

NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS



SUPERINTENDENT UPDATE

October 5, 2020
6:00 PM

School Committee Meeting



NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS GOALS

- I. **High Quality Instruction:** Increase student achievement by strengthening teaching and learning.
- II. **Effective Student Support Systems:** Create an inclusive, culturally responsive learning environment.
- III. **Strong Family / Community Relationships:** Empower families and the community through collaboration.
- IV. **Organizational Team Excellence:** Cultivate and recruit a highly skilled workforce.
- V. **Public Confidence and Pride:** Implement effective strategies to raise the profile and reputation of NBPS.

REOPENING GUIDING PRINCIPLES



KEY POINTS

- *Reopening Plan Update*
 - *Positivity and Contact Tracing*
 - *Health Precautions, Systems and Requirements*
- *Community Discussions: School Resource Officers*
- *Curriculum Audit Update*

REOPENING GUIDING PRINCIPLES



Guiding Principles

Supporting student learning and holistic needs

Our Plan is developed utilizing the following guiding principles:

- ***Safety and well-being***
- ***Equity and access*** for all students is critical as is physical and mental health AND their academics
- ***Maintaining connections*** between school staff and students

METRICS

Additional considerations

Other metrics to review: While average daily cases per 100,000 is the metric that determines the color coding for each community, districts / schools should also monitor whether cases are **increasing or decreasing** vs. the prior period. Monitoring **positive testing** also remains an important metric. In consultation with their local boards of health, districts should consider whether these additional metrics and underlying data may indicate other concerning trends. DESE will provide additional guidance on example scenarios regarding other metrics for districts to review.

Multiple weeks of data is necessary to understand trends: Districts should **look at multiple reports** to inform any changes to their learning model for the start of the school year or to make any changes during the year.

Regional schools and others that draw from multiple cities/towns: We will issue additional guidance that points you to the appropriate data to view for your context.

METRICS (multiple weeks of data)



Multiple weeks of data is necessary to understand trends: Districts should look at multiple reports to inform any changes to their learning model for the start of the school year or to make any changes during the year.

METRICS

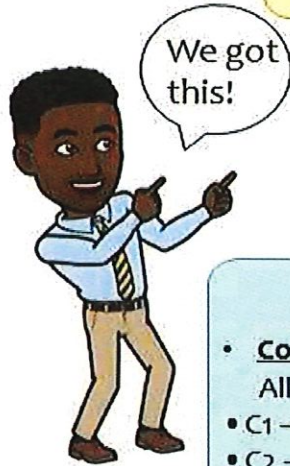
With new color-coded metric from COVID Command, DESE is issuing additional guidance for selecting a learning model

New color-coded metric*		DESE expectation for learning model
RED	Average daily cases per 100,000 is greater than 8	Remote
YELLOW	Average daily cases per 100,000 is between 4 - 8	Hybrid OR Remote (if extenuating circumstances)
GREEN	Average daily cases per 100,000 is less than 4	Full-time in-person OR Hybrid (if extenuating circumstances)
UNSHADED	Fewer than 5 total cases over the past 14 days. Generally, this is for communities with small populations and very few cases.	

*Measured as a 14-day rolling average and will be reported weekly as part of the online DPH dashboard



NBPS Reopening Plan Target Dates



• **All Staff** report to work for staff training and professional development.

Phase I
Aug. 31

Phase II
Sept. 16

• **Cohort A** (Selected Students) – In-Person 5 days a week.
• **Cohort B & C** – Distance Learning 5 days a week

Sept 10:
The following schools are ~~Excluded~~ Learning Schools and begin earlier:
Hayden-McFadden, Tucker and Gomes

• **Cohort C – Hybrid Begins**
All remaining students
• C1 – In-Person Monday, Tuesday
• C2 – In-Person Thursday, Friday

Phase III
Oct. 19

Phase III
Oct. 5

• **Cohort B – Hybrid Begins**
Transition Grades PreK, Kindergarten, 6th and 9th.
• B1 – In-Person Monday, Tuesday
• B2 – In-Person Thursday, Friday

Hybrid Learning combines traditional classroom experience, experiential learning objectives, and digital course delivery that uses the best option for each learning objective.

