



SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

NEW RICHMOND EXEMPTED VILLAGE SCHOOLS

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan 2021 - 2022

New Richmond Exempted Village Schools
1135 Bethel-New Richmond Rd, New Richmond, OH, 45157

Tracey Miller, Superintendent

District IRN 045559

Continuity of Services

Face-to-Face Instruction

New Richmond Exempted Village Schools will begin the 2021-2022 academic year with 100% in-person instruction five days a week. This will be a continuation of the format from the 2020-2021 school year as well. Ohio has ended all health mandates related to the COVID-19 pandemic that impact schools.

In the 2020-2021 school year the Ohio legislature provided schools with the necessary flexibility to implement remote instruction and learning through the submission of Remote Learning Plans. As a result, the district was able to offer 2 options for families, one included in-person learning for 5 days a week, and the other was remote learning. These options aligned with the Ohio Department of Education's remote learning plan criteria.

The district plans to return to in-person learning for all students during the 2021-2022 school year. Those students who were enrolled in remote learning last year have been informed of this decision.

Health & Safety Guidelines

Our approach to health and safety for the 2021-2022 school year will be accomplished through the review of the health and safety guidelines established by the Center for Disease Control (CDC), the Ohio Department of Health, the Ohio Department of Education, the Clermont County Health District, and other laws and/or health orders issued by the Ohio Legislature and/or the Director of Public Health for Ohio. We recognize the impracticality and sometimes conflicting guidance that exists between agencies, and will develop protocols that are best for the New Richmond Exempted Village Schools.

If your child is sick or has Covid-19 symptoms they should stay home.

The following are mitigation strategies that we have considered and we have addressed:

1. Universal and Correct Wearing of Masks:

Staff and students will be permitted to wear a mask if they deem it appropriate. Masks will be voluntary for all school locations, except the bus where federal guidelines determine mask requirements. Information and literature on the proper way to wear a mask will be provided to all staff and students at the beginning of the school year.

2. Physical distancing:

Students will be seated and functioning in the classroom in a similar fashion as they were prior to the pandemic. Where it makes sense, teachers will space students 3-feet apart.

3. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

The district will provide teachers with the proper tools (Videos/Flyers/Posters) to train students on proper hand washing and respiratory etiquette. These procedures will be reviewed at the beginning of the school year and after winter break. Posters will also be posted throughout the building to remind staff and students.

4. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

Classrooms will be cleaned daily. Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom and in hallways. At a minimum classrooms and school buses will be sanitized on a weekly basis. Our HVAC system has been upgraded with HEPA filters throughout the buildings.

5. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state and local health departments:

The district will follow all laws and cooperate with the Clermont County Public Health Department if contact tracing and quarantine is required. Any student or staff member who has a positive test for Covid-19 will need to quarantine in accordance with the county and state guidelines which are subject to change. The district will follow the most current guidelines.

6. Diagnostic and screening testing:

Students and staff will follow the guidelines from the Ohio Department of Health and the Clermont County Health Department for testing.

7. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and students:

The district will provide information to parents about vaccination opportunities available through the Clermont County Health District and will work with local health care providers to inform parents and students of vaccination opportunities.

8. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies:

Students with disabilities who have health related concerns will have their IEP reviewed by an intervention specialist prior to the start of the school year to determine if amendments are needed to modifications and/or accommodations to address the educational concerns as it relates to health and safety. If a parent, teacher, or intervention specialist has a concern related to the health and safety of a student with a disability, an IEP team meeting will take place to review the IEP and make changes as necessary.

Additional Continuity of Services Considerations

Academic Needs:

1. The district has the capability to be 1:1 with chromebooks for students in grades K-12. Each student K-1 has an iPad and grades 2-12 has a chromebook that can be assigned directly to them for teaching and learning. During 2021-2022, students in Grades K-12 will have the ability to take home devices.

Assignments and academic support through Google Classroom, Schoology, and SeeSaw will be provided to students in the event they experience a quarantine or illness that impacts a student's ability to attend school.

Students in grades K-5 will use a combination of packets, use of Google Classroom, SeeSaw, or remote learning if they experience quarantine or illness that impacts a student's ability to attend school.

The district will work with parents in need of finding resources for internet access by providing HotSpots by the school district secured through the Connectivity grant.

Districtwide Assessment

The district will utilize district wide and class wide assessment tools to determine areas of need support for students and will provide targeted academic support. Examples include but are not limited to:

DIBELS testing for grades K-8, NWEA-MAP benchmark assessments for grades K-12, and local assessments.

2. Students' and staff social, emotional, mental health:

The district has a wellness program through the utilizing therapists from the Counselling Source and Child Focus that promotes student wellness and provides resources to students and families.

3. Food service:

The Ohio Department of Education has granted all Ohio schools a free school lunch for the 2021-2022 school year. Families may complete a free and reduced lunch application to determine eligibility for a reduction in school fees.

This plan will be available on the district website at www.nrschools.org. This plan will be reviewed bi-annually (by December and June of each school year) through calendar year 2023.