NEWPORT NEWS PUBLIC SCHOOLS
RETURN TO LEARN
PLAN FOR A SAFE RETURN, 2020-2021

Newport News Public Schools is committed to partnering with our families to provide a healthy and safe environment, quality instruction, daily meals for students, and other resources to ensure that students are engaged in learning.

In early July, the Governor and the Virginia Department of Education released a guidance document that serves as a recommendation for the reopening of Virginia schools for the 2020-2021 school year. The document outlines school reopening phases that are aligned with the Forward Virginia phases, through which the state will progress by monitoring COVID-19 public health data.

• **Phase One:** The predominant mode of instruction for all students is virtual learning. In-person learning options with strict physical distancing are permitted for special education students based upon Individualized Education Plans; no large gatherings may be held and no athletics or extracurricular activities may be offered.

• **Phase Two:** Expands options to more students for in-person instruction to include preschool through grade 3 and English learners for whom in-person instruction is not as easily replaced; schools must follow strict physical distancing guidelines; no gatherings of more than 10 people and limited athletics and extracurricular activities may be offered.

• **Phase Three:** Expands in-person instruction for all students but with strict social distancing that may require staggered schedules; gatherings are limited to 250 people and athletics and other activities may be offered with physical distancing.

• **Beyond Phase Three:** School divisions will resume “new-normal” operations in consultation with public health officials.
The health, wellbeing and safety of Newport News Public Schools’ students and staff is paramount and served as the guiding principle for the Return to Learn Plan. In preparation for the start of the 2020-2021 school year, Newport News Public Schools has aligned its operations in accordance with the reopening guidelines outlined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the Virginia Department of Health (VDH), and the Virginia Department of Education’s (VDOE) School Reopening Guidelines.

The NNPS Return to Learn Plan ensures options for student learning; enhanced social distancing and physical distancing measures; and cleaning, disinfecting and other mitigation strategies to the greatest extent possible.

The NNPS Return to Learn Plan was developed with input from parents/guardians, students, staff, advisory groups and community stakeholders, and will be submitted to the Virginia Department of Education.

Newport News Public Schools is planning to reopen schools on September 8. Based on current health data, the plan presented below assumes that schools will reopen in Phase III. NNPS will
continue to monitor public health conditions and will follow all executive orders and local
guidance. If health conditions warrant a change in the state’s reopening phase, this plan will be
updated.

Health and Safety

The goal of Newport News Public Schools’ Health Services Department is to provide a healthy
school environment to foster greater academic achievement and healthier lives for students
and staff.

Before any students can return to school, each school division is required to submit a health
plan to the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE). The NNPS plan outlines the school
division’s plans for student and staff health monitoring; communication plan with staff,
students and families; preparation of student health services; promoting behaviors that reduce
the spread of COVID-19; hygiene practices; protecting vulnerable individuals and preparing for
when someone gets sick. Newport News Public Schools submitted its health plan to the VDOE
on July 17, 2020.

The NNPS health plan addresses daily health screenings, physical distancing on buses and in
classrooms, social distancing; cleaning and disinfecting, the use of face coverings; and restricts
mixing groups of students, large gatherings and the use of communal spaces (cafeterias, gyms,
auditoriums).

Daily Health Screenings

Students
All parents/guardians will be asked to conduct a health screening of their child each day (daily
health questionnaire) before the child reports to school or boards a school bus. Before leaving
home, parents/guardians will ensure that their child does not have a fever or have any other
symptoms of COVID–19 and has not been exposed to anyone who exhibits symptoms of the
virus.

Staff
All NNPS staff will be required to ensure that they do not have a fever or any other COVID–19
symptoms and have not been exposed to anyone who exhibits symptoms of COVID-19 before
reporting to work.

Students and staff with a temperature above 100 degrees, and/or who are exhibiting any
possible signs of illness including a cough or body aches, should not report to school or work
until they are symptom-free for at least 72 hours without the use of medication, show
improvement in respiratory symptoms, and can ensure that 10 days have passed since their
symptoms first appeared.
To ensure the health and safety of all, students, parents/guardians and Staff should:

- Stay home when sick
- Wear a cloth face covering
- Cover coughs and sneezes
- Practice proper hand hygiene
- Maintain physical distancing
- Answer the daily health questionnaire before leaving for school or work

Throughout the school year, Health Services staff will educate staff, students, and families about COVID-19 and mitigating its spread.

