

# North Miami Community Schools

## Fall 2020 Reopening Plan



Board Approved 6/30/2020

## Contributors

Information and input has been collected and considered from each of the following sources:

1. North Miami Re-Opening Task Force
2. Health Officials (National, State, and Local levels)
3. Indiana Department of Education
4. Parents (Survey)
5. Communication with other School District leaders

## Main Objectives

We understand that we will never be able to guarantee an absolutely safe environment. However, data supports reopening school. We have learned that students need to be in school in order to thrive, and we feel that our plan will allow us to create safe environments where we can again promote the social interactions that are so vital for our students' development. With our community experiencing "Low to No Spread," we intend to reopen school on August 11th under the traditional model. This reopening plan is fluid and is subject to change based upon the recommendation of the Miami County Health Department, the Governor or North Miami Community school board.

Reopening school involves a commitment to meet each of the following objectives:

1. Train students/staff/parents on how to **self-screen** for COVID symptoms.
2. Students/staff who are sick and/or symptomatic will stay home.
3. Improve distance learning so that those not physically present can continue to participate in learning. A distance learning plan will be developed for students who cannot participate in the traditional school setting or for those families who choose a distance learning option. This plan will outline the daily expectations and procedures for distance learning.
4. Systematically and continuously clean facilities.
5. Promote healthy habits and encourage masks to be worn when social distancing guidelines are not logistically possible.

## Response to Confirmed Case

The administration may shut down buildings, busses, or other facilities upon recommendation of the County Health Board or the Indiana Department of Education, for such time as is appropriate for the protection of the community.

## Addressing Community Spread in North Miami Community School Corporation

Low to No Spread	Minimal or Moderate Spread	Substantial Spread
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department Officials</li> <li>Low to no known active exposure cases <u>at school buildings</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establish and maintain communication with Local Health Department Officials</li> <li>Minimal or moderate <u>active exposure cases at school buildings</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>COVID spread is such that rolling closures are needed (could be short term or long term)</li> <li>Substantial <u>active exposure cases or absences</u> impacting school building attendance and staffing</li> </ul>

## Risk Mitigation Approach

- **Conduct self-screening** (prevent sick people from attending school)
- **Provide distance learning options** (as needed until students return in person)
- **Promote hygiene** (hand washing)
- **Increase cleaning** (disinfect surfaces)
- **Keep kids in cohort groups as much as possible** (support tracing)
- **Maximize distance** (as feasible)
- **Avoid large groups** (where possible)
- **Recommend masks** (when social distancing is not possible)
- **Encourage outdoor activities, weather permitting** (classroom activities, PE, elementary recess will be allowed)

**Decisions based on:** 1) medical advice, 2) what is feasible, 3) feedback from the school community.

## North Miami Procedures: Screening - Exclusion - Reporting

<b>Current Statistics for Miami Co.</b>	Source: <a href="https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm">https://www.coronavirus.in.gov/2393.htm</a>
<b>Parent Screening Measures <i>before a child leaves home</i> (keep child home if symptoms present)</b>	<p>Symptoms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><i>Fever of 100 or greater or chills</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>Shortness of Breath or Difficulty Breathing</i></b></li> <li>• <b><i>New Loss of Taste or Smell</i></b></li> <li>• Congestion or Runny Nose</li> <li>• Cough</li> <li>• Muscle or Body Aches</li> <li>• Headache</li> <li>• Sore Throat</li> <li>• Nausea/Vomiting</li> <li>• Diarrhea</li> </ul> <p>Any student/staff should stay home from school if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 listed above based on CDC Guidance <b>that is not otherwise explained.</b></p>
<b>Medical Inquiries</b>	When a parent or employee tells the school that a student/staff member is ill, the school may ask whether the person is exhibiting symptoms of Covid 19. If the person is obviously ill, the school may inquire about the symptoms exhibited, and may exclude the person from school property, only to return in accordance with the options below.
<b>Return to school after having symptoms above and <i>NO COVID 19 test</i></b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No fever for at least 72 hours (that is three full days of no fever without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) and</li> <li>• Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and</li> <li>• At least 10 calendar days have passed since your symptoms first appeared.</li> </ul> <p><b>Any student/staff who is symptomatic for infection should stay home and consult their primary care provider or seek testing.</b> The state website <a href="http://www.coronavirus.in.gov">www.coronavirus.in.gov</a> has a list of over 200 testing facilities, their location and hours of operation. This list is updated frequently. Staff/student can return prior to the waiting period if their physician provides a note stating they are cleared to do so.</p>
<b>Return to school after having symptoms above and testing negative for COVID 19</b>	Return when fever has been gone for 24 hours (without the use of medicine that reduces fevers) and experiencing no symptoms.
<b>Return to school after testing <i>POSITIVE</i> for COVID 19</b>	<p>First: <b>Notify your school immediately of any positive test</b></p> <p>Persons who experience symptoms and have been tested for COVID-19 may return to school if the following conditions are met:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The individual no longer has a fever for at least 72 hours (without the use medicine that reduces fevers); and</li> <li>• Other symptoms have improved (for example, when your cough or shortness of breath have improved); and</li> <li>• At least 10 calendar days since their test without symptoms; or</li> <li>• The individual has received two negative tests at least 24 hours apart.</li> </ul>
<b>If someone in your home has symptoms or is being tested for COVID 19</b>	Students and employees should remain home for 72 hours if someone in the household has COVID-19 symptoms or is being tested for COVID-19. <b>Parents and employees notify the school if someone in your home has tested positive for COVID-19.</b>
<b>If someone in your home has tested positive for COVID 19</b>	If an individual in one's home has COVID-19 or is isolated because of COVID-19, those in the household should also stay home for at least 10 days. This could be longer if the student becomes symptomatic. Return to school after documented infection with COVID-19 should be directed by the individual's health care provider. <b>Parents and employees notify the school if someone in your home has tested positive for COVID-19.</b>

