

Return to the Nest Plan

The School District of North Fond du Lac

Plan to develop strategies and processes to open our schools up for the 2020-2021 School Year.

Contents

- Overview of goals, processes, timelines and resources
- FDL County Health Department Documents
 - Suggestions for Reopening Schools
 - FAQ on Safely and Successfully Returning to School
 - Mitigation Strategies in School Settings
 - Press Release – Collaboration FDL County

All meeting times and access information will be available on our website at www.nfdlschools.org. The District is developing a resource page (for all information about opening our schools and COVID-19 protocols and adjusted polices and processes). Please also follow us on Facebook – Nfdl schools, Twitter @nfdlschools, and Instagram Oriole_Nation.

Any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Aaron Sadoff at asadoff@nfdlschools.org or call (920) 929-3750.

Return to the Nest Plan 2020

The School District of North Fond du Lac is developing a plan to figure out how to bring our students and staff back to school in the safest and most effective way for the 2020-2021 school year. The District's plan will be developed to meet two goals:

1. Safety – create environments and practices that reduce (we cannot eliminate) exposure and transmission of COVID-19 to a level that is acceptable for safety of our students, families and staff to be in school buildings and on school grounds – **AND CONTINUE TO ATTEND!**
2. Achievement and Growth – create processes and procedures to support the academic, social and emotional growth and achievement for all students in all scenarios.

The District will be using guidance from the following sources as to develop the “Return to the Nest Plan”:

- Center for Disease Control
 - Guidance for opening schools available at (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html>)
- Fond du Lac County Health Department
 - Dashboards and Information available at (<https://www.fdlco.wi.gov/departments/departments-f-m/health-department/covid-19-coronavirus>)
 - Documents Included (in draft form and continually updated):
 - Suggestions for Reopening Schools
 - FAQ on Safely and Successfully returning to School
 - Mitigation Strategies in School Settings
 - Collaboration with other school systems in Fond du Lac County - Press Release
- Department of Public Instruction – *Education Forward Plan* (https://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/sspw/pdf/Education_Forward_web.pdf)
- American Association of Pediatrics
- Family Survey Results (To be published by Friday, July 17th, 2020)
- Staff Survey Results (closes on Thursday, July 16th, 2020)

The District is designing instruction for TWO models:

- **100% Virtual**

Parents choose to enroll their students in the eOriole Academy. 5K - 5th grade students make a commitment to being totally virtual/remote for the 2020-2021 school year. The same curriculum and standards will be followed in a remote process. This experience will be different than the spring, and be geared to meet the unique needs of the virtual format and utilize technology to support social, emotional and academic needs.
- **Fluid Model of School Attendance - Based on Safety to Return**

Families will need to be prepared to change between three scenarios, adapting to whatever level is safe to attend on any given day based on guidance of health professionals and incidents of infection in our community and schools.

 - Blended Learning – 50% of students, 100% of staff present in the school building at any given time and the other 50% of students engaging in remote learning (more robust than the spring experience). This plan would allow for consistent, weekly student attendance in the school building; lower the exposure rate to all; and allow for more ability to interact with individual students and allow students a better social and emotional experience than other models. This is the most novel approach and will need intense planning, coordination and communication as it is developed.
 - *For Example – 50% of the students come Monday and Tuesday for in person learning – Wednesday no students in buildings for cleaning – Thursday and Friday second group in school learning. Each group of students would have 2 days of in school learning and 3 days of virtual/remote learning a week.*

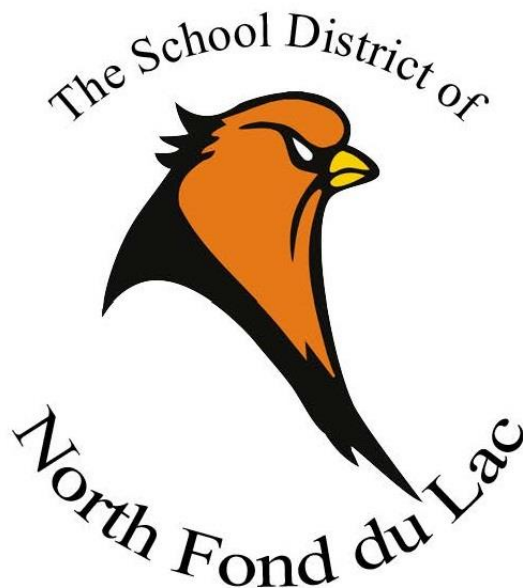
- 100% In Person Presence – The school experience would be different than previous based on the conditions of the COVID-19 Pandemic, utilizing the recommendations and guidance of health professionals and leaders the District would equip the buildings and develop procedures to safely accommodate approximately 600 students at FLC, 340 students at BAMS, 450 students at HMHS.
- 100% Remote – If school buildings are once again closed, Remote/Virtual Learning would start up, but with more staff training and a design to help provide a better educational experience.

