July 13, 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian,

This letter is to inform you of Norwayne Local Schools Reset & Restart Plan for the 2020-21 school year. Based on the current guidelines from Governor DeWine, the Ohio Department of Education and the Wayne County Health Department we are now able to announce our reopening plans (barring any drastic changes in guidelines/mandates due to the COVID-19 pandemic).

Norwayne Local Schools will return to school in the traditional format (with additional safety measures) five days a week. We strongly believe the traditional format is the best educational learning model for most students. However, we realize that there may be factors like health concerns of your child(ren) that would prevent you from returning in the traditional format so we will also be offering a remote learning option.

The safety of our students and staff is our top priority and it is important to note the following:

- Norwayne Schools will work to decrease the likelihood of infection through additional hygiene, cleaning, and safety procedures. You will find a list of additional safety precautions enclosed in this mailing that will be utilized in all our buildings. However, please understand being in a public place has a certain level of risk that cannot be eliminated.
- Norwayne Schools, in consultation with the Wayne County Health Department, could elect, at any time, to return to remote learning if cases within the school begin to escalate to a severe risk level.

You will also find in this mailing information regarding the remote learning opportunities for this school year. If you would like to declare the remote learning option for your child(ren) you must return the declaration to the Superintendent’s office (350 South Main St. Creston, OH 44217) by July 31, 2020 or you may e-mail it to your child’s school administrator – NES – dadreher@norwayne.net or NMS – keleatherman@norwayne.net or NHS – dozimmerly@norwayne.net. The information included in this mailing can also be found on the Norwayne Local Schools Website.

If you have a child who attends the Wayne County Career Center more information will be forthcoming.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact the district office (330-435-6382). We appreciate your support and we will keep you informed should any guidelines change.

Sincerely,

Karen O’Hare

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All Norwayne educational programs are offered without regard to race, age, color, national origin, sex, religion, or handicap.
Please bear in mind that the details listed here are subject to change, but we do want to provide you with direction so you can plan accordingly.

- The school year will begin with students on Thursday, August 20 (note the change from the previous start date of Aug. 19), this will allow staff to prepare for the changes being implemented and in-service as needed.
- High use areas and high-touch surfaces in our buildings will have a strict daily cleaning protocol. This includes buses, cafeterias, restrooms, classrooms - all areas used throughout a school day.
- Parents are expected to perform a health check on their child(ren) each morning to ensure an appropriate temperature and that the child is not feeling ill before they get on the bus or you drop them off at school. Do Not send your child to school if they are not feeling well.
- Students will attend school daily for full days, with the following adjustments:
  1. Face masks will be required for all students on bus transportation. Students will be required to wear face coverings during transition times and when social distancing cannot be maintained. Face coverings can be provided by the student or school issued (all face coverings must be school appropriate). All staff will have access to personal protective equipment.
  2. Frequent hand-washing will be part of the daily routine. Hand sanitizer will be readily available.
  3. Classrooms will plan to achieve as much social distancing as possible. In addition, teachers will be provided sanitation supplies, desk carrels and other barriers when adequate distancing may not be feasible.
  4. Lunch periods will be altered to allow for additional spacing. In some cases, areas other than the cafeteria will be used for tables/seating.
  5. Food service will follow guidelines such as no self-service foods, individual packaging of condiments, etc., and spacing in serving lines. Meal choices will be limited to two different options and they will be cooked and boxed/bagged.
  6. Drinking fountains will be closed, but water bottles and filling stations will be provided (or students may bring their own water bottle).
  7. Arrival and dismissal procedures will be refined to avoid congestion in any one area.
  8. Recess will be altered so playground areas are utilized safely and with less students at one time.
  9. Open Houses and Orientations will NOT be held.
  10. Field trips and special programs/ assemblies will be postponed or cancelled.
  11. Visitor and Volunteer access to a school building will be significantly limited. Call ahead to set an appointment time and gain approval.
  12. Reporting requirements in the event positive cases are identified among a staff member or a student. Protocols are in place with the Wayne County Health Department for contact tracing, quarantine, and return-to-school guidelines.

Specifics for each building will be shared by the building administrators through district e-mail and/or the district website in August.
Norwayne Local Schools
Remote Learning Option Procedures
Bus Information Request

1. All students will be issued a Chromebook
2. Teachers will follow remote learning guidelines as it relates to the number of minutes for learning and class structure.
3. Students who opt for remote learning will be expected to complete the grade level curriculum and all assignments that are part of the learning process.
4. Students will be subject to grading, as it exists in a live classroom setting.
5. Student promotion will be dependent on work completion, online time and work accuracy.
6. Parent/student declaration must be signed and complied with to remain remote or the student will be considered truant. A parent/student orientation must also be attended in order to participate in this program.
7. A student who is eligible for IDEA services will receive them remotely during typical school hours.
8. Parent/student agree to remote learning for a minimum of a semester at a time (unless otherwise approved by Superintendent).
9. For remote learning, the teacher will establish the hours that he/she is available for assistance, live lessons and office hours.
10. Parents and students will be contacted via phone, messaging applications and email.
11. Parent and student must maintain internet access for remote learning.
12. APEX online learning will be utilized for students in grades 6-12 and Odysseyware for grades K-5.

- If you elect this option for your student, please complete the Remote Learning Declaration on the next page and return to the district (350 S. Main St. Creston, OH 44217) by July 31, 2020. You can also email the declaration to the building principals – NES – dadreher@norwayne.net or NMS – keleatherman@norwayne.net or NHS – dozimmerly@norwayne.net

We are also asking you to declare your bus riding intentions for this school year. If you plan to ride the bus to school you do not need to contact us. However, if you will not be using school transportation and you plan to drop your child(ren) at school, please contact the building principal or the transportation office at 330-435-1141.
Norwayne Local Schools
Remote Learning Option Parent-Student Declaration

You have elected online learning for your child for the 2020-2021 school year. In order to ensure that your child receives a quality education that is reflective of the guidelines established by the Ohio Department of Education, you must agree to the following which is due to the school district by July 31, 2020.

Student(s) ___________________________ Grade ______________

______________________________ Grade ______________

______________________________ Grade ______________

______________________________ Grade ______________

I, parent/guardian, of student(s) listed above, have elected to enroll my child(ren) in the online learning program with the Norwayne Local Schools for the 2020-2021 school year. This program of learning was created as a result of the COVID-19 virus pandemic and may not be an option in future school years.

In order to create the best environment for learning, I agree to the criteria outlined below. I understand that the school can terminate the online learning of my child after I have been given 2 warnings about lack of engagement (both written). I must turn in this commitment form by July 31, 2020 to secure my child(ren)'s spot in the online learning class.

I agree to the following and will participate as outlined below, or my child(ren) will be expected to be in attendance at school in person for the 2020-2021 school year (please initial next to each item to indicate that you have read and understand the expectations).

_____ I will attend a parent/student orientation.

_____ My child(ren) will meet the grade level attendance and seat time expectations as outlined for his/her specific grade level.

_____ I will secure access to reliable internet and ensure that this is maintained through the course of the school year.

_____ I am liable for any damage that occurs to the school-issued device and will pay for the replacement to ensure that my child(ren) can meet his/her learning goals.

_____ I understand that grading, assessment, and reporting policies are consistent with in-person instruction.

_____ I understand that if my child(ren) receives special education related services, these services will be provided within the school day hours.

Parent/Guardian Printed Name ___________________ Parent/Guardian Signature ___________________ Date ___________________