**COVID Response**

Clear, documented procedures have been created for a presumptive or confirmed COVID case and positive health screening within NNPS.

A separate COVID isolation room will be available in each school for students or staff showing symptoms of COVID–19; parents MUST arrange for child to be transported home as soon as possible. Disposable masks will be provided to those presumed to be infected and isolation rooms will be cleaned and disinfected frequently.

Health Services staff will communicate directly with the local health district, as required. If a positive case has been identified and verified by the local health district. Health Services staff will communicate the next steps to all identified contacts as recommended by the health district.

**Return to class/work protocols**

Following a presumptive or confirmed case of COVID-19, students and staff may return to class and work if at least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery (defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications), and if there has been improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g. cough, shortness of breath), and if at least 10 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

A healthcare practitioner’s notice to return to school is required in accordance with NNPS policy.
**Face Coverings and PPE**

**Face Coverings**
All NNPS students and staff will be required to wear a face covering while on the bus and inside the building if social distancing is not possible unless the student or staff member is medically exempt.

Disposable masks will be provided to students and staff who are unable to provide their own or if they do not have a face covering upon entering the building or boarding the school bus.

**Personal Protective Equipment**
Staff members who need gloves or other protective equipment will be provided these items. Examples of other protective equipment include face shields and gowns for health services staff and other staff where their work requires it to be safe.

**Physical Distancing**
All students and staff are expected to maintain a six-foot physical distance. Classrooms will be reconfigured to ensure that students engaged with in-person learning will be seated at least six feet apart at desks or tables to the maximum extent possible in classrooms.

As mandated by the Virginia Department of Education, one-on-one assessments and evaluations may be required for certain students; in these cases, teachers and staff will be required to wear masks and face shields. If a six-foot distance cannot be maintained during small group instruction, teachers and staff are required to wear masks and face shields.

To minimize group interaction, students will eat breakfast and lunch in the classroom. School bus routes and schedules will be adjusted to allow for one student on each seat and masks will be required.

Back-to-school events, including open house nights, will be held electronically.
Newport News Public Schools’ cleaning schedules and practices comply with current Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Virginia Department of Health guidelines for cleaning and disinfecting public facilities.

Cleaning and sanitizing will occur daily. All frequently touched areas including doors, countertops, knobs, hand railings and windows will be cleaned throughout the day while buildings are occupied. A deep cleaning and disinfecting will occur twice weekly in all schools and offices.

As a preventative measure, all water fountains will be wrapped to prevent public use. Students and staff will be encouraged to bring their own bottled water. Hand sanitizer and disinfectant wipes will be available at the main entrance of each facility and at other locations throughout our schools and offices.

In addition, bus drivers will clean and sanitize buses following each route. Community use of school division facilities during non-school hours will be restricted.

Newport News Public Schools is dedicated to providing high quality instruction to all students. All instruction and assignments will follow the Virginia Standards of Learning and align to the written, taught, and assessed curriculum to promote continuous learning.

During the 2020-2021 school year, the school division is expanding its one-to-one technology initiative to provide a Chromebook for every student in kindergarten through 12th grade to support learning in-person and online.

NNPS has developed two options for school re-opening for families based on survey data from parents, staff, students, advisory groups, and other key community stakeholders.
Newport News Public Schools will provide two learning options for students based on survey input from parents, students and staff. Through ParentVue, parents/guardians will be able to select the learning model that best serves their child.

**Proposed Learning Models**

**LEARNING MODELS**

**HYBRID LEARNING**
- Students attend school two days each week for face-to-face instruction with teachers, two days at home with teacher guided instruction for elementary students and teacher check-ins for secondary students, and one day of independent learning.
- Students work independently on Wednesdays except for small group instruction for identified students.
- Face-to-face class sizes are smaller in order to maintain social distancing and safety measures outlined by the CDC.
- Instruction is facilitated by teachers through the Canvas Learning Management System.
- Students complete and submit assignments in Canvas.
- Teachers provide student feedback and/or post grades weekly.
- Teachers differentiate instruction to include enrichment and innovative lessons that provide student voice and choice in learning.

**VIRTUAL LEARNING**
- Students engage in four days of at-home virtual learning with teacher support, and one day of independent learning.
- Students work independently on Wednesdays except for small group instruction for identified students.
- Class sizes are larger because learning is virtual and CDC guidelines do not apply.
- Instruction is facilitated by teachers using the Canvas Learning Management System.
- Students complete and submit assignments in Canvas.
- Teachers provide student feedback and/or post grades weekly.
- Teachers differentiate instruction to include enrichment and innovative lessons that provide student voice and choice in learning.
Both the hybrid and virtual learning models give students the opportunity to engage in new learning with support and access to technology for instruction.

