



Nett Lake School District

3 Plans for reopening

Introduction

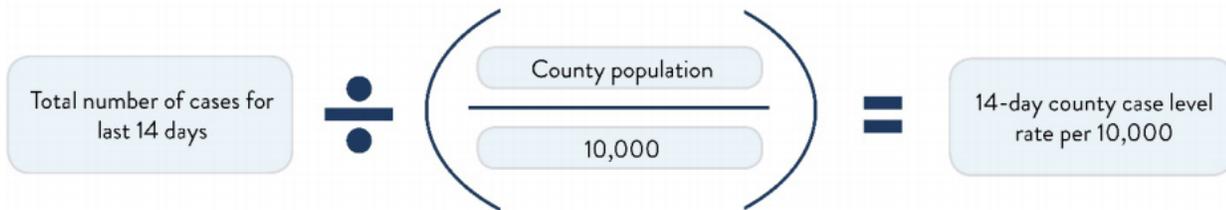
The spring of 2020 brought unprecedented changes to society and our school system. As we plan for the 2020-21 school year, in compliance with the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) guidance, our focus is to create an educational delivery system to keep our students, families and staff healthy and safe. Three scenarios have been developed for the school year per the directive from MDE. The goal is to have our school ready for whatever the public health situation may require. It is the intent of the school district to be ready to switch between these scenarios if/when we are asked to do so by MDE/MDH. As we formalize these plans one goal remains, to develop a system of instruction that meets the needs of every learner regardless of their situation. Below are the three educational delivery scenarios for Nett Lake Elementary School.

Back to School

To begin the 2020-2021 school year, Nett Lake School will follow MDH parameters using county public health data to support the learning model to be utilized in the District.

County-Level Data

To determine the base learning model, districts will utilize the bi-weekly case rate (over 14 days) by county of residence. The data indicates the number of cases by county over 14 days, per 10,000 people by date of test collection. The equation for determining the level is as follows:



Using the case rate as indicated above, the learning model listed below is recommended to be used by districts.

Number of cases per 10,000 over 14days (by county of residence)	Learning Model
0-9	In person learning for all students
10-19	In person learning for elementary students Hybrid learning for secondary students
20-29	Hybrid learning for all students
30-49	Hybrid learning for elementary students Distance learning for secondary students
50	Distance learning for all

Contingency Planning and Flowing in Scenarios

When viral activity increases, Nett Lake School will analyze the county-level data to determine if another learning model should be selected. The district will notify the Commissioner of Education via the Learning Model Portal within 24 hours of beginning a new learning model.

If viral activity decreases, the district may dial forward to a less restrictive model than what is required. If doing so, it must consult with local public health officials, MDH and MDE through the Regional Support Teams.

After implementing a distance learning model due to high levels of viral transmission in the schools or local geographic community, the district will wait a minimum of two to three weeks before bringing students back into the buildings for in-person or hybrid learning.

Distance Learning

Per Executive Order 20-82, Nett Lake Public School will offer distance learning options to those who elect to continue distance learning.

Reporting Methods

Nett Lake School will request parents, guardians and staff to self-report if they or their student have COVID-19 symptoms, a positive test or have been in close contact with someone with COVID-19.

It is important that close contacts of students or staff with COVID-19 are quickly identified and are informed of the need to quarantine at home. They are encouraged to seek testing even when not showing symptoms, to guard against spreading while asymptomatic or presymptomatic.

In-Person Learning for All Students

General Description

In this planning scenario, students and staff will create as much space between one another as is feasible during the day but will not be held strictly to enforcing six feet of social distancing during primary instructional time in the classroom. Masks/shields are required. This scenario may be implemented assuming state COVID-19 metrics continue to stabilize and/or improve.

Instructional Delivery Considerations

During the In-Person Learning Plan, in class teaching and learning will take place.

Food Service Considerations

Food Service will continue as it was prior to the spring school closure. Additional hand sanitizing stations and increased hand washing procedures will be implemented to decrease the spread of illness within the school building. Students will eat lunch in the cafeteria but will be spaced apart as much as possible.

Transportation Considerations

Transportation will continue as it was prior to the spring 2020 school closure.

Childcare

In this scenario afterschool childcare would be offered by the Boys and Girls Club.

Activities

Activities and extracurricular programming will continue to follow the COVID-19 Sports Guidance for Youth and Adults.

Social Distancing Considerations

The school district will work to separate students as much as possible but cannot guarantee a minimum of 6 feet at all times. Staff will minimize “group” activities and those activities where close proximity to each other can be avoided.

