

NORTHAMPTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Health Services Department

RETURN TO SCHOOL

September 2020
Dear Caregivers,

This has been such a challenging time for our community on so many levels. We are so happy that the academic year is upon us. We know that keeping your children safe and engaged in education is at the forefront of your thoughts right now. The Northampton school nurses have gathered the latest guidelines from CDC and DESE. We will implement the necessary requirements in order to keep the students and staff safe this year.

Our plan includes the following strategies:

- **Social distancing:** Hallways have markers on the floors to allow students to gauge the proper distance between each other.
- **Mandatory mask-wearing for students and staff:** Families need to provide students with a freshly cleaned mask for each school day. Masks cannot be used two days in a row without washing. Alternatives are available for students that cannot wear them..
- **Handwashing will occur several times throughout the school day:**
- **Hand sanitizer:** is available in the classrooms and throughout the school for use when hand washing may not be convenient. **If you do not want your child to use hand sanitizer, please contact your school nurse to opt out of this practice, with a written request .** Accommodations will be made for these students to only wash their hands with soap and water.
- **COVID-19 Daily Self Checklist:** Please follow these simple directions each morning before sending your child to school.
 1. Check temperature every morning---if over 100 degrees, **keep your child home** and **contact the school nurse to inform them**
 2. If your child has any of the following: sore throat, new cough, new body aches, nausea, vomiting, diarrhea, headaches, chills, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, or been with someone that has been diagnosed with COVID, **keep them home** from school and **notify your child's PCP** for possible testing.

We will continue to work hard for our community's health and safety. Feel free to contact your building's school nurse with any questions or concerns. Your nursing staff will be in their offices each day.

**Lisa Safron, RN-Director of Health, Safety and Equity
Coordinator**

lsafron@northampton-k12.us
(413)587-1364

Candy Goyette, RN- NHS
cgoyette@northampton-k12.us
(413) 587-1360

Jessica LaCroix, RN - BSS
jlacroix@northampton-k12.us
(413)587-1460

Melissa Dion, RN- JFK
mdion@northampton-k12.us
(413) 587-1488

Deb Rejniak, RN- JFK
drejniak@northampton-k12.us
(413) 587-1488

Amy Avakian, RN-Nursing Care

aavakian@northampton-k12.us
(413)587-1384

Karen Schiaffo, RN- RKF/Ryan Rd
kschiaffo@northampton-k12.us
(413)587-1557

Kate Kelly, RN- Leeds
kkelly@northampton-k12.us
(413)587-1544

JSS Health Office (413) 587-1516