug them in for charging so they are ready the next day. The chromebooks will be sanitized daily.

- If for some reason we are required to go solely online for virtual learning, these will be the chromebooks and cases that each student will take home if they need one.
- Students:
  - Personal devices (chromebooks, laptops, etc.) will not be allowed.
  - Students will have seating charts in each classroom so that if a need were to arise for contact tracing by the Health Department, the district could assist in every way possible.
  - Students will maintain social distancing (6' apart) when possible.
  - Students are discouraged from sharing equipment or supplies. If supplies are shared, they should be sanitized between usages.
  - We encourage our students to wear masks, but are not requiring them at this time.
  - Weather permitting, teachers will be encouraged to take their classes outside to learn.
- Meal Services:
  - Concession stands will lean more towards prepackaged items.
  - 2nd Chance Breakfast was approved by the Health Department and will still be offered in the same format as long as social distancing is practiced.
  - No lunches may be brought in to students during the day without prior notification and approval from the Principal's Office.
- Miscellaneous:
  - Bottle fill stations will be available for use with clear, wide-mouth bottle openings only.
  - If we are required to go solely online for virtual learning, student grades will reflect what they earn.
  - Teachers and staff will be encouraged to wear a mask, but they are not required.
  - An individualized approach for COVID-19 may be needed for individuals with physical and intellectual disabilities who have limited mobility and difficulty accessing information, require close contact with direct service providers, have trouble understanding information, have difficulties with changes in routines, or have other concerns related to their disability. The district will make accommodations with respect to the individuals health and safety.
  - If our sports teams are traveling to an away game, district administration will contact the away school's administration to determine if they have any additional requirements (i.e. wearing masks, etc.) prior to departure.