NBPS DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY



REMINDER

- Distance learning will occur daily during regular school hours. Students will need to be available for synchronous learning.
 - asynchronous opportunities will be made available as well
- The NBPS distance learning model includes:
 - Procedures for all students to participate in distance learning, including
 - ✓ A system for tracking attendance
 - ✓ A system for tracking participation
 - NBPS Distance Learning Academy will be aligned to state standards.
 - Academic grades for students' distance-learning academic work
 - ✓ There will be standards-based grading at the elementary levels and letter-grades at the secondary level
 - Staff will regularly communicate with students' parents and guardians, including providing interpretation and translation services to limited English proficient parents and guardians.

COHORT A

PHASE II

COHORT A STUDENTS (5%)

PrK - 5	388		
6-8	135		
9 - 12	173		
Total	696		

COHORT B

PHASE III

COHORT B STUDENTS (9%)

	B1	B2
Pre-School	63	80
Kindergarten	362	352
Grade 6	368	349
Grade 9	281	306
Total	1072	1089

DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY

DISTANCE LEARNING ACADEMY STUDENTS COHORT D

22% of NBPS Students

PreK - 5	1,500	
6 - 8	709	
9 - 12	548	
Total	2757	13,072 (13,321 – April 2020)

WEBSITE INFORMATION



← → ↻ ⓘ Not secure | www.newbedfordschools.org ☆ ☆ 📦 Not syncing

Select a School ↕ Language ↕ Login Search... 🔍

NEW BEDFORD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

455 County Street, New Bedford, MA 02740 | Phone 508-997-4511

[Home](#) [Superintendent](#) [Depts/Programs](#) [Our Schools/Community](#) [Parents/Students](#) [Staff](#) [Links](#)

A photograph of a classroom with students at desks and a teacher at the front. The room has a mural on the wall and a whiteboard.

- Fall Reopening Information
- New Student Registration
- Summer Learning
- Update Your Contact Information
- Teacher Email Addresses
- Covid FAQs

HEALTH PROCEDURES



REMINDERS:

- **Individuals exhibiting symptoms MUST stay home**
- **Consistent protocols** for regular handwashing, hand sanitizing and bathroom usage
- **Face masks, clear masks**
 - Other specialized items will be available in the nurse's office at each school
 - *Students in Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grade will be required to wear masks IF they ride the school bus*
 - *Students in Pre-K, Kindergarten and 1st grade will be encouraged to wear masks in certain situations*
- **FLU CLINICS** (Walgreens Pharmacy to offer drive-by Flu Clinics - staff, students, and families)

HEALTH PROCEDURES

Entering school and screening

Families must conduct daily symptom checks including temperature (if possible) prior to school each day.

The CDC suggests the following are potential COVID-19 symptoms (applies to all attending or working in a school):

POTENTIAL SYMPTOMS

- Fever (temperature of 100.0°F or greater) or feeling feverish New, worsening cough
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Muscle aches and pains
- Nasal congestion/runny nose
- Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea/abdominal pain

HEALTH PROCEDURES

VISITOR SCREENING

Visitors (individuals who are NOT assigned to the office, school or facility)

The CDC suggests the following are potential COVID-19 symptoms (applies to all attending or working in a school):

POTENTIAL SYMPTOMS

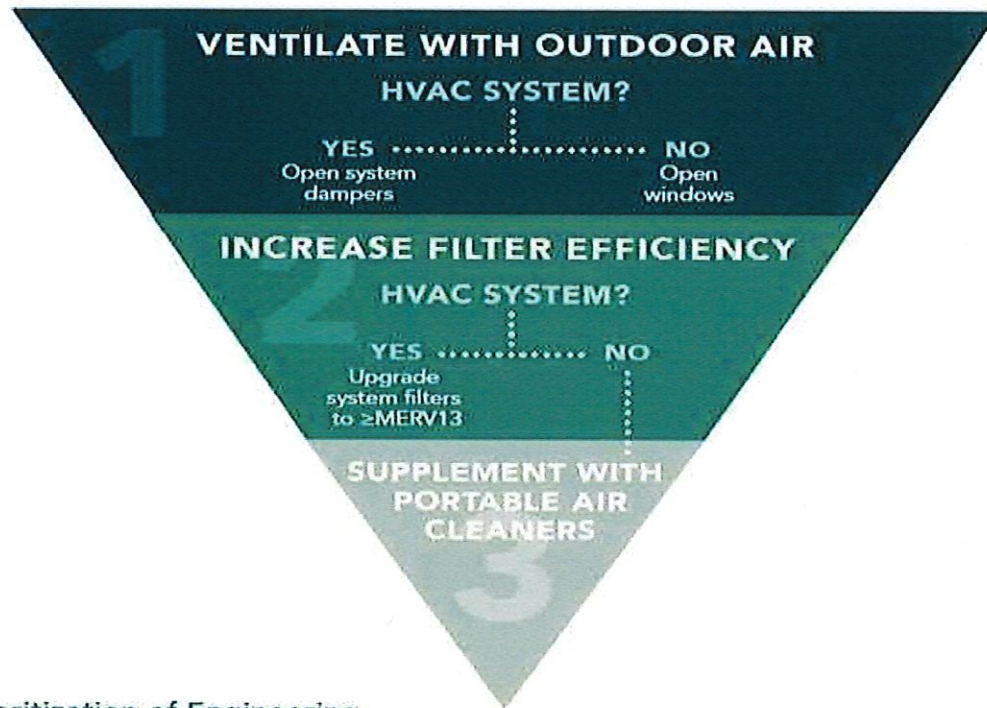
- Fever (temperature of 100.0°F or greater) or feeling feverish New, worsening cough
- Sore throat
- Headache
- Shortness of breath/difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Muscle aches and pains
- Nasal congestion/runny nose
- Nausea/vomiting/diarrhea/abdominal pain