NOTE: The Fluid Model formats may all be used this year as we maneuver the COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts on our communities and schools. *If a family chooses to be in the eOriole Academy, they will remain in that model - 5K-5th grades the entire year and 6th - 12th grades on a semester by semester decision.*

Timeline for Development of Plan

- Ongoing – Staff of the District working to review and plan for all options for the 2020 School Year
- Thursday, July 16th, 2020 – Staff Survey Results collected – survey closes
- Friday, July 17th, 2020 – Family Survey Results collected and summary released
- Monday, July 20th, 7pm Board of Education holds Preliminary Plan Workshop
 - Streamed on OrioleTV and Zoom Meeting
- July 20th through July 27th – Editing and Finalizing of Plan
- Sunday, July 26th – Graduation for the Class of 2020
- Monday July 27th, 7pm – Board of Education Meeting
- Tuesday, July 28th – The Official Return to the Nest Plan is communicated to families and the community. Planning for specific needs and enrollment processes will be continual.
- Monday, August 10th – Student and Staff Handbook Additions and Edits to be presented to the Board of Education for Approval - Additions will be focused on policies and procedures for operating in the environment of the COVID-19 Pandemic.
- Tuesday, September 1st – Friday, September 4th – FIRST WEEK OF SCHOOL

The District is dedicated to provide great educational, social and emotional opportunities for all students every day! No matter what the design of learning looks like.





Fond du Lac County Health Department

160 S. Macy St, Fond du Lac, WI 54935

Phone: 920-929-3085 ☐ Fax: 920-929-3102 ☐ www.fdlco.wi.gov



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Suggestions for Reopening Schools

One plan for the Health and Safety aspect of reopening in the fall that is the same for all schools and districts. This is to allow a consistent approach to COVID-19 response no matter the school or district.

- Each school should have in writing a plan to address an increase of sicknesses and absenteeism around COVID-19 which would include levels of response such as:
 - Blended learning or opportunity for virtual learning for families that need or request this approach.
 - Virtual learning if necessary to prevent the spread of the virus if at a level where the schools need to close for a period of time or for the remaining school year.
(Allow students to do virtual learning based on student's risk and concern for a household member.)

Transportation practices to minimize risk and exposure:

- Require masks or face coverings on buses, sit with same household and have assigned seating.
 - Solicit from families the use of other means of transportation to school other than a bus.
 - Waive fees associated with student parking to allow less reliance on bus transportation.
 - Have families sign a waiver understanding the need for face coverings and be removed from bus if not complying.

Lunch and Breakfast Programs to minimize congregating of students/staff:

- Use of classrooms for eating.
- Bagged lunches to avoid going through lines for service.
- If cafeteria has to be used, spacing and assigned seat considerations.
- No open campus policy for lunch.

General:

- Longer passing times between classes for 6-12 grades to allow cleaning of desks and other surfaces between classes.
- Use of cohorts in K-5 grades. Possible teacher relocating for classes and not the entire class
 - Example, art class
- Use of block scheduling for grades 9-12 and pods/houses for 5-8 grades for contact tracing purposes.



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FAQ on safely and successfully returning to School

Q. What is a contact? (contact of a contact of a contact) Am I a contact?

A. A close contact is someone who has been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. To be a close contact you would need to have been closer than 6 ft. to that person and spent over 15 cumulative minutes with this person.

Q. What does this letter mean I was potential exposed to a positive case in the school?

A. This letter means someone in your school has tested positive for COVID-19. This doesn't not mean you have been directly exposed. It means you should be self-aware of any symptoms you might develop during the dates indicated on the letter and follow the instructions on the letter.

Q. Who will be contacting me about this exposure?

A. If you are identified as a close contact, someone from the health department will reach out to you to ask you some questions and give you instructions on how to quarantine and when you can return to normal activities.

