

NORTHSIDE METHODIST ACADEMY

FAITH ~ FAMILY ~ FUTURE

Welcome Back
Knights!

PARENTS' GUIDE TO SCHOOL REOPENING FACT SHEET



ON CAMPUS INSTRUCTION
WILL BEGIN AUGUST 9, 2021.

ALL INSTRUCTION WILL BE ON
CAMPUS AND IN PERSON UNLESS
STUDENTS HAVE TO QUARANTINE.



Northside Is Stronger Than Ever!

Since last year, our campus community has demonstrated a tremendous ability to reimagine ways of teaching, learning and working. Our students were prepared and ready for the two instances when we had to go to remote learning. Academically, our staff and students never missed a beat. The ingenuity and commitment displayed by our students and faculty over the past year has been nothing short of remarkable, and it reinforces our confidence that Northside is emerging from the pandemic stronger. Northside is committed to providing on-campus instruction beginning August 9, and we firmly believe that students benefit from classroom instruction as well as peer interaction. Technology has now become a seamless tool to further learning in high school and on into college.

NORTHSIDE IS BACK

SAFER THAN EVER!

NMA is committed to upholding the principals of public health in our school and as a part of the Wiregrass community.

~ Electrostatic disinfectant sprayers using Vital Oxide and/or Halt are used to kill germs up to 24 hours.

~ Ionization units were installed in all air conditioners to remove viruses, including COVID, from the air and to facilitate surface disinfection.

~ Hand sanitizers are placed throughout campus and in classrooms.

~ Students will sit 3-6 feet apart when possible.

~ Classrooms and surfaces are cleaned daily.

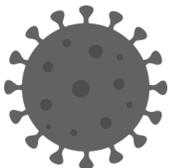


ARE MASKS REQUIRED? Wearing face masks is optional for students, staff, and visitors both indoors and outdoors, but those not vaccinated are encouraged to wear a mask.

WILL HEALTH SCREENINGS BE REQUIRED? Temperatures will not be taken daily; however, NMA asks parents to be cautious in sending sick students to school. Sick students will be isolated, and parents will be called to come pick up their child.



WILL MY CHILD PARTICIPATE IN ACTIVITIES SUCH AS LUNCH, CHAPEL, PEP RALLIES, PE, AND RECESS? Events such as chapel, recess, and PE will be on the weekly schedules as usual. All sporting activities and events will return to normal. Lunch and break will be in the lunchroom or picnic tables outside. Visitors can come on campus (youth pastors, alumni, and parents) to eat lunch unless the community COVID numbers increase. Lunches can be dropped off at the cart that will be put at the front of the school; an aide will periodically move them to the lunchroom.



WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD IS POSITIVE FOR COVID?

Contact your principal and send a note from the doctor showing the positive test. Quarantine for 10 days from the onset of symptoms. Remote into your classes. After 10 days and symptom free, come back to school. You will not have to quarantine if exposed again for 90 days. If vaccinated, you will not have to quarantine if exposed unless, on rare occasions, you get COVID.



WHAT HAPPENS IF MY CHILD IS EXPOSED TO COVID?

Vaccinated: No quarantine needed for exposure. Medical documentation is required. If your child has had Covid in the past 90 days of exposure, no quarantine is needed. Positive test documentation from a medical facility is required. (Antibody test is not acceptable.)

Unvaccinated: Quarantine for 14 days from the date of exposure. If no symptoms, the student can get tested on day 5 and return to school on day 8 if no symptoms emerge with documentation of a negative test.



The pandemic has changed the way we live, and it has taught us in a myriad of ways the importance of flexibility and responsiveness. As we get ready to return to campus for a new school year, here are a few important things to remember:

- While we would love to be in person for the entire school year, this represents our best planning today; we live in a time of great uncertainty. We continue to adhere to the most current information from public health officials.
- The new health and safety measures are essential steps we must take together. While new protocols may be cumbersome at times, our plan is to go back to as normal as possible, and the protocols are designed to help you and those around you stay well.