Infrastructure Considerations

- **Heating Venting and Air Conditioning (HVAC)** - The district will alter as many settings as possible to promote the intake and circulation of fresh air in the school building while maintaining all code and ASHRAE standards that apply to public schools.
- **Physical Space Changes** -
 - Water Fountains - Water fountains will be shut off and students will be encouraged to utilize a water bottle to remain hydrated.

- Restrooms - Staff will work to stagger restroom breaks for students so as to limit the number of occupants at any given time.
 - Hand Washing/sanitizing - Students and staff will implement hand washing procedures within the classroom setting. All individuals are expected to wash their hands regularly.
- **Building Cleaning/Sanitation Procedures** - Effective immediately, the school district's custodial department will implement additional sanitization procedures to ensure the building is ready for students each day. All chemicals used will support sanitizing of surfaces. These chemicals will be those normally used in the school setting. Extra attention will be given to shared spaces, door handles, etc.

Hybrid Learning Plan

General Description

In this planning scenario, Nett Lake Schools will be required to limit the overall number of people in school facilities and on transportation vehicles to 50% maximum occupancy. Sufficient social distancing with at least 6 feet between people must occur at all times. Schools must also include plans for contactless pick up and/or delivery of meals and school materials for days that students and staff are not in the school building, as well as implementation of a school-age care program for critical workers. This scenario may be implemented if COVID-19 metrics worsen at the local, regional, or statewide level. Hybrid Learning may also be implemented if Nett Lake School experiences a cluster of cases within a classroom or the school.

Instructional Delivery Considerations

The Hybrid Learning Plan at Nett Lake Elementary will encompass a rotating schedule of students. Below is a sample schedule reflecting an A Group and B Group.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Group A	Group B	No Students	Group A	Group B
Student will meet all day with a focus on Reading and Math	Student will meet all day with a focus on Reading and Math	Distance Learning PD/PLC Deep cleaning and sanitizing	Student will meet all day with a focus on Reading and Math	Student will meet all day with a focus on Reading and Math

Total Enrollment: 38

Hybrid Enrollment: 19 (slightly less than 50% enrollment to comply with MDE Guidance)

Students would be split into two groups - Monday/Thursday Group A, Tuesday/Friday Group B.

Wednesday each week would be dedicated to distance learning for all students and allow professional development/planning time for teachers. Wednesday would also be used for building cleaning/sanitizing by the custodial department to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Food Service Considerations

Students will eat breakfast and lunch as they normally do when attending school in person. Students will be spread out in the lunchroom to accommodate appropriate social distancing. Food service staff will wear masks and gloves as a safety precaution. Meals to accommodate distance learning days will be delivered via the bus routes each Wednesday.

Transportation Considerations

School buses will run their regular route each day but 50% of the kids will require rides to school on any given day. Nett Lake Schools will work to maintain social distancing with students while on the bus. The bus will be loaded from back to front with occupancy taking place in every-other seat. Students from the same household will be allowed to sit together. Bus drivers and adult riders will be encouraged to wear gloves and masks.

Note: The Department of Transportation (DOT) will not allow seats to be removed or barriers to be installed on the bus.

Childcare

Childcare will be available for students of essential workers and school staff as required by the Minnesota Department of Education.

Social Distancing Considerations

Sufficient social distancing with at least six feet between people must occur at all times.

Infrastructure Considerations

- **Masks** - Students and staff will be required/shields per the Governor's executive order.
- **Heating Venting and Air Conditioning (HVAC)** - The district will alter as many settings as possible to promote the intake and circulation of fresh air in the school building while maintaining all code and ASHRAE standards that apply to public schools.
- **Physical Space Changes** -
 - Water Fountains - Water fountains will be shut off and students will be encouraged to utilize a water bottle to remain hydrated.
 - Restrooms - Staff will work to stagger restroom breaks for students so as to limit the number of occupants at any given time.
 - Hand Washing/sanitizing - Students and staff will implement hand washing procedures within the classroom setting. All individuals are expected to wash their hands regularly.
- **Building Cleaning/Sanitation Procedures** - Effective immediately, the school district's custodial department will implement additional sanitization procedures to ensure the building is ready for students each day. All chemicals used will support sanitizing of surfaces. These chemicals will be those normally used in the school setting. Extra attention will be given to shared spaces, door handles, etc.

Distance Learning Plan

General Description

This scenario may be implemented if local, regional, or statewide COVID-19 metrics worsen significantly enough to require the suspension of all in-person learning.