During the 2020-2021 school year, Newport News Public Schools is expanding its one-to-one technology initiative to provide a Chromebook for every student in kindergarten through 12th grade to support learning in-person and online.
Access to Computers

- 1:1 Chromebooks for every student in Grades K-12
- For use in school and at home
- Familiar and easy to use platform
- Full implementation at all grade levels by second semester

To support blended learning, NNPS has accelerated our digital transformation plans and purchased enough Chromebooks so that every student in grades K-12 can have a device. Chromebooks are a familiar platform to NNPS students, as they are currently used in all grade levels and content areas.

With school districts around the globe transitioning to online learning in response to the pandemic, the demand for student computers has never been higher. At the same time, supply-chain problems in the Spring have made it even more difficult for computer manufacturers to keep up with that demand. As a result, some of the devices we’ve purchased may not arrive in our schools until December.

- Devices for secondary school students will be ready for distribution at the beginning of the school year.
- Chromebooks for elementary school students will be ready for distribution in December. In the interim, loaner devices will be made available for elementary school students who don’t have access to a computer at home.

CoNNected @Home Program

- Eligible families will receive no-cost options to connect to the Internet
- Application will be available in early August
- All NNPS families can receive assistance in applying for low-cost Internet access

Because NNPS is committed to ensuring that every student can participate in online learning, both on and off campus, we are launching our CoNNected @Home program.

Data from the State and the City indicates that approximately 20% of the families in Newport News may not have reliable access to the Internet. Our own experiences following the COVID-19 closures confirmed those estimates.

With that in mind, NNPS will provide mobile wi-fi hotspots to eligible students who might not otherwise have reliable access to the Internet. The hotspots, which will be provided at no-cost to eligible families, will empower students to access learning anywhere, anytime. To keep our students safe online, the same stringent content filtering is applied regardless of how or where the student connects to the Internet.

Families not meeting the eligibility requirements for no-cost Internet can still receive assistance in applying for low-cost Internet solutions through this program.
We will be sharing more information with our families in the coming weeks and we’ll begin accepting applications for this program in early August.

**Canvas Learning Management System**

To support virtual and blended in-person and online learning, NNPS is implementing Canvas, a new learning management system. The Canvas Learning Management Platform allows NNPS to build an interactive, blended and digital learning environment that meets the unique needs of each student. Canvas operates as a virtual classroom. Instruction for both learning models will be facilitated by teachers with Canvas.

Canvas gives teachers the opportunity to deliver virtual instruction and assignments in one organized space, track student progress and post grade assignments. Students will be able to submit their work in a variety of ways (text box, discussion, file upload) and receive teacher feedback, track assignments due, access organized class materials by course, and connect and communicate with other teachers, students, and parents.

**Elementary Learning**

NNPS has developed an elementary academic plan that will support teaching and learning for all students. The academic plan has been revised to include learning modules that will address content what was not taught during the 2019-2020 school year. All instruction and assignments will follow the Virginia Standards of Learning and align to the written, taught, and assessed curriculum to promote continuous learning.

During the 2020-2021 school year, the school division is expanding its one-to-one technology initiative to provide a Chromebook for every student in kindergarten through 12th grade to support learning in-person and online.

Students enrolled in the hybrid learning model will attend school on their assigned two days each week. The three days that students are not in school, they will continue their learning by logging into Canvas to complete daily assignments and activities that reinforce skills and concepts that were taught during the in-person lessons at school, as well as engage in new learning.

Students enrolled in the virtual learning option will engage in four days of at-home learning with scheduled live, virtual instruction from teachers, and one day of independent learning. Virtual instruction may include live video conferencing with a teacher, pre-recorded video lessons to view, and independent work that students will complete on the Canvas learning management system, and/or projects that allow for voice and choice in student assignments.
Students attend school two days each week for in-person instruction with teachers, and engage in three days of (guided and independent) learning. Students engage in four days of at-home learning with some live, virtual instruction from teachers, and one day of independent learning.

Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support). Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support).

In-person class sizes are smaller in order to maintain social distancing and safety measures outlined in the CDC Guidelines. Class sizes are larger because learning is virtual and CDC guidelines do not apply.

