

Nettle News

Nettle Middle School... *Home of the Knights!*

April 12th, 2021



School Reopening

Students in grades 5 and 6 will be able to return to full in person learning on **April 12th**. Students in grades 7 and 8 will be able to return to full in person learning on **April 26th**.

Students will either be in the Remote Learning Academy *or* in person five days per week. When we return to full in person learning, students who are not present in school will be marked absent unless they are under quarantine.

Students will still need to wear masks. They will be three feet apart in the classroom and six feet apart at lunch. We will still have weekly pool testing for staff and students.

Pick Up

As more students return to in-person learning we are making adjustments to our routines. Beginning on **Monday, April 12th** we are asking that anyone picking up a student after school follow the times below. We believe that this will help reduce traffic as more students return.

Last names A-L pick up at 2:45pm

Last names M-Z pick up at 2:50pm

There will be no changes to the drop-off schedule.

Buses

Any bus route changes started on **Monday, April 5th**. Please check the school website for full bus route lists.

Student Health

Assessing your student's health each morning is an important part of keeping everyone healthy. Below are some questions to ask yourself before sending your student to school each day:

- Has your student shown any covid-related symptoms in the past 24 hours? For example: fever greater than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, cough, shortness of breath, loss of taste or smell, nausea, etc.
- Has your student been identified as a "close contact" of anyone diagnosed with covid-19?
- Has anyone in the household been asked to self-isolate or quarantine?
- Have you travelled recently?

For a list of symptoms and other health information please visit the HPS website at:

<https://www.haverhill-ps.org/school-health-services/pandemic-guide-for-families/>

If you have any questions about your child's health please call the nurse, Barbara Otterson, at 978-374-5792.

Pool Testing FAQs

You may have heard about the new classroom COVID-19 tests known as “pool testing.” Haverhill is participating in a pilot program to bring pool testing into schools for in-person learning. Two permission slips (one for group testing, one for individual testing) have been emailed to you and will be sent home again when students return to school.

What is pool testing?

Pool testing is a way to test a group of people at the same time. That group is known as a “pool.” At Nettle, there will be one or two pools per classroom.

How long will it take to get results?

Results from the pool come back in 2-5 days.

What if the pool comes back positive?

If the pool comes back positive then each person in the pool needs to take an individual test. We have these tests available at school and results come back in **20 minutes!** A positive pool *does not mean* that the class is put into quarantine for two weeks, we just need to follow up with individual tests.

What if my student gets a positive individual test?

If your student’s individual test comes back positive your household should begin quarantine immediately, get tested, and follow all guidelines from the CDC and Department of Public Health.

Why should we do this? Is it mandatory?

We want students in school as much as possible. While it is not mandatory for your student to participate, routine testing is an important tool for getting kids back in school.

Questions? Contact Shereen Escovitz, shereen.escovitz@haverhill-ps.org