



To: NRSD Families and Faculty

From: Brooke Clenchy, Superintendent of Schools  
Dr. Todd Maguire, Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Date: August 6, 2020

Re: Reopening Memo (4)

Dear Families and Faculty,

We would like to provide a general update regarding the reopening of the 2020-2021 school year.

The Nashoba Regional School District School Committee voted at their July 29th meeting to re-align the student start date to be in compliance with newly released guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). They re-established **the official start date for students as September 16, 2020**. Currently, within NRSD, that is slated to be a remote date. You can anticipate more information will follow with specifics of what to expect on that date.

The NRSD School Committee recently established two additional meetings, which are scheduled for August 6, 2020 and August 10, 2020. These meetings will provide opportunities for us to further discuss the hybrid model that the NRSD leadership team is recommending as the model with which to begin the new school year. The school committee meeting viewing links can be found [here](#).

We realize, and acknowledge, that there could still be a change to the hybrid approach prior to the start of the school year, depending on the trajectory of the virus within our state, and we are prepared to pivot if necessary. We recognize this situation as being constantly fluid, and it evolves daily. It is our desire to start with the hybrid model to allow teachers and students the opportunity to establish new relationships in a face-to face environment.

Charts showing the anticipated hybrid plan can be found in the information posted for tonight's School Committee meeting, and again in the information soon to be posted for their Monday night meeting. In short, the model will have two cohorts of students - one group will attend on Monday and Tuesday, the district will be in full remote mode for all staff and students on Wednesday, and the second cohort will attend on Thursday and Friday. This will provide consistency across the district as all schools will be on a five day (Monday-Friday) cycle.

The NRSD School Committee will review a summary of the district's Comprehensive Plan this evening at 6:00 pm. It will then review the full final plan at their Monday night meeting. If approved, the plan will then be submitted to the DESE for further consideration. This information will be made available to the public via our website under the school committee tab, and can be found in their meeting materials.

We expect to send plan information out to our families along with a brief survey next Tuesday, August 11, 2020, once the plan is approved by the School Committee. We will need to request updated information from our parents regarding their intent for the new year. This will provide our principals with pertinent, timely information necessary as they work with leadership to build student cohorts. Individual transportation for all NRSD students must also be considered while building these cohorts. The information we are requesting from parents continues to be critical for our next steps. Although survey results are not binding, they provide information we use to build our models. We ask that our families reflect deeply on the responses they provide. This survey will have a short turnaround time frame.

As a district we continue to work towards as much calibration as possible between our elementary schools and middle schools. This ensures equity and consistency across the district.

The high school is taking a different approach in some areas, in part due to teacher specialization and certifications, and due to simple logistics and numbers of students. Information linked to the specific schools will be soon released, with details regarding their hybrid models and approaches.

Families may still choose a full remote approach for their child, which will be a separate model from the hybrid plan. Details on the remote plan are still being worked through.

Thank you to those of you who attended our information forums. We anticipate hosting more specific forums as we get closer to the start date.

We understand that nothing can replicate teaching and learning as it is in person, face-to-face in our classrooms. We know how different all of this is for our staff, students, and families. We believe in the strength of our communities, though, and our school district, and we have faith in our collective and collaborative efforts to find our way through all of this in the best interest of every NRSD student.

Thank you to all of our volunteers who regularly and frequently attend working group meetings at the district and school based levels as we find our way through to the start of the new school year during these unprecedented times.

We thank everyone for your support, help, and guidance as we continue on this incredible journey. Yours in partnership,



Brooke Clenchy  
Superintendent of Schools



Dr. Todd Maguire  
Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Ann Marie Stoica, Director of Human Resources • Rob Frieswick, Director of Facilities  
Joan DeAngelis, Director of Pupil Personnel Services • Tania Rich, Director of Athletics  
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