FACILITIES



REMINDERS of IMPLEMENTATION

FOCUS AND IMPLEMENTATION: VENTILATION AND AIR EXCHANGE



1. Ventilate Air



2. Increase Filter Efficiency

3. Supplement with Portable Air Cleaners

Prioritization of Engineering Controls to Reduce Long-Range Airborne Transmission

- **Based on BALA** report recommendations, NBPS will plan for installation of portable HEPA filters and Needlepoint Bipolar Ionization upgrades where feasible

FACILITY READINESS

Guidance	Focus
 <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/cleaning-disinfection.html</p>	<p>Guidance for Administrators of US K-12 Schools and Child Care Programs. Training on and effectively using personal protective equipment (PPE). Cleaning and disinfecting school and community facilities to mitigate transmission.</p>
 <p>https://www.osha.gov/SLTC/covid-19/</p>	<p>Requires employers to prevent and reduce transmission among employees. Guidance emphasizes social distancing, barrier or partition controls, or personal protective equipment. Return to work guidance systems are in place for those employees out of work due to potential of confirmed exposure</p>
<p>http://www.doe.mass.edu/covid19/on-desktop/2020-0722facilities-operations-guide.docx</p>	<p>DESE’s Facilities and Operations Guidance provides additional details and considerations for school facilities and grounds & operational protocols: 1. Preparing spaces 2. Making systems and other space-use modifications and 3. Developing operational protocols</p>

FACILITY READINESS

IMPLEMENTATION

- Air exchange units (in process)
- Window and doors mitigation
 - *Open windows or doors (when appropriate and safe)*
- Adjust HVAC settings: Adjust settings to increase the flow of outdoor air

RESOURCES



Resources and Research

- DESE [Guidance](#)
- Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health special report on [Healthy Schools - Reopening Guidance](#)
- American Academy of Pediatrics [Guidance on Reopening Schools](#)
- CDC [Considerations for Schools](#)
- New Bedford [Health Department](#)
- Information and Feedback sessions with community partners and stakeholders

HEALTH RESOURCES



American Academy of Pediatrics: <http://aapca2.org/schoolhealth/>

CDC Guidance on reopening:

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/Schools-Decision-Tree.pdf?referringSource=articleShare>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/reopen-guidance.html>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html>

Academic RESOURCES:

[Guidance: Strengthening Our Remote Learning Experience](#)

[Massachusetts Elementary Prerequisite Content Standards](#)

[Massachusetts Secondary Prerequisite Content Standards](#)

Equity: <https://edtrust.org/resource/10-questions-for-equity-advocates-to-ask-about-distance-learning/>

Early Childhood: [social-emotional learning \(SEL\) and approaches to play and learning \(APL\) standards. remote learning guidance](#)

Education Trust: <https://s3-us-east-2.amazonaws.com/edtrustmain/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/06163247/10-Questions-for-Equity-Advocates-to-Ask-About-Distance-Learning-During-COVID-19-May-2020.pdf>

Resource to help boost immune system <https://www.marioninstitute.org/coffee-with-dr-hennie/>

always
be kind



be kind

THANK YOU