## North Miami Decision Making Model Based on Level of COVID-19 Spread

Level of Spread	Low to No Spread (Plan A)	Minimal or Moderate Spread (Plan B until we can return to Plan A)	Substantial Spread (Plan C until we can return to Plan B)
<p><b>Instructional Model</b></p> 	<p>Traditional Learning - Students attend traditional school every day.</p> <p>School buildings are open with additional cleaning, safety, and protective measures in place. Teachers will provide instruction based on a traditional schedule.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-or-</p> <p>Distance learning is available for students who are temporarily unable to attend due to Covid symptoms listed above or for medically fragile students.</p> <p>For families who do not feel safe/comfortable returning to the traditional setting, please contact the building principal to discuss a distance learning plan.</p>	<p>Possible short term closures for cleaning with distance learning implemented.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-or-</p> <p>Distance learning is available for students who are temporarily unable to attend due to Covid symptoms listed above or for medically fragile students.</p> <p>For families who do not feel safe/comfortable returning to the traditional setting, please contact the building principal to discuss a distance learning plan.</p>	<p>Extended distance learning.</p> <p>School buildings closed.</p>
<p><b>Entering School Buildings</b></p> 	<p>Visitor Protocol</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitors are limited to the office area during school hours.</li> <li>• Visitors will be screened for Covid symptoms.</li> <li>• Recommend the use of masks.</li> </ul> <p><u>MSHS Specific</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning Arrival Procedure - Students will be asked to spread out in the lobby, cafeteria, and/or main gym bleachers until the 8:00 bell.</li> </ul> <p><u>Elementary Specific</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morning Arrival Procedure - Car riders will sit in the old gym. Breakfast will be served in the cafeteria.</li> </ul>	<p>Same as Plan A.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every Wednesday will be a Distance Learning Day so that facilities can be thoroughly cleaned.</li> </ul>	<p>Extended distance learning.</p> <p>School buildings closed.</p>

<p><b>Practicing Prevention</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Promote healthy habits, ensure that staff/students self-screen and stay home when exhibiting symptoms.</li> <li>● Signs are posted throughout the school to remind and reinforce prevention initiatives.</li> <li>● Teach and reinforce good hygiene practices like hand washing, covering coughs, etc.</li> <li>● Reporting process in place to track symptoms, absence, COVID cases, and communicate with the health department.</li> <li>● Protocols established for students who begin to feel sick at school, including isolation rooms in each building.</li> <li>● Practice social distancing when feasible.</li> <li>● In areas where social distancing is not feasible, masks are recommended, such as in hallways and on the bus.</li> <li>● Sanitation stations strategically placed throughout buildings.</li> <li>● Spread desks as far apart as possible in the classroom and face in the same direction when possible.</li> <li>● Seating charts will be maintained.</li> <li>● Encourage outdoor classroom setting.</li> <li>● Minimize the use of shared supplies and materials. Sanitize between each use if shared as feasible.</li> <li>● Water fountains available for bottle filling only. Students may bring water bottles from home.</li> <li>● Hands are washed/sanitized at the start of school, prior to eating, after using the restroom, after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing, and after using shared equipment.</li> </ul>	<p>Same as Plan A.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Every Wednesday will be a Distance Learning Day so that facilities can be thoroughly cleaned.</li> <li>● Masks worn on the bus, during passing periods, and whenever social distancing is not possible.</li> <li>● Students are kept in a cohort group PK-6, and teachers rotate when possible.</li> </ul>	<p>Extended distance learning.</p> <p>School buildings closed.</p>
<p><b>Cleaning and Disinfecting</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Increased efforts to maintain and sanitize facilities, including high touch surfaces such as bathrooms, lunchrooms, classrooms, playground, etc.</li> <li>● Interior doors will remain open as much as possible.</li> <li>● Soap and hand sanitizer are available throughout the building and in each classroom</li> <li>● Band and fine arts equipment will be cleaned at the beginning and end of each use.</li> </ul>	<p>Same as Plan A.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Every Wednesday will be a Distance Learning Day so that facilities can be thoroughly cleaned.</li> </ul>	<p>Facilities will only be accessible for janitorial staff for cleaning and teachers as they continue instruction through distance learning.</p>

