

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan
School Year 2020-21

Nebraska Association of Local Health Directors (NALHD)

Below are shared core principles that local health departments (LHDs) in Nebraska consider when making recommendations and advising local schools about how to safely reopen and stay open during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- LHDs statewide monitoring and evaluating public health data related to COVID-19 in our local jurisdiction daily.
- LHDs want Nebraska schools to open and stay open. We recognize the unique nature of schools and the education system's role in the economic and well-being of children and adults.
- LHDs work closely with our local schools and ESUs to develop reasonable plans for social distancing and masking in school facilities to reduce the spread of COVID-19. These plans need to be locally-responsive and aim to create school environments that will minimize the impact on the school community and the student learning experience when students or staff test positive for COVID-19.

Key recommendations that these plans include when community spread is occurring include:

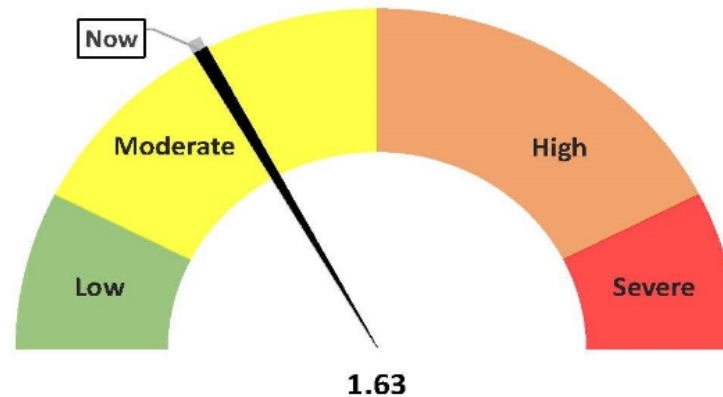
- All staff and students wear cloth face coverings over their nose and mouth whenever possible.
- General physical distancing of 6 feet between individuals whenever possible.
- Frequent hand washing and/or hand sanitizing.

When a positive COVID-19 case is confirmed in a school, that individual will be excluded and allowed to return based upon current guidance from the CDC at that time. LHDs will work with schools to consider the following questions when determining how that case will impact others in their classroom and/or school building:

- What is the level of community spread outside of the school building?
- Was the individual with COVID-19 wearing a mask most of the time?
- Were other students who were within 6 feet of the individual with COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes masked?
- Was the individual with COVID-19 part of a cohort within the building or did they interact with a large number of students and staff throughout the day?
- To what extent is the school community implementing other non-pharmaceutical interventions?
- The answers to these questions will determine:
 - The number of close contacts.
 - If the close contacts who are not symptomatic may stay in the classroom.
 - The number of other students and staff who will need to be quarantined.

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan School Year 2020-21

Wahoo Public Schools is looking forward to welcoming our students back to our district facilities for the start of the 2020-21 school year. District representatives have spent much time this summer planning for various scenarios that may present during the upcoming school year. The COVID-19 risk levels we have developed are derived from the COVID-19 risk dial (see directly below) created and continually updated by Three Rivers Health Department. The risk dial will be one of the pieces of information we use to make determinations about our school year, along with other factors and input. However, this is a visual aid that hopefully helps people quantify something that is difficult to understand. ***Additionally, the plan and information laid out in the following pages are subject to change at any time based on the discretion of the Wahoo Public School District, Three Rivers Health Department, or Directed Health Measures (DHM) from the local and/or state government.***



The district has worked hard to forge a valuable relationship with entities from the local to state level in developing the reopening plan for students and families. For Wahoo Public, we will have three tiers of modifications, combining the green and yellow levels found on the risk dial into one group. While we will use the dial as guidance, the level in which we operate the district may not align directly to the color on the dial. Additionally, individual portions of the guidance below may vary from the color level based on administrative discretion. Finally, portions of this plan may vary between the elementary and middle/high school buildings. With the cohorting of students in the elementary, they will have slightly different expectations.

