



Welcoming Our Students Back: Restoring Safe Schools

Niverville Middle School Reopening Plan for the 2020-2021 School Year

The purpose of this document is to communicate an overview of how Niverville Middle School, in conjunction with Hanover School Division, plans to welcome our students back to school in September. Our utmost priority is the safety and well-being of our students and staff. NMS and HSD are committed to following all Public Health recommendations and Manitoba Education directives to ensure we are implementing current public health orders and requirements, while still maintaining a high level of academic and emotional engagement.

Our school plan has been developed under the umbrella of the [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#), [Welcoming Our Students Back: Restoring Safe Schools](#), [K-12 School Settings Practice Guidance and Protocols](#) and [A Guide for Parents, Caregivers and Students](#).

Thank you again for your continued partnership and your patience as we welcome our students back and engage in the resumption of learning and prioritization of safe school environments.

Section 1: School Day Structure/Learning Plans

School Attendance and Participation

- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)
- As stated in the Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning, school attendance is mandatory for children aged 7 to 18 in Manitoba. All students are expected to participate fully in learning, even when remote learning is required.
- Since the Manitoba government has announced that in person classes are resuming, remote learning is no longer an option for students, except in cases where a student has been medically advised not to return to in-class learning due to COVID related risk factors, as identified by medical documentation.
- In case of short-term student absence, communication between the home and the school will ensure continuity of learning.
- If the province mandates Scenario 3 and a return to remote learning, online platforms will be leveraged. In September, teachers will ensure students become familiar with online learning platforms and devices.
 - Online student engagement and submission of assignments will be expected.
 - Work packages might also be a possibility.

Welcoming Students and Families

- NMS plans to host a Meet the Teacher event on Tuesday September 8th from 2:00pm-6:00pm.
 - Groups of 4 students and 4 parents (1 parent per student) will be scheduled to meet with their homeroom teacher for 15 minutes. Physical distancing of 2 metres between families is mandatory and will be adhered to.
- Parents will be able to book a slot on the Parent Portal beginning Wednesday September 2nd.
- Virtual and/or individual appointments can be arranged for those who cannot, or would prefer not to attend during our designated Meet the Teacher event.



2020-2021 School Calendar

- Please refer to the [NMS Website](#) for updates to our [School Calendar](#).

Cohorts

- NMS students will continue to work in a homeroom environment with cohorting, or grouping of homerooms, in place to assist in keeping our school community safe.
- Eight cohorts have been created based on classroom location and proximity.
- Grade 5 & 6 students will be grouped among grade level.
- Grade 7 & 8 students will be grouped by homeroom designation/teacher pairing.
- Students will remain in their respective homerooms and their teachers will come to them as much as possible.
- Each cohort will have their own designated door to enter and exit the school. The specific door locations will be communicated to students by their homeroom teacher. (Parents and visitors will enter and exit through our main front door.)
- Directional flow arrows and spacing lines will be clearly marked on floors. Teachers will review with their students the proper movement etiquette and protocols for both inside and outside of the building.
- Recess, breaks and lunch hour recess will be staggered and areas outside will be designated and marked. Each cohort will have specific times and locations outside, which will be communicated to students by their homeroom teacher.
- Students will be escorted to and supervised at their designated outdoor space by teachers and school staff.
- If homeroom recess equipment is used, it will be sanitized after every break.
- As per HSD directive, lockers will not be accessible to students. Students are encouraged to bring a small amount of daily supplies in a backpack that they will keep with them at their work space.
- Microwaves will not be accessible. Students are encouraged to bring lunches that do not require reheating.

No-Sharing Policy

- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)

Students With Special Needs

- Communication will occur between our Learning Support Team and the respective families regarding learning plans for our students with special needs.

Remote Learning for Students who are medically advised not to attend.

- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)

Recovery Learning

- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)



Provincial Assessments

- All Middle Years provincial assessments have been suspended for 2020-2021.

Planning for Manitoba Education Response Levels 2 and 3

- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)

Section 2: Mental Health and Well-Being of the School Community

- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)
- NMS teachers will participate in the North American Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response Four-Day School Preparedness Re-Entry Schedule, including Psychological First Aid (PFA), on September 2-8, 2020.
- NMS educational assistants will participate in divisional PFA training and awareness on September 2-4, 2020.
- HSD clinicians assigned to NMS will support students and staff and address needs.
- In June 2020, NMS teachers were provided with an electric version of author Eric Walters' latest novel "Don't Stand So Close To Me". Teachers will spend time with their students discussing the book and how it applies to our day-to-day interactions at school.
- **NMS Student Care Team:**
 - Deidre Plett - Guidance Counsellor
 - Judith Hinton - Learning Support Teacher
 - Tamra Yorke - Vice Principal/Learning Support
 - Craig Cumming - Principal

Section 3: Communication

- NMS will provide updates via email and our [school website](#).
- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)

Section 4: Public Health Orders and Guidance

- NMS will be following the Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning with special consideration to the areas listed below.
- See [Hanover School Division Plan to Resume In-Class Learning](#)

Understanding Assessing Risk

- Teachers will introduce and regularly review the following with their students:
 - Cough and sneeze protocols.
 - Hand washing and hand sanitizing protocols.
 - Physical distancing protocols.
 - Surface sanitation protocols.
 - Mask wearing and handling protocols.



Health Screening

- We ask that parents and caregivers remain outside of the school to drop off their children. Teachers will greet students at the designated entrance and ask if they have self-screened prior to entry.
- All staff and students are required to complete the self screening using the poster or online tool developed by Manitoba Public Health prior to entering the building.
- Students and staff will need to self-screen at home before going to school. Parents and guardians are responsible for ensuring that self-screening measures occur prior to the child arriving at school.
 - [LINK](#) to Screening tool.
- If a child becomes sick at school or is demonstrating symptoms, parents will be contacted, and the students will need to go home immediately. Please note that the administrator will have the final say in determining if a student should go home. If parents are not available, emergency contacts will be contacted.
- Students exhibiting any symptoms throughout the day will be placed in an alternate location within the school, and will don a medical-grade mask (provided by the school) while being cared for by school staff.
- If a person in the household has been diagnosed with COVID-19, is in close contact with anyone diagnosed with COVID-19, or if anyone in the household has travelled out of the province, they are required to consult with Health Links prior to attending the school.

Student Management- Physical Distancing

- Learning spaces have been set up in a way to ensure the minimum mandated 1m distancing for all students.
- All non-bused students should arrive no earlier than 8:55am. Upon arrival students should proceed to their designated entrance.
- Parents and caregivers should remain outside of the school during drop off/pick up of their children.
- When students are being picked up early, parents should contact the school office by phone when they are in the parking lot and the student will be notified.

Cleaning and Sanitizing

- Hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms and various other spaces throughout the school.
- Common areas, surfaces, and materials will be sanitized regularly throughout each day.

Restricting Access to Buildings

- Parents/caregivers or visitors will enter and exit the school through the front doors only.
- Visitor Access: Visitors or volunteers are permitted at schools, but visits should be minimized to the greatest extent possible. Online communication, video, and telephone should be used to interact with families, where possible, rather than in person.