<p><b>Transporting Students</b></p> 	<p>Implement standard operating procedures while taking preventative measures such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Request parents to transport children to and from school if possible.</li> <li>● Parents are to conduct health screening prior to placing students on the bus. Do not send children to school if they have qualifying symptoms (see page 4).</li> <li>● Recommend bus drivers and students to wear face masks.</li> <li>● Assigned seats on buses.</li> <li>● Front row of busses will remain empty.</li> <li>● Students/drivers are encouraged to use personal hand sanitizer.</li> <li>● No eating/drinking on the bus.</li> <li>● Bus is cleaned and disinfected between each route.</li> <li>● Lower windows halfway during routes to provide fresh air when feasible.</li> <li>● Airing out buses when not in use.</li> </ul>	<p>Same as Plan A.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Every Wednesday will be a Distance Learning Day so that facilities can be thoroughly cleaned.</li> <li>● Masks worn on the bus.</li> <li>● Limiting field trips (to areas of limited/low transmission).</li> </ul>	<p>Extended distance learning.</p> <p>School buildings closed.</p>
<p><b>Serving Meals</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All students wash hands prior to breakfast and lunch.</li> <li>● Hand sanitizer is provided for students and staff.</li> <li>● Food service staff wear masks as they prepare and serve food.</li> <li>● Cafeteria is cleaned between each meal service.</li> <li>● Floor is marked to space students while they wait to receive their meals.</li> <li>● Food should not be shared.</li> <li>● Students go in small groups to dispose of trash in cans spread throughout the cafeteria.</li> </ul> <p><u>MSHS Specific</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Utilize the lobby and stage areas to spread students out.</li> <li>● Limit the number of students at each table.</li> </ul> <p><u>Elementary Specific</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Utilize both the cafeteria and the old gym to spread students out.</li> <li>● Have students sit in every other seat at the tables.</li> <li>● No visitors during lunch, due to lack of seating.</li> <li>● Disposable plates and utensils are utilized to ensure cafeteria staff is available for extra sanitation of tables.</li> </ul>	<p>Same as Plan A.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Every Wednesday will be a Distance Learning Day so that facilities can be thoroughly cleaned.</li> </ul> <p><u>MSHS Specific</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Adjustment to the schedule will allow for three lunch periods.</li> <li>● No self-serve service available</li> <li>● Disposable plates and utensils are utilized</li> </ul>	<p>Meals will be made available for pick-up if possible.</p>

<p><b>Teaching and Learning</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Attendance policy adjustments, incentives removed.</li> <li>● Utilize extra space for instruction whenever possible.</li> <li>● When possible all student desks will face the same direction.</li> <li>● Prop doors as much as possible.</li> <li>● Support vulnerable staff members with additional safety precautions in specific rooms.</li> <li>● Fully utilize the learning management system (Schoology).</li> <li>● Continue to increase WiFi opportunities throughout the community.</li> <li>● Special Education: We will follow the IDOE guidelines found in Appendix D of the INCLASS document.  <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1T1nQj3BrQRtT5QXVcVLGel14bOd5dSCIWRggPuPE5dg/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1T1nQj3BrQRtT5QXVcVLGel14bOd5dSCIWRggPuPE5dg/edit</a></li> </ul>	<p>Same as Plan A.</p> <p>Considerations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Every Wednesday will be a Distance Learning Day so that facilities can be thoroughly cleaned.</li> </ul>	<p>Distance learning plans will be utilized through distance learning.</p> <p>Consider continuing to transport only special education students for in person instruction.</p>
<p><b>Athletics</b></p> 	<p>We will follow all IHSAA guidelines found in Appendix C of the INCLASS document. <a href="https://docs.google.com/document/d/1T1nQj3BrQRtT5QXVcVLGel14bOd5dSCIWRggPuPE5dg/edit">https://docs.google.com/document/d/1T1nQj3BrQRtT5QXVcVLGel14bOd5dSCIWRggPuPE5dg/edit</a></p>		