Instruction is facilitated by teachers through the Canvas Learning Management System for at-home days. Instruction is facilitated by teachers using the Canvas Learning Management System every day.

Students complete and submit assignments in Canvas.

Teachers provide feedback to students and/or post grades weekly.

Instruction is differentiated to include enrichment opportunities and innovative lessons that provide voice and choice in learning.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hybrid Learning</th>
<th>Virtual Learning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students attend school two days each week for in-person instruction with teachers, and engage in three days of (guided and independent) learning.</td>
<td>Students engage in four days of at-home learning with some live, virtual instruction from teachers, and one day of independent learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support).</td>
<td>Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-person class sizes are smaller in order to maintain social distancing and safety measures outlined in the CDC Guidelines.</td>
<td>Class sizes are larger because learning is virtual and CDC guidelines do not apply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction is facilitated by teachers through the Canvas Learning Management System for at-home days.</td>
<td>Instruction is facilitated by teachers using the Canvas Learning Management System every day.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Physical Education**
In the hybrid learning model, physical education (PE) will be conducted while physical distancing is practiced. Teachers and students must wear face coverings. Classes, which will be limited in size, will be held outdoors whenever possible.

Prior to beginning PE, proper hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and physical distancing will be taught. Signs and floor/field markings will be used to ensure physical distancing. Activities that require limited or no equipment will be considered as well as activities that can be performed within physical distancing guidelines. Students will sanitize hands prior to PE class and
afterwards. If any equipment is utilized, the teacher will disinfect the equipment before the next class arrives.

Specific entrances and exits to and from the building/gym will be utilized for physical education classes.

**Recess**

Recess will be held outdoors whenever possible for students participating in hybrid learning. The CDC guidelines recommend separating classes for recess. All indoor and outdoor spaces will be considered to provide a range of activity options and minimize crowding. Physical distancing of 10 feet will be required during physical activity. If separate bins/bags of equipment are used for each class during recess, the equipment will be disinfected between recess periods.

A variety of outside spaces will be offered where free choice of different activities can take place including quiet, creative, and solo activity spaces. Various "zones" will be marked to reduce the number of students who are in contact with each other. Students will sanitize hands before and prior to the end of recess.

Playground pods will not be utilized.

**Art**

Students learning through the hybrid model will be provided individual sketch pads and paper at school. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide individual art supplies (crayons, markers, colored pencils, erasers, scissors, rulers, etc.) that will remain with the student.

Students enrolled in the virtual model will receive instruction online. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide individual art supplies (crayons, markers, colored pencils, erasers, scissors, rulers, etc.) for use at home.

**Music**

Group singing and sharing of instruments are not advised while social distancing guidelines are in place. Music teachers will alter the in-class curriculum and will focus on creative processes, critical thinking and communication, historical and cultural influences, and innovations in the arts. Students will be encouraged to practice singing at home, maintain practice logs or journals, and create recordings at home for feedback from the teacher.

Students enrolled in virtual learning may record themselves singing and/or playing musical selections as advised by the teacher.

**Library/Media**

During in-person instruction, school librarians will assist during the literacy block as needed to co-teach information literacy, guide inquiry learning and promote literacy enrichment. Students may check out books online, which will be delivered to classrooms for distribution. When books
are returned, they will be sanitized and held at least 72 hours before being returned to circulation.

To support virtual learning, school librarians will assist students with inquiry projects, self-directed reading, and coursework.

School librarians will also host virtual book clubs and assist students with e-books for self-directed reading.

**Attendance**
Attendance will be calculated when students come to school, log into Canvas for guided and independent practice assignments, or communicate progress and efforts to their teacher.

**Grading**
Teachers will communicate performance and grades to parents and students regularly and consistently. Grades will be posted weekly in ParentVue and StudentVue in grades 3-5. Teachers in grades pre-kindergarten through second grade will communicate performance and feedback to parents and students through the communication tool identified by the teacher.

**Local and State Testing**
NNPS is revising its assessment plan for the 2020-2021 school year to ensure that it meets the needs of our students and provides teachers and administrators with the information needed to support instruction.

All testing practices will adhere to the requirements outlined by the Virginia Department of Education.

**School Counseling**
School Counselors will schedule in-person and virtual sessions with students as needed. Online resources will support student learning. Families and students may contact their school counselor with questions or to request support, visit [http://sbo.nn.k12.va.us/counseling/counselors.html](http://sbo.nn.k12.va.us/counseling/counselors.html) for contact information.

