

Your Family is in Group: _____

UPDATED PLANS FOR SCHOOL OPENING FOR THE FALL OF 2020

August 5, 2020

Dear Walpole School Community,

Over the past several months, the school district has continued to define school plans for a safe reopening this school year. Most recently, the Walpole School staff met to design specific plans for the three Walpole School buildings. We are extremely thankful to the many staff members who gave their time to help us create a safe reopening plan that we are sharing with the school community.

Our priorities for reopening remain centered on the following critical concepts:

- Protecting the health, safety and well-being of our community
- Upholding our philosophy of educating the hearts and minds of our students.

We are pleased to share with you the following plans for the fall. These plans build layers of safety for our students and staff, offering the most effective approach for reducing risk to the school community.

- Student capacity in school will be reduced by 50 percent to support social distancing utilizing a hybrid model which students will rotate between in-person classroom instruction and remote/home learning. Students are placed in either an A or B group. Family members are placed in the same grouping. **Walpole School will have 10 students or less in each classroom.**
 - **K to grade 4** will meet with their teacher on a rotational basis. A groups will meet every Monday and Wednesday with their teacher in school. On Tuesday and Thursday, A groups will be home completing a package of school work supplied by the teacher. B groups will meet with their teacher every Tuesday and Thursday in school. On Monday and Wednesday, B groups will be working at home with a supplied package of work. Friday is the rotational day. One week A groups will be in school and the next week B groups will be in school.
 - **Grades 5-8** will meet with their teacher every day. A group will meet every Monday and Wednesday with their teacher in school. On Tuesday and Thursday, A groups will be home meeting with their class virtually. B groups will meet with their teacher every Tuesday and Thursday in school. On Monday and Wednesday, B groups will meet with their class virtually. Friday is the rotational day. One week A groups will be in school and the next week B groups will be in school. **Students are expected to attend all of their classes on their virtual/home days.**

WEEK ONE

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
GROUP A	SCHOOL	HOME	SCHOOL	HOME	SCHOOL
GROUP B	HOME	SCHOOL	HOME	SCHOOL	HOME

WEEK TWO

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
GROUP A	SCHOOL	HOME	SCHOOL	HOME	HOME
GROUP B	HOME	SCHOOL	HOME	SCHOOL	SCHOOL

- While in the school building, students will only have exposure with students in their own grade level. **Each grade level will have their own lunch and recess.** The maximum number of students in a grade level will be twenty students or less. In grades 5-8 students will remain in one classroom and the school staff will travel to them.
- Students will go through a COVID - 19 Screening Check, where they will have their temperature taken and have to answer a few questions before they get onto the school bus and before they enter the school.
 - Parents MUST wait at the bus stop with any student that is in Pre-K to 5th grade, in the event that they do not pass the COVID - 19 Screening Check.
 - ALL parents that are dropping their child off at school will need to wait until the student has completed the COVID - 19 Screening Check before they can leave.
- Arrival/Dismissal:
Prior to school opening, the school will be sending out our arrival and dismissal procedures. We need to finalize traffic flow at each school. Our goal is to completely change drop-off and pick-up procedures to ensure social distancing.
- Visitors/parents will be restricted from entering the school to ensure that exposure risks are minimized.
- Face masks will be required. School staff will be providing face mask breaks during the school day. Families are being asked to send in two masks for their child each day. Your child's mask(s) should be washed daily. The school nurses will be sharing information regarding recommendations for face masks. **We welcome donations of child size masks.**
- Handwashing, sanitizer stations and frequent disinfecting of the school spaces will remain critical for the fall return.
- Students are not allowed to share materials. Any school materials that are being used will be disinfected appropriately. We welcome donations of school supplies.

- Our district's health personnel will work very closely with the Department of Health and Human Services and will be monitoring students and staff at all times. Cases will be addressed individually with the NH Department of Health and Human Services, and the district will be directed to take the appropriate actions.
- Modifications to the cafeteria and recess will be made to ensure social distancing and safety. We will reduce the numbers in the cafeteria and recess to no more than 20 students. Tables will be sanitized after each use and students will be washing hands before and after lunch and recess. Each grade level will have their own recess and lunch.
- Each classroom will have one or two plexiglass dividers, so students and staff can work in small groups.
- Each student should bring in a refillable water bottle daily.
- Windows will be open to bring in fresh air. Please send in additional layers of clothing for those cool days.
- Students are encouraged to bring in their own headphones. If not possible, the school has headphones for student use.
- Maintenance routines will include enhanced daily cleaning and disinfecting protocols. Cleaning will take place with increased frequency for classrooms, common areas, high touch surfaces, offices and workspaces. All staff and age appropriate students will be encouraged to wipe down commonly used surfaces before individual use with readily available approved products.
- As school opens you will notice a number of changes designed to protect the health of the school.
 - Six foot distance markers, to help follow social distance protocol
 - One-way directional signage in walkways and stairways, to minimize close contact in confined spaces, at select locations
 - Hand sanitizer will be readily available
 - Important safety signage, to remind our community of recommended hygiene practices and the importance of symptom checking.

Information Pertaining to Specific Schools.

- **Walpole Primary School**
 - School staff will be making a virtual pre-recorded video to show families the school opening procedures.
 - **There will be NO Kindergarten Screening. Teachers will do this during normal school hours.**
- **North Walpole School**
 - This school has shared bathrooms, only one student will be allowed in the bathroom at a time.
 - School staff will be making a virtual pre-recorded video to show families the school opening procedures.
- **Walpole Elementary School**

- Students' homerooms have changed in grades 6-8. Students will be grouped by their traveling groups instead of homerooms.
- As students arrive the first day, they will be informed of what classroom to attend.
- Students will not be changing for their physical education classes.
- This school has shared bathrooms, only one student will be allowed in the bathroom at a time.

Dates to Remember:

August 31 - September 4 Early Release Days
North Walpole is dismissed at 12:15
Walpole Primary and Elementary are dismissed at 12:30

August 31 First day of school for A group only
September 1 First day of school for B group only
September 7 Labor Day - no school
September 8 Full school days begin

****If your child is not returning to the Walpole School, please contact the school by August 21, 2020.**

If you have any questions please attend our informational meetings next week. An invitation will be emailed to parents soon.

Walpole Primary and North Walpole Schools -- Tuesday, August 11, at 6:00

Walpole Elementary School -- Wednesday, August 12, at 6:00

Please feel free to call us at any time at 756-4728.

Mr. Sam Jacobs, Principal

Mr. Justin Cassarino, Assistant Principal