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan
School Year 2020-21

COVID **Green/Yellow**

- All students in grades PK-12 will attend school in person.
- Accommodations may be made for K-12 students who are unable to attend due to an existing disability identified through and IEP or 504 plan. Remote learning may be utilized as part of such accommodation.
- While dependant on updated recommendations from Three Rivers, masks will be worn when reasonable and appropriate in all of our buildings and vehicles. In general, if social distancing of 6 feet or greater cannot be achieved, masks are expected to be utilized by students and staff. If individuals are unable to have their own mask, one will be provided for them in situations that warrant use. Students and staff are encouraged to bring school-appropriate masks with them to school.

COVID **Orange**

- All students in grades PK-12 will be participating in an educational program. However, due to directed health measures, attendance may be limited to 50% capacity on a given day. The purpose of 50% capacity would be to further emphasize and practice social distancing. The district will construct an A/B format for days in attendance if this format becomes a requirement.
- Accommodations will be made for students not attending in person to participate in classroom activities via electronic means.
- While dependent on updated recommendations from Three Rivers, masks will be worn when reasonable and appropriate in all of our buildings and vehicles. In general, if social distancing of 6 feet or greater cannot be achieved, masks are expected to be utilized by students and staff. If individuals are unable to have their own mask, one will be provided for them in situations that warrant use. Students and staff are encouraged to bring school-appropriate masks with them to school.

COVID **Red**

- All district facilities will be closed and education will be provided remotely to students, engaging them from their homes.

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan
School Year 2020-21

	COVID Green/Yellow	COVID Orange	COVID Red
Pre-Screening/Screening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will pre-screen students at home for fever and symptoms related to COVID-19 Staff and students should not attend school if they are symptomatic School health employees will randomly screen groups at school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents will pre-screen students at home for fever and symptoms related to COVID-19 Staff and students should not attend school if they are symptomatic School health employees will randomly screen groups at school 	All facilities closed
Bussing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masks expected Seating arrangement for riders Busses cleaned after each route 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Masks expected Seating arrangement for riders Busses cleaned after each route May further limit bus capacity 	All facilities closed
Arrival/Dismissal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will not be allowed to enter the building until 7:45 am Students will report to first period/homeroom class Masks are expected to be worn during the “passing time”, traveling from the entry door to the classroom and from the classroom to the exit door Students will sanitize hands upon entering classroom At the conclusion of the day, students are expected to exit the building immediately 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students will not be allowed to enter the building until 7:45 am Students will report to first period/homeroom class Masks are expected to be worn during the “passing time”, traveling from the entry door to the classroom and from the classroom to the exit door Students will sanitize hands upon entering classroom At the conclusion of the day, students are expected to exit the building immediately 	All facilities closed

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan
School Year 2020-21

	COVID Green/Yellow	COVID Orange	COVID Red
Physical Distancing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distancing will be considered 6 feet or greater • Efforts will be made to distance seating arrangements and how people interact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distancing will be considered 6 feet or greater • Efforts will be made to distance seating arrangements and how people interact 	All facilities closed
Handwashing/Sanitizing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and staff will be expected to practice good hygiene • Upon entering a new classroom, each person should wash or sanitize their hands with available product 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students and staff will be expected to practice good hygiene • Upon entering a new classroom, each person should wash or sanitize their hands with available product 	All facilities closed
Masks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks will be expected to be worn when social distancing cannot be achieved • During times of heavy traffic (start/end of the day, passing periods, lunch), masks will be expected to be worn • When distanced 6 feet or greater in a controlled environment, masks may be removed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks will be expected to be worn at all times 	All facilities closed
Passing Periods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks will be expected to be worn during passing periods • Individuals will sanitize hands upon entering a new classroom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Masks will be expected to be worn during passing periods • Individuals will sanitize hands upon entering a new classroom • Passing periods may be limited 	All facilities closed