**Social and Emotional Learning**
The social and emotional well-being of our students is paramount. NNPS mental health professionals will ensure staff is trained to recognize and respond to the social and emotional needs of our students. For more information about social and emotional support, click here.
NNPS has developed a middle school academic plan that will support teaching and learning for all students.

All instruction and assignments will follow the Virginia Standards of Learning and align to the written, taught, and assessed curriculum to promote continuous learning.

During the 2020-2021 school year, the school division is expanding its one-to-one technology initiative to provide a Chromebook for every student in kindergarten through 12th grade to support learning in-person and online.

Students enrolled in the hybrid learning model will attend school on their assigned two days each week. The three days that students are not in school, they will continue their learning by logging into Canvas for guided and independent assignments. Assignments may include reading, writing, listening, viewing instructional videos, and/or experimenting in virtual labs.

Students enrolled in the virtual learning option will engage in four days of at-home learning with scheduled live, virtual instruction from teachers, and one day of independent learning. Virtual instruction may include live video conferencing with a teacher, pre-recorded video lessons to view, and independent work that students will complete on the Canvas learning management system, and/or projects that allow for voice and choice in student assignments.

### Hybrid Learning

Students attend school two days each week for in-person instruction with teachers, and engage in three days of (guided and independent) learning.

Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support).

In-person class sizes are smaller in order to maintain social distancing and safety measures outlined in the CDC Guidelines.

### Virtual Learning

Students engage in four days of at-home learning with some live, virtual instruction from teachers, and one day of independent learning.

Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support).

Class sizes are larger because learning is virtual and CDC guidelines do not apply.
Instruction is facilitated by teachers through the Canvas Learning Management System for at-home days.

Instruction is facilitated by teachers using the Canvas Learning Management System every day.

Students complete and submit assignments in Canvas.

Teachers provide feedback to students and/or post grades weekly.

Instruction is differentiated to include enrichment opportunities and innovative lessons that provide voice and choice in learning.

**Physical Education**
In the hybrid learning model, physical education (PE) will be conducted while physical distancing is practiced. Teachers and students must wear face coverings. Classes, which will be limited in size, will be held outdoors whenever possible.

Prior to beginning PE, proper hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and physical distancing will be taught. Students are encouraged to come dressed for physical activity as locker rooms will not be utilized unless necessary. Signs and floor/field markings will be used to ensure physical distancing. Activities that promote lifelong fitness and stress relief will be promoted as well as activities that require limited or no equipment and can be performed within physical distancing guidelines. Students will sanitize hands prior to PE class and afterwards. If any equipment is utilized, the teacher will disinfect the equipment before the next class arrives.

Specific entrances and exits to and from the building/gym will be utilized for PE classes.

**Art**
Students learning through the hybrid model will be provided individual sketch pads and paper at school. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide individual art supplies (markers, pencils, paint brushes, scissors, rulers, etc.) that will remain with the student.

Students enrolled in the virtual model will receive instruction online. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide individual art supplies (markers, pencils, paint brushes, scissors, rulers, etc.) for use at home.

**Music**
Group singing and sharing of instruments are not advised while social distancing guidelines are in place. Music teachers will alter the in-class curriculum and will focus on creative processes,
critical thinking and communication, historical and cultural influences, and innovations in the arts.

Choral and instrumental students participating in hybrid learning will be encouraged to practice singing and playing at home, maintain practice logs or journals, and create recordings at home for feedback from the teacher.

Students enrolled in virtual learning may record themselves singing and/or playing musical selections as advised by the teacher.

**Library/Media**
During in-person instruction, school librarians will assist teachers as needed to co-teach information literacy, guide inquiry learning and promote literacy enrichment. Students may check out books online, which will be delivered to classrooms for distribution. When books are returned, they will be sanitized and held at least 72 hours before being returned to circulation.

To support virtual learning, school librarians will assist students with inquiry projects, self-directed reading, and coursework.

School librarians will also host virtual book clubs and assist students with e-books for self-directed reading.

**Attendance**
Teachers will take attendance daily and monitor when students log into Canvas for guided and independent assignments. Students will have assignments to complete and post daily which will be documented as participation and attendance.

**Grading**
Teachers will communicate performance and grades to parents and students regularly and consistently. Grades will be posted weekly in ParentVue and StudentVue. Students will have five school days to make up assignments and/or improve a grade to demonstrate mastery of the concept or skill that was assessed.