Q. I am quarantined, what does that mean and how long?

A. The usual quarantine time is 14 days from last day of exposure to the person who tested positive. This will be longer if you live in the same household as the person who tested positive. Then your quarantine will be completed 14 days after your household member is released from their isolation.

Q. I have children in multiple schools in the district, what do I do for my other children?

A. If your other children are not identified as close contacts to someone in the school then you do not need to keep them out of school. If your child is someone who has tested positive, then you will need to keep your other children home from school until they are released from quarantine by the health dept.

Q. I was wearing PPE when I had contact with the positive case? I am safe, right?

A. Wearing PPE reduces your risk of contracting COVID-19, but there is never zero risk. If you were wearing a mask, but still have close contact with someone who tested positive, you will still need to quarantine and self-monitor for 14 days.



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Mitigation Strategies in School Settings

There will be no set requirements from the Health Department. All information provided is guidance, recommendations and based on CDC, DHS and DPI guidance.

Positive Case Identified & Contact Tracing:

- Health Department Role
 - The Health Department will follow their process when a positive case is identified in the school. This includes contact tracing, isolation and quarantine orders.
 - Health Department will provide you with a template to collect a line list of the students and staff who were in contact with the positive case.

- School District/School Role
 - Contact the parent or guardian of the child exposed to COVID-19 in the school setting based on school process identified. Inform parent or guardian of the exposure; let them know they will be contacted by the health department within 48 hours. Notify parent or guardian that the student cannot return to school without the release from quarantine from the Health Department.
 - Schools can also send parent or guardian a letter to explain exposure that occurred. The Health Department will provide a template for you to use. Schools will be expected to add date of exposure.
 - Complete a line list and forward to the health department
 - Line list template (add here when ready)
 - Email line list to: health@fdlco.wi.gov

Student/Staff Sickness and Absenteeism

- Track students' illnesses with COVID-19 specific symptoms.
 - **Students may be required or highly recommended to be tested for COVID-19 in order to return to school (waiting for state guidance to help us determine statewide approach to this issue.)**
- Report to Health Department if you are seeing a trend in absenteeism based on symptoms or cohorts.
 - We will not require daily updates or lists from the school regarding this information.

Vulnerable or High Risk Students and Staff

- Plan on how you will support the at-risk populations whether students or staff.
- Use CDC guidelines to determine who is at risk.
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/index.html>



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City/County Government Center
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 25, 2020

Contact: Kim Mueller, Health Officer, kim.mueller@fdlco.wi.gov (920) 929-3085

Fond du Lac County Health Department collaborates with Schools

On Tuesday, June 23, Fond du Lac County K-12 school leaders (public and private listed below) met with the Fond du Lac County Health Department to discuss how to best work together to ensure the safety of our students, staff and families of our districts. The discussion centered around summer activities as well as planning for the upcoming school year.

As we work together, we know that we will not be able to completely eliminate the risk of COVID-19; therefore, our efforts are focused on mitigating risk while delivering an effective education. As a group we have agreed to these three main topics:

- 1) The Fond du Lac County Health Department will provide supporting metrics to help determine at what level of capacity activities and school can safely take place. Schools will be provided ongoing, additional recommendations and guidance to ensure best practice.
Description of Capacities:
 - Open with precautions (In-Person Learning)
 - Partially Open with precautions (Blended Learning)
 - Fully Remote - all school buildings are closed (Virtual Learning)*NOTE: Each District, school, classroom, etc. will be impacted differently because of positive COVID-19 cases. This will be fluid and based on testing, contact tracing and the ability to mitigate risk because of increased infection in each unique environment.*
- 2) The group will work to identify areas of commonality to provide consistent and predictable expectations.
- 3) This group is dedicated to meet throughout the summer to plan together. The Fond du Lac County Health Department and school leaders are dedicated to creating a data driven, collaborative plan to assist in making the best decisions possible.

Together we strive to open our schools and facilities to provide an outstanding education in addition to enriching social and emotional experiences for our students, families and community. We are all responsible for our health, the health of our children and participating in practices that mitigate the spread of virus and disease. Only together will we be able to open schools and keep them open. What we do matters!

Campbellsport School District
Fond du Lac Christian School
Fond du Lac School District
Lomira School District
North Fond du Lac School District
Waupun School District

Oakfield School District
Ripon School District
Rosendale-Brandon School District
Saint Mary Springs Academy
Winnebago Lutheran Academy

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