Parents Responsibilities

- Parents and guardians are asked to monitor their children for symptoms of any virus including COVID-19 (fever, fatigue, difficulty breathing, headache, sore throat, congestion, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, loss of the sense of smell or taste)
- When a student becomes sick while at school, he/she will be quarantined in the nurse's office behind a Plexiglas wall, and parents will be required to come within 60 minutes of notification to pick up their student.
- Students with a fever of 100 or higher cannot report to school.
- Parents/guardians must notify school administration if a child or family member is diagnosed with COVID-19 and send in documentation.
- After a positive test, parents will quarantine their child(ren) for 10 days, starting the days on the onset of symptoms.
- When exposed, quarantine and obtain a nasopharyngeal test from a medical facility at least 5 days after being exposed. If the test is negative, the student can come back on day 8. Students who do not get testes will have to quarantine 14 days.
- Parents who send their children to school are verifying that they have checked their children for symptoms of sickness prior to coming to school.

When in doubt, stay out!

Perfect attendance will be awarded for the 2021-22 academic year; if a child has to quarantine, he/she remotes in and is counted present.

Automatic, bottle refill stations are available throughout the campus. Students should bring their own water bottles.



Students, faculty, staff, and vendors will be encouraged to sanitize their hands throughout the day with automatic hand sanitizer dispensers and hand wipes.



Classrooms will be disinfected nightly, and students will wipe down their desks and take all PE uniforms and practice clothing home to wash nightly.





School Procedures



Masks

- Students, staff, and all visitors are not required to wear masks, but if unvaccinated, it is suggested.

Arrival & Attendance



- School starts at 8:00. Students not in their classroom at 8:00 will be counted tardy.
- Students will not have their temperature checked in carline. If a student gets to class and has a temperature of 100 or higher, he/she will be sent home.
- Visitors who are allowed on campus (youth pastors, alumni, parents who want to eat lunch with their student) will be allowed on campus and will check in with the main or high school office.
- Students/parents checking in or out will come to the main office or the high school office. For high school, parents will be buzzed in for the gate to open.
- All students get 10 absences per semester to use however the parent needs. These 10 absences include doctor visits, sickness, and vacation. Remote learning is only for quarantining students. Remote learning is not for vacations or short-term sickness. Absences are counted in high school per class. As per the state attendance law, after 11 days absent, the student makes up missed hours; after 15 days, the student fails the class.

Lunch



- Parents bringing lunches is allowed, but parents will not be allowed in the high school parking lot to deliver lunches. Parents will drop off lunches on the cart outside of the main office. An office aide will periodically deliver items to the lunchroom. Youth pastors, alumni, parents, and grandparents are allowed to visit or eat lunch with students.
- Debit or credit cards will be preferred for any lunch room purchases.
- Microwaves will be used, and heated items will be available for purchase.
- Catered lunches will still be available using CDC/ADPH guidelines through www.welunchit.com.
- Students will be able to enter and exit both sides of the lunchroom.
- Lunch seating will be going back to normal.
- Every student can bring his/her own water bottle and can use the automatic refilling stations throughout campus.



7th Grade & New Family/Student Orientation - August 3, 2020 at 6:00 in the FAB

- For all new families and all 7th grade families, Mrs. Gilbert and Mrs. Johnson will present, and questions will be taken at the end of the meeting. High school students will get their schedule with locker combination. The locker hall will be open for students to practice their locker combination and to get their locker organized. Classrooms will be locked, but families can take this time to find all the classrooms.



Open House - August 5, 2020

- Elementary - Parents will be allowed to come and go from 8:00-11:00 and 12:00-1:00.
- High School - An online video will be available to view prior to Open House. Parents and student will get their schedules from the gym and will be able to go into classrooms. Parents will start in 1st period and will be with their teacher for 10 minutes and rotate through the classes.



School Procedures



Store - NMA Store Hours are as follows (FAB):

- Tues., Aug. 3 - 3:00-8:00
- Thurs., Aug. 5 - 7:30-2:00 & 5:00-7:30
- After Open House, all store items will be online for sale at www.nmastore.com/
- Online orders are filled and dropped off at the school with name and grade on it.

Carline and Parking



- Carline will run the same as previous years. Make sure you make a sign with the name of your child and the grade on one side and the word **READY** on the other. See welcome back email or website for directions.
- Parking decals will be assigned at Open House for high school students. Seniors will get theirs one week earlier.
- Visitors can park in the visitor parking in the front or high school parking lots. Carline lanes should not be blocked.