**Local and State Testing**

NNPS is revising its assessment plan for the 2020-2021 school year to ensure that it meets the needs of our students and provides teachers and administrators with the information needed to support instruction.

All testing practices will adhere to the requirements outlined by the Virginia Department of Education.

**School Counseling**
School Counselors will schedule in-person and virtual sessions with students as needed. Online resources will support student learning. Families and students may contact their school counselor with questions or to request support, visit http://sbo.nn.k12.va.us/counseling/counselors.html for contact information.

**Social and Emotional Learning**
The social and emotional well-being of our students is paramount. NNPS mental health professionals will ensure staff is trained to recognize and respond to the social and emotional needs of our students. For more information about social and emotional support, click here.

**High School Learning**
NNPS has developed a high school academic plan that will support teaching and learning for all students.

All instruction and assignments will follow the Virginia Standards of Learning and align to the written, taught, and assessed curriculum to promote continuous learning.

During the 2020-2021 school year, the school division is expanding its one-to-one technology initiative to provide a Chromebook for every student in kindergarten through 12th grade to support learning in-person and online.

Students enrolled in the hybrid learning model will attend school on their assigned two days each week. The three days that students are not in school, they will continue their learning by logging into Canvas for guided and independent assignments. Assignments may include reading, writing, listening, viewing instructional videos, and/or experimenting in virtual labs.

Students enrolled in the virtual learning option will engage in four days of at-home learning with scheduled live, virtual instruction from teachers, and one day of independent learning. Virtual instruction may include live video conferencing with a teacher, pre-recorded video lessons to view, and independent work that students will complete on the Canvas learning management system, and/or projects that allow for voice and choice in student assignments.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Hybrid Learning</strong></th>
<th><strong>Virtual Learning</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Students attend school two days each week for in-person instruction with teachers, and engage in three days of (guided and independent) learning.</td>
<td>Students engage in four days of at-home learning with some live, virtual instruction from teachers, and one day of independent learning.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support).</td>
<td>Students work independently on Wednesday (some identified students may receive additional support).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-person class sizes are smaller in order to maintain social distancing and safety measures outlined in the CDC Guidelines.</td>
<td>Class sizes are larger because learning is virtual and CDC guidelines do not apply.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction is facilitated by teachers through the Canvas Learning Management System for at-home days.</td>
<td>Instruction is facilitated by teachers using the Canvas Learning Management System every day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Students complete and submit assignments in Canvas.</td>
<td>Teachers provide feedback to students and/or post grades weekly.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Instruction is differentiated to include enrichment opportunities and innovative lessons that provide voice and choice in learning.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Virtual Virginia**

Some high school students may participate in Virtual Virginia courses. Virtual Virginia offers online Advanced Placement, world language, elective, and core academic courses to students. The courses utilize course management software to maximize the interactivity of each class. Each course contains video segments, audio clips, whiteboard interaction, multimedia activities, and online discussions and text. Instructors are available for telephone and online...
communication with students throughout the day. Full-time instructors are online with students at least 40 hours per week. Adjunct instructors have posted office hours. Virtual Virginia courses offer a rich multimedia learning environment that appeals to a variety of learning styles. Virtual Virginia courses can be scheduled flexibly throughout the day, as courses do not have to be taken in “real” time. Families may contact their school counselor for enrollment. For more information, visit: https://www.virtualvirginia.org/.

**Physical Education**
In the hybrid learning model, physical education (PE) will be conducted while physical distancing is practiced. Teachers and students must wear face coverings. Classes, which will be limited in size, will be held outdoors whenever possible.

Prior to beginning PE, proper hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette and physical distancing will be taught. Students are encouraged to come dressed for physical activity as locker rooms will not be utilized unless necessary. Signs and floor/field markings will be used to ensure physical distancing. Activities that promote lifelong fitness and stress relief will be promoted as well as activities that require limited or no equipment and can be performed within physical distancing guidelines. Students will sanitize hands prior to PE class and afterwards. If any equipment is utilized, the teacher will disinfect the equipment before the next class arrives.

Specific entrances and exits to and from the building/gym will be utilized for PE classes.

**Art**
Students learning through the hybrid model will be provided individual sketch pads and paper at school. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide individual art supplies (markers, pencils, paint brushes, scissors, rulers, etc.) that will remain with the student.

Students enrolled in the virtual model will receive instruction online. Parents/guardians will be asked to provide individual art supplies (markers, pencils, paint brushes, scissors, rulers, etc.) for use at home.