Distance Learning defined – Students engaging in distance learning have access to appropriate educational materials and receive daily interaction with their teacher(s). It is important to note that distance learning does not always mean e-learning or online learning. Nett Lake students will have full access to appropriate educational materials either in paper-pencil (packet), online via the internet, or both.

Instructional Delivery Considerations

Parents are encouraged to keep in contact with your child's teacher(s) on a regular and routine basis to solidify a partnership between school and home. Below is the instructional delivery plan for Distance Learning.

Nett Lake Elementary:

Elementary teachers will prepare Home Learning Plans (HLP) for continuity of the instruction during distance learning. These lessons along with books and activities will be delivered to students during regular bus routes or can be or picked up at school. Teachers will be calling students and parents on a regular basis to check in and support their ongoing learning. The school district encourages parents, if possible, to develop a daily schedule for students to complete their Home Learning Plans. Below is a **sample** of a daily schedule for elementary aged students:

8:00-9:00am - Get Dressed and Eat Breakfast

9:00-9:15am - Physical Education

9:15-10:15am - Homework time (complete assignments sent home by teachers)

10:15-10:30am - Snack Time

10:30-11:30am - Creative Time (Art Project, Coloring/Drawing, Crafts, Educational Apps, etc)

11:30-12:00pm - Lunch

12:00-1:00pm - Screen Time (Educational TV Show or Movie)

1:00-2:00pm - Physical Education/Outdoor time

2:00-3:15pm - Finish Homework / Family Chores

Before Bedtime - Read to Children!

For Students...

During distance learning days, you may be invited to join a live session with your teacher using Google Meet, or Zoom. All online interaction is an extension of the physical classroom, and expectations of your behavior online is the same as what we would expect in the classroom. If at home, all video connections must be placed from a "common" area of your home.

When joining a session, after you join the meeting, you should have your microphone muted. If you would like to speak, we ask that you use the built-in chat messaging to request to unmute. This will assist your teacher in facilitating the session and give you and your fellow students the best learning experience possible.

For Parents...

During our extended distance learning days, your child's teacher may offer "live" sessions using Google Meet or Zoom. This will be a chance for your child to connect with the teacher, ask questions and see classmates. We see this as a valuable tool to allow your child and teacher the ability to maintain their relationship and enhance learning. The sessions may be recorded by the teacher and posted to a learning management system, so that if a student in the class is unable to attend the session, they could view it at a later time.

If you do not want your child's image to be displayed during these sessions, your child can join using a provided phone number. Please have students connect from a "common" area of your home and not a private space such as a bedroom.

Special Education and Section 504:

In the event of extended school closures, the school district remains responsible for the free appropriate public education (FAPE) of its students eligible for special education services who have an individualized education program (IEP) or those with disabilities who qualify for a 504 Plan. Districts must plan how they will continue to meet the requirements of Part B (3- 21) and Part C (birth to three) of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Part B and Part C, and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

Students Receiving Special Education Services:

Students with disabilities who receive special education services will continue to receive special education services and support during distance learning. The goal is to maintain as many of the IEP goals as possible, however not all current parts of an IEP may be relevant or possible during distance learning. Case managers will reach out to parents to discuss how each child's special education services will be provided during distance learning. Each student with an IEP will have an Individualized Distance Learning Plan (IDL) based on their current IEP. The IDL will be developed by members of the IEP team, including the parent, and will outline the services and supports each student will receive through distance learning.

In addition to developing IDLs, the district will be implementing several procedures to ensure it is meeting due process obligations, including upholding timelines and holding IEP team meetings. As a general principle, during this unprecedented national emergency, school districts are encouraged to work with parents to reach mutually agreeable extensions of time, as appropriate.

Throughout the course of any distance learning period, the district will meet due process obligations as follows:

- IEP meetings will be held, though timelines may be impacted by complete school closures
- IEP meetings will not be conducted in person at school buildings, but instead will be held virtually via any of the following methods:
Phone conference or Video conferences using Google Meet or Zoom

- Initial evaluations and reevaluations will be conducted. However, for activities that are not reasonable to carry out if students are not physically at school (i.e., standardized face-to-face assessments), those activities could be delayed until building-based instruction resumes.

Students Receiving Services and Supports through 504 Plans:

Students with physical or mental impairments who receive services and support through a Section 504 Plan will continue to receive those services and supports during distance learning. The goal is to maintain as much of the 504 Plan as possible, however not all current parts of a 504 Plan may be relevant or possible to implement during distance learning. 504 case managers will be reaching out to parents to discuss how each child's 504 Plan will be implemented during distance learning, including the consideration for any needed changes.