Chapel



- Chapel is a vital part of student life at NMA; therefore, we are dedicated to offering weekly chapel services as safely as possible. Chapel will occur as normal with social distancing is possible. High school chapel will practice social distancing during corporate chapel services and use small groups every other week. Chapel services will still be held in the Fine Arts Building and the church, but fewer students will be in the building than usual.

Nurses' Visits



- Teachers will have a First-Aid kit in his/her room for minor cuts and scratches that may require small things like a band-aid. Students will go to the nurse when a student is sick or if he/she needs to take required medicine. If possible arrange medicine to be taken at home to keep exposure to sick children at a minimum.

Athletics



- Our athletic program will continue to follow the Alabama High School Athletic Association (AHSAA) recommendations and requirements for practices and all athletic activities.

Field Trips



- At this time, off-campus learning opportunities will continue as normal. As we strive to maintain safe and healthy campus, it might be necessary to limit instruction to on-campus or digital options depending on the sickness levels

Childcare



- Before and After School Care will be available.
- All Extended Care staff will be trained on social distancing and health protocols.
- More information will be provided.

Birthday Celebrations



- Families are allowed to send or bring birthday snacks to the lunchroom and eat lunch



ILLNESS RESPONSE



Individuals who exhibit any type of sickness including fever, vomiting, diarrhea, or excessive cough will be sent home immediately upon showing symptoms. Individuals will be quarantined in the nurse's office until a parent or guardian picks him/her up. Students must be picked up within 60 minutes of being notified. Please arrive as soon as possible. A doctor's note will be required for a student or employee to return to campus.



EXPOSED

- When a student/staff member is less than 6 feet away from a positive COVID-19 patient without a face covering for more than 15 minutes, a student/staff member is considered exposed.
- **Vaccinated:** no quarantine (documentation required)
- **Had COVID within the last 90 days:** no quarantine (documentation required)
- **Unvaccinated:** Students/staff will need to quarantine for 14 days.
- If no symptoms on day 5 from the date of exposure, the student/staff can get a test (negative) and return on day 8 with medical documentation.
- An antibody test is not allowed for early return.
- If tests or test results are not available, students must continue to quarantine until the test results are in or 14 days from the last date of exposure, which ever is shorter.
- Students who stay home due to potential exposure will participate via our remote learning platform and will be counted present as long as they participate.

POSITIVE

- Any individual who tests positive for COVID with a nasopharyngeal (nasal swab) ***must*** report that diagnosis to the appropriate principal and remain absent from school for the duration of the medically advised plan of their treating physician (10 days).
- In order to return to school, the student/staff member must have no symptoms for 24 hours without taking fever reducing medicine.
- Contact tracing will be performed by the Houston County Health Department. NMA administration will follow the directives of the CDC and local health officials to determine steps to be taken following any diagnosis.
- When a child or staff member has a positive, nasopharyngeal (nose swab) test (not an antibody test), parents and guardians of the grade or grouping of students will be notified according with HIPAA guidelines through the local Health Department.

We will take every step to mitigate the transmission of COVID-19 and any other virus, but please understand that the risks cannot be fully eliminated.

NORTHSIDE

Remote Learning

ACCESSING LMS LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

FACTS LMS is a private and secure student area that will allow students to connect with students and teachers online, including accessing class materials, uploading assignments, participating in classroom discussions, and taking quizzes.

Here's how to access the **LMS**:

In Chrome, Firefox, Safari, or Internet Explorer go to lms.renweb.com

Type the school's **District Code**: NMA-AL

Type the student's **Username**: test.student@northsideknights.net

Type the student's **Password**.

Click **Login**.

Below are videos that introduce what LMS is and how we will use it this year. Teachers will use LMS when students are being instructed on-site and off-site.

LMS Introduction - <https://vimeo.com/396458289> (password for video: factslms)

Student LMS - <https://vimeo.com/396021739> (password for video: factslms)

TEACHERS AND TEAMS

- Teachers will set up a Teams meeting when he/she has a student who is having to quarantine so they can access class in real time.
- Teams meetings are only available to students who have an invite from the teacher, and the teacher will be the only one to allow students into the meeting.
- Classes may or may not be recorded.