**Music**
Group singing and sharing of instruments are not advised while social distancing guidelines are in place. Music teachers will alter the in-class curriculum and will focus on creative processes, critical thinking and communication, historical and cultural influences, and innovations in the arts.

Choral and instrumental students participating in hybrid learning will be encouraged to practice singing and playing at home, maintain practice logs or journals, and create recordings at home for feedback from the teacher.

Students enrolled in virtual learning may record themselves singing and/or playing musical selections as advised by the teacher.
**Library/Media**

During in-person instruction, school librarians will assist teachers as needed to co-teach information literacy, guide inquiry learning and promote literacy enrichment. Students may check out books online, which will be delivered to classrooms for distribution. When books are returned, they will be sanitized and held at least 72 hours before being returned to circulation.

To support virtual learning, school librarians will assist students with inquiry projects, self-directed reading, and coursework.

School librarians will also host virtual book clubs and assist students with e-books for self-directed reading.

**Behind the Wheel Driver’s Education**

Behind the Wheel Driver’s Education is permitted in Phase III. When offering in-car instruction, students and staff are required to wear cloth face coverings and gloves. Stringent cleaning and disinfecting protocols will be followed including the use of alcohol-based products to thoroughly clean the steering wheel, steering column controls, dashboard controls, seats, seatbelts, gearshift, keys, door handles and all other touched surfaces before and after each lesson.

Daily health screenings (questionnaires) are utilized for staff and students participating in in-car instruction. Anyone who feels ill or has symptoms of COVID-19 should not participate in in-car instruction.

**Attendance**

Teachers will take attendance daily and monitor when students log into Canvas for guided and independent assignments. Students will have assignments to complete and post daily which will be documented as participation and attendance.

**Grading**

Teachers will communicate performance and grades to parents and students regularly and consistently. Grades will be posted weekly in ParentVue and StudentVue. Students will have five school days to make up assignments and/or improve a grade to demonstrate mastery of the concept or skill that was assessed.

**Local and State Testing**

NNPS is revising its assessment plan for the 2020-2021 school year to ensure that it meets the needs of our students and provides teachers and administrators with the information needed to support instruction.

All testing practices will adhere to the requirements outlined by the Virginia Department of Education.
School Counseling
School Counselors will schedule in-person and virtual sessions with students as needed. Online resources will support student learning. Families and students may contact their school counselor with questions or to request support, visit http://sbo.nn.k12.va.us/counseling/counselors.html for contact information.

Social and Emotional Learning
The social and emotional well-being of our students is paramount. NNPS mental health professionals will ensure staff is trained to recognize and respond to the social and emotional needs of our students. For more information about social and emotional support, click here.

Students with Disabilities
In order to ensure equitable access to educational opportunities and the provision of a free and appropriate education for students with disabilities, NNPS has developed the following guidelines to support the unique needs of students with disabilities which are aligned with the Virginia Department of Education’s and the CDC Guidance for Schools. In each reopening phase, specialized instruction and related services will be provided to students according to their Individualized Education Plan (IEP) using multiple formats for the delivery of instruction.

- General Curriculum (includes students with emotional disabilities, specific learning disabilities and mild intellectual disabilities): Students who receive services primarily in the general education setting (collaborative & resource) will participate in instruction following the plan established for their general education peers.

- Adapted Curriculum (includes self-contained students with moderate intellectual disabilities, severe intellectual disability and autism): In-person instruction will be provided to the maximum extent possible.

- Students identified as hearing impaired or visually impaired will receive in-person instruction; they may also require a hybrid model to permit continued participation in scheduled general education classes meeting virtually (if model for general education peers includes virtual instruction).

Gifted Services
The Department of Gifted Services provides a variety of programs designed to meet the needs of students with exceptional intellectual abilities from kindergarten through 12th grade. The Gifted Services instructional program is designed around the learning styles and cognitive characteristics of gifted children.
Instruction will be provided for hybrid learning and virtual learning. Primary gifted students will be grouped in classes with a P-TAG teacher at school/

The Governor’s School for Science and Technology will use Canvas and all teaching sessions will be recorded so students have 24 hour access to instruction. Mentorships will continue to be conducted virtually unless they can be held safely in-person by the CDC safeguards. View more information about the Governor’s School: [https://nhrec.org/gsst/](https://nhrec.org/gsst/)

**English as a Second Language**

Language Instructional Education Programs (LIEP) for English Learners (ELs) will continue through each school reopening phase in order to ensure that ELs are continuing to develop English language skills and receive support in academic courses. In addition, accommodations will be provided to ELs according to their English Learner Support (ELS) plan while all teachers work to differentiate the learning for ELs in their classes.