If it is determined that changes to the 504 Plan are necessary for distance learning, those changes will be incorporated into the plan, sent home to parents and communicated with each child's teacher(s).

504 evaluations and planning meetings will continue to occur during any distance learning period, however, meetings will not occur in-person in any school building. Instead, one of the following virtual methods will be used:

- Phone conference
- Video conference - Google Meet or Zoom

Questions or concerns regarding how the district is meeting the needs of students with disabilities receiving services and supports through special education (IEPs) or section 504 (504 Plans) should contact either of the special services administrators listed below:

Peter Hardy, Principal
phardy@isd707.org
218-757-3102

Food Service Delivery Considerations

We know many of our students depend on our school food service program, so it is important we provide ongoing meals for our students during times of distance learning. Our food service department will provide breakfast and lunches to students by preparing unitized meals. These meals will be delivered to students during regular bus routes each day. Meals will include breakfast and lunch.

Childcare

The school district will be providing childcare for elementary aged students of essential workers (as defined by MDE) and school staff.

Here are the details of the program:

Time: 7:30am-4:30pm daily during regularly scheduled school days.

Location: The Childcare program will operate in various locations at Nett Lake Public Schools. Depending on the number of participants the district may separate by age groups.

Meals: The childcare program will provide breakfast and lunch. Cost for the meals is to be determined.

Programming: The program will include - child supervision, learning activities, rest time (if needed), educational play. Students will be able to complete their schoolwork while in the childcare program.

Cost: To be determined.

Monitoring Children's Health - In an effort to protect both children and staff using our Childcare Program, Nett Lake Schools is asking parents/guardians to check their children's temperature prior to dropping them off for childcare every morning. If your child has even mild symptoms of fever, cough, shortness of breath or other respiratory symptoms, they need to be kept home. Please contact the office if your child has these symptoms and is kept home. School district staff will take temperatures of every student as they are dropped off in the morning and in the middle of the day. If a child is found to have a fever, parents/guardians will be contacted immediately and will be expected to pick up their children as soon as possible. Students will be immediately separated from other students while awaiting pick up.

Social Distancing Considerations

School buildings and grounds will be closed with the exception of the school district's Child Care program and other district personal.

Infrastructure Considerations

- **Masks** – Masks/shields are required.
- **Heating Venting and Air Conditioning (HVAC)** - The district will alter as many settings as possible to promote the intake and circulation of fresh air in the school building while maintaining all code and ASHRAE standards that apply to public schools.
- **Building Cleaning/Sanitation Procedures** - Effective immediately, the school district's custodial department will implement additional sanitization procedures to ensure the building is ready for staff each day. All chemicals used will support sanitizing of surfaces. These chemicals will be those normally used in the school setting. Extra attention will be given to shared spaces, door handles, etc.

Equity

Minnesota defines educational equity as the condition of justness, fairness and inclusion in our systems of education so that all students have access to the opportunities to learn and develop to their fullest potential. Equity is a priority to reach all children, especially children of color, indigenous children, immigrant children, low-income families and communities, and people who have disabilities must continue to be prioritized. Further, access to mental health services and support, hands-on student education and support, broadband and devices, and consistent instructional expectations continue to be concerns for many students. The educators of Nett Lake Schools stand ready to meet this need. Safely providing

opportunities for in-school learning and other activities will provide engagement, support, and access for our students, families and communities.

Broadband Access:

A challenging issue with any form of distance learning is the lack of access to quality broadband internet access in Nett Lake, MN. It isn't enough to simply have internet access at home. Quality upload and download speeds are necessary to conduct distance learning appropriately. In response to this ongoing issue, Nett Lake Schools will work to establish alternative procedures for students to access learning online. "Hotspots" are available for families that have cellular service but no access to broadband. In the Hybrid model, school staff will instruct students to download the necessary learning opportunities required of students for their distance learning days.

Videos are only a part of our school's distance learning plan and will generally be used for check-ins, questions and brief, recorded lessons. Synchronous (real-time) video can be difficult for some families given issues of access and other family circumstances. Students unable to join synchronous sessions may also join via telephone if internet access is a problem. Students without internet access, when no electronic solution can be found, will be provided paper copies of instructional materials. These materials will be delivered to students via the bus routes or picked up at school.

Resources

The following resources were used in the creation of this plan.

[Minnesota Department of Health](#)
[Center for Disease Control](#)
[Minnesota Department of Education](#)