NORTHSIDE

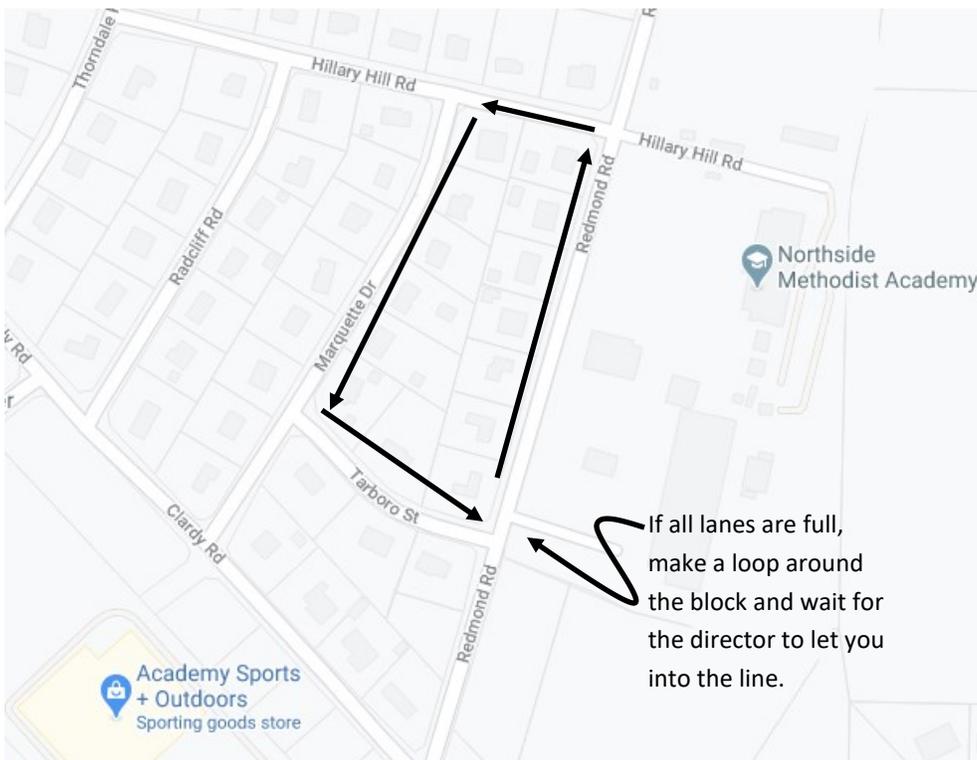
Car Line Procedures

Northside car line is unbelievably swift and very organized, and we need to make sure everyone follows the steps to ensure everyone stays safe, and you are able to pick up your child in a timely fashion. Repeat-violation of these rules will result in a fine.

1. Signs are available in the main office or make a sign on an 8.5" x 11" piece of paper and put your child's name on one side with his/her class and the word READY on the other. Punch a hole in the top or put in a page protector so you can hang it from your rearview mirror.
2. Lanes 1-4 are used for drop off and pick up of students. Lane 5 is a thru lane, and no vehicle should park in Lane 5. All lanes must watch the Director for directions as to when they can leave their lane including Lane 5.
3. All vehicles must pull up to the beginning of the lane or to where traffic has stopped. **Do not drop off or pick up your children in front of the classrooms;** doing so backs up the traffic into the road. Wait for a staff member to load or escort your children out of the car.
4. Do not park and escort your children to class unless your child is tardy. We have adequate staffing to help in the morning and afternoon.
5. Stay in the lane in which you began. It is extremely dangerous to change lanes. DO NOT change lanes unless instructed by the Director.
6. The back parking lot is off limits to parents dropping off or picking up unless it is after 8:00 or 3:30.
7. Cell phone usage for drivers and students is not allowed during car line. Both drivers and students are distracted, and cell phone usage is strictly prohibited. There are disciplinary consequences if students have their phones out during car line, and repeated drivers who are on their phones during car line will be fined.
8. Watch the Car Line Director closely. The Director will wave students and staff across all lanes and will direct which lanes can exit. Directors are also located at the entrance and exit.



Sample Sign Front and back



9. If all lanes are full, the Director at the street will wave drivers to make a loop. Do not break in line or block Redmond Road. Police will ticket drivers who block Redmond Road. Loop Around: Continue driving in front of the school past the baseball field and turn left on Hillary Hill Road, take the next left on Marquette, take the next left on Tarboro Street. Wait at the stop sign at Redmond Road, and the Director will wave you across when he stops traffic on Redmond Road.