**Newcomers**

ELs in the specialized Newcomer program will be provided in-person instruction to the maximum extent possible in phases II and III. This may include a hybrid model of in-person and virtual instruction. When in-person instruction is not an option, Newcomers will participate in a structured virtual learning experience guided by their teacher online throughout the learning day.

**English Language Development (ELD)**

ELs in the ELD programs will be provided in-person instruction to the maximum extent possible in phases II and III. These students receive language instruction and support in a variety of models such as small group language instruction, whole class language and academic support, and collaboratively taught classes. Students will continue to participate in their ELD groups/classes following a similar mode established for general education peers.

**Social and Emotional Learning**

In an effort to promote social emotional competencies, positive behaviors and mental health well-being for all students, NNPS has developed the following plans for Phase I, II, and III that will support social emotional learning and mental health of staff and students. School Psychologists, School Social Workers, Student Support Specialists and Mental Health Care Clinicians will provide social, emotional, mental health care and support services, within the school setting, that are aligned with VDOE’s Phased Guidance for Virginia Schools and CASEL Reunite, Renew, and Thrive: SEL Roadmap for Reopening School.
School Counseling

School Counselors will schedule face-to-face and virtual sessions with students. Sessions will consist of both individual and small groups.

Click here for school and community resources or call your school counselor.

Student Activities and Extended Learning

In-person clubs and activities may be held with physical distancing; virtual club meetings and activities are encouraged.

Co-curricular activities will be conducted (in-person or virtually) based on current state guidelines and protocols established by the regional, state, or national organization sponsoring the event.

Athletics

On July 27, The Virginia High School League announced a delay in the start of the sport seasons:

- **Winter sports** (basketball, gymnastics, indoor track, swimming/diving and wrestling) will take place December 14 – February 20; first contest date is December 28

- **Fall sports** (cheer, cross country, field hockey, football, golf and volleyball) have been moved to February 15 – May 1; first contest is March 1

- **Spring sports** (baseball, lacrosse, soccer, softball, tennis and track & field) will take place April 12 – June 26; first contest is April 26

NNPS is working to establish a student athlete conditioning schedule in compliance with the Virginia High School League, the Virginia Department of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines.
Meal Service

Hybrid Learning

To minimize interaction when students attend school in-person, students will eat breakfast and lunch in the classroom at their desk or table.

Elementary Schools
All meals will be delivered to the classroom. Breakfast snacks will be prepackaged, and students will receive a choice of milk or 100% juice.

At lunchtime, students may choose a hot or cold option and a beverage.

Middle Schools
Breakfast snacks and a beverage will be served from a kiosk in the hallway. Students will maintain social distancing during meal service.

For lunch, students may choose a hot or cold option and a beverage. Based on the number of students in attendance, meals may be delivered to the classroom or students may go to the cafeteria to pick up their lunch at an assigned time.

High Schools
Breakfast snacks and a beverage will be served from a kiosk in the hallway. Students will maintain social distancing during meal service.

For lunch, students may choose a hot or cold option and a beverage. Based on the number of students in attendance, meals may be picked up from a kiosk in the hallway or students may go to the cafeteria to pick up their lunch at an assigned time.

Take-Home Meals
Students receiving in-person instruction at school two days a week as part of the hybrid learning option will be served meals-to-go for the days they are out of school.

Students attending school on the Monday/Tuesday schedule will receive three breakfast snacks and three lunches on Tuesday as they leave school.

Students attending school on the Thursday/Friday schedule will receive three breakfast snacks and three lunches on Friday as they leave school.

Meal Service for Virtual Learners

Families of students participating in the virtual learning option may pick up meals on Wednesdays at any school. Five breakfast snacks and five lunches will be provided for each student enrolled in virtual learning.
Newport News Public Schools will provide bus transportation for students to and from school in each reopening phase in compliance with CDC guidelines.

To ensure social distancing, buses will only be able to transport approximately 20-30 students at a time (one student per seat) and all students and drivers must wear masks. Bus drivers may need to make several trips back and forth to school to carry all students who need bus transportation to and from school on their designated days of attendance.

Drivers will clean and sanitize buses following each route.

NNPS will work with families to ensure that students arrive at school safely and on time.