

# NKN Middle School Newsletter

SEPTEMBER 20, 2021

## DEAR NKN MS FAMILIES,

We are excited to welcome students back to school on Monday, September 27 and want to share some updates about what to expect.

Neah-Kah-Nie School District will operate 5 days each week, serving all students full-time, in-person beginning Monday, September 27. We will provide remote learning for students who may need to quarantine as we move through the school year.

### Health & Safety in Our School

It is important to remember our communities will be living with the virus until there is widespread immunity. COVID-19 continues to change with new variants, and our knowledge of mitigation efforts grows over time. The following mitigation efforts will be in place when students return.

- **Physical Distancing:** We will support physical distancing in all daily activities and instruction, maintaining at least 3 feet between students to the extent possible. Our school will have signs and visuals to remind students, staff, and visitors.
- **Cohorting:** Students will be in small cohorts for eating and will also cohort with their first period class for most of their day.
- **Ventilation and Airflow:** Each classroom will have their windows and doors open for good ventilation, therefore students will need to dress warm. In addition to our great HVAC system, all classrooms have air purifiers.
- **Handwashing/sanitizing:** Students and staff will use hand sanitizer before entering each classroom, before and after eating, and they will wash hands after using the bathrooms.
- **Face coverings:** Face coverings are required for students and staff, both indoors and outdoors during school hours. Face coverings must cover the nose and mouth and rest snugly above the nose, below the mouth, and on the sides of the face.

The following are **not** proper face coverings:

- a covering that incorporates a valve that is designed to facilitate easy exhalation
- mesh masks
- lace masks
- gaiter face covering
- face shields

Students can remove their masks outside if 6 feet of distancing can be maintained.

### **Responding to COVID-19 Cases or Outbreaks**

We want you to know it is a priority for our school to create a learning environment where your child feels safe, cared for, and connected to peers and school staff.

**When staff and students show symptoms of being ill:** If a student or staff member feels ill prior to coming to school, they should stay home. If a student or staff member becomes ill at school, we will have a designated location to separate people who have symptoms of COVID-19 from people who are not sick.

**When a staff member or a student tests positive for COVID-19:** Our school will work with our school nurse and the local public health authority to take next steps. This will be communicating to our school community and contacting those who may have been exposed.

CDC guidance states that people who are fully vaccinated and do not have COVID-19 symptoms do not need to quarantine or get tested after an exposure to someone with COVID-19.

Again, we are super excited to have our students in-person. I have attached our schedule below. Please note that Monday is a Late Start Monday, therefore school starts at 10:00 and goes until 3:45. Tuesday - Thursday schedule is from 8:45-3:45.

Take Care,

Lori Dilbeck

## **NKN MIDDLE SCHOOL IN-PERSON SCHEDULE**

These schedules will begin next week, September 27 - October 1. Please note, on Monday, students will be on the Monday Late Start Schedule.

## **BACK TO SCHOOL COVID-19 SAFETY TIPS**

Below is a checklist to help everyone stay safe as kids head back to the classroom, and to make the most of our opportunity for in-person learning this school year.

- **Make a plan to vaccinate all eligible household members.** Vaccination is the most effective tool we have to stay safe from COVID-19. Vaccination will also help keep our kids in school. Vaccinated individuals do not need to quarantine unless they have symptoms.

- **Wear face coverings or masks.** Face coverings are effective at preventing the spread of COVID-19 and can reduce the need to be quarantined and miss in-person learning. Oregon currently requires face coverings for everyone five years of age or older in all public indoor spaces, and in crowded outdoor spaces where it's difficult to maintain six feet of physical distance. Students will wear masks while on the bus and at school. Students will also wear masks outside, if six feet of distancing cannot be maintained. While eating, unmasked students will maintain six feet of distancing.

-**Make a plan in case your child needs to miss school.** On Monday, September 27, we are returning to full-time, in-person school. For students, families and school staff, this may bring about feelings of excitement, opportunities, anticipation, uncertainty, and nervousness. To keep everyone as safe as possible throughout the year, groups of students may be required to miss in-person school days if they are exposed to someone with COVID-19. The Oregon Department of Education has developed a resource for families to plan the supports you or your child might need should your child need to miss school. A link to this document is below.

## SUPPORTING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES DURING QUARANTINE

PLEASE HAVE YOUR STUDENT BRING THEIR  
CHROMEBOOKS TO SCHOOL ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER  
27, FULLY CHARGED! TO HELP PROTECT OUR  
CHROMEBOOKS, EACH STUDENT SHOULD HAVE A  
BACKPACK TO PLACE THEM IN.



## NKN MIDDLE SCHOOL

📍 25111 U.S. 101, Rockaway Bea...

☎ 5033552990

✉ [lorid@nknisd.org](mailto:lorid@nknisd.org)

🌐 [nknisd.org](http://nknisd.org)