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan
School Year 2020-21

	COVID Green/Yellow	COVID Orange	COVID Red
Desks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seating arrangements will be established and maintained in each classroom Desks will be cleaned after each class period, if students rotate through classrooms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seating arrangements will be established and maintained in each classroom Desks will be cleaned after each class period, if students rotate through classrooms 	All facilities closed
Water Fountains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All communal use water fountains will be closed Students are encouraged to bring water bottles and fill at the fountains that have filling stations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All communal use water fountains will be closed Students are encouraged to bring water bottles and fill at the fountains that have filling stations 	All facilities closed
Vending Machines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vending machines will be open for use High touch surfaces will be cleaned on regular basis throughout the day 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All vending machines will be closed 	All facilities closed
Cafeteria/Breakfast/Lunch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast will be Grab-and-Go that the student can pick up before reporting to their classroom when they arrive Lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria (if possible) with students sitting in assigned seats and socially distanced Students are encouraged to bring lunches from home to limit exposure, if they so choose 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Breakfast will be Grab-and-Go that the student can pick up before reporting to their classroom when they arrive Lunch will be eaten in the cafeteria (if possible) with students sitting in assigned seats and socially distanced Students are encouraged to bring lunches from home to limit exposure, if they so choose 	All facilities closed

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School Year 2020-21

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Playground/Recess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent playground equipment usage allowed • Cleaning procedures established 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Permanent playground equipment usage NOT allowed • Signage posted with restrictions 	All facilities closed
Teacher Workroom	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing expected • Clean surfaces before sitting • If working, only use space for activities that cannot be completed in classroom • If eating, maintain social distancing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social distancing expected • If working, only use space for activities that cannot be completed in classroom • If eating, strongly recommend eating in classroom 	All facilities closed
Extra-Curricular Activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to NSAA guidelines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adhere to NSAA guidelines 	No activities
Travel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow guidelines from health department • Mask use is expected • Communicate with direct supervisor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Follow guidelines from health department • Mask use is expected • Communicate with direct supervisor 	No travel
Visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Visitors should schedule with building administrator prior to arrival • Visitors will be screened by office staff before entering the building • Visitors will be required to wear masks • Sign in at the office and use hand sanitizer upon arrival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential visitors only • Must be scheduled with building administrator • Visitors will be screened by office staff before entering the building • Visitors will be required to wear masks • Sign in at the office and use hand sanitizer upon arrival 	All facilities closed

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan
School Year 2020-21

Attendance Exclusion and Return Criteria during COVID-19 Pandemic

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Wahoo Public Schools will make additional medical inquiries of students to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

If a parent/guardian tells the district that a student is ill, the district may ask the parent whether the student is exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 and provide instructions based on current directives.

Due to continuous medical direction during this pandemic, symptoms of COVID-19 include, but are not limited to:

- Fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater
- Frequent cough
- Shortness of breath
- Difficulty breathing
- Sore throat
- Unexplained sore chest
- Loss of taste
- Loss of smell
- Diarrhea or nausea

If any student, staff member, or visitor is displaying COVID-19 symptoms or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19 within the last 14 days, they may be excluded. Parents/guardians will be notified and the student will need to be picked up as soon as possible. Parents/guardians should contact their healthcare provider for further direction.

Return from Exclusion

If untested for COVID-19, a student may return when:

- They have not had a fever for at least 72 hours without use of medication.
- Other symptoms (if present), have improved OR
- They have written approval for returning to school by their health care provider.

If tested positive for COVID-19, they may return when:

- They have written approval by a health care provider or the local health department.

Wahoo Public Schools Reopening Plan
School Year 2020-21

**Pre-Screening of Students
(to be done at home by parents)**

1. Has the child been in close contact, without a mask, of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19?
2. Does the child currently have a fever of 100 degrees Fahrenheit or greater?
3. Does the child currently exhibit any of the following symptoms:
 - a. Frequent cough
 - b. Shortness of or difficulty breathing
 - c. Unusually sore throat
 - d. Unexplained sore chest
 - e. Loss of taste and/or smell
 - f. Diarrhea or nausea

**In assessing the other symptoms, these would be symptoms uncharacteristic of the student. Especially during the fall allergy season, a runny nose, sore throat, or cough may be commonplace for the student.