

2023 North Wildwood School Safe Return Plan

NJ COVID-19 Guidelines:

All students will be back for full-time, in-person instruction for the 2022-2023 school year. All students will be expected to return to school for five days a week of in-person learning. Virtual learning will not be offered.

Communication:

Margaret Mace School officials and local health departments will maintain close communication with each other to provide information, share resources on COVID-19 transmission, prevention, and control measures, and communicate with the Cape May County Department of Health regarding notification and response to COVID-19 illness in school settings.

The Margaret Mace School will communicate the Covid exposure in classrooms with parents via the school nurse. A letter will follow all cases of exposure to COVID-19.

Vaccination:

New Jersey has not mandated vaccines for school staff and students ages 12 and up. The North Wildwood School District will continue encouraging students to stay current on all vaccinations.

Masking:

The North Wildwood School District will follow the State of New Jersey mandates regarding masking. During the current school year, masking is optional for staff and students.

Social Distancing:

Social distancing will only continue for students who are suffering from Covid-like symptoms

Lunch:

No additional Covid restrictions

Screening:

NJ COVID-19 Guidelines:

Parents/ caregivers should be strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of illness every day before school. Margaret Mace will rely on parents to monitor their children before school. Each family will receive a Symptoms Protocol to use as a reference. Parents are asked to notify our school nurse if their child will be staying home and why.

During homeroom, teachers will monitor students for any visible symptoms.

The temperature of students will no longer be taken based on the recommendation from the CMC Department of Health. The lack of temperatures above 100.5 is not a significant indicator of the absence of COVID. Screening for temperatures creates an additional interaction between staff and students.

Contact Tracing and Quarantining:

The North Wildwood School District will inform families of all Covid exposures.

COVID Positive Staff or Students:

Five days calendar day exclusion from school. Students and staff may return on days 6-10 but must wear masks.

Travel Restrictions: No Travel Restrictions for staff or students

Cleaning:

Due to the ongoing pandemic, the Margaret Mace custodial staff will focus on three main priorities to provide our community with clean, safe, and healthy schools.

Summer Cleaning- The custodial staff provides restorative cleaning and maintenance each summer to prepare for the upcoming school year. This summer, we will provide summer cleaning while maintaining safe working conditions as recommended by the CDC.

Interim disinfection- Disinfecting and sanitizing high-touch areas during work hours to maintain a safe environment and help reduce the spread of potential contaminants. This process will begin when students and staff return to school.

Comprehensive Daily Cleaning and disinfection- Deeper thorough cleaning and disinfection to be completed during off hours further to reduce the potential spread of bacterial and viral pathogens. Any classroom with a positive student or staff member will be deep cleaned during the evening hours with approved sanitizers.

Schedule Overview:

Students will follow a pre-pandemic schedule at Margaret Mace.

Transportation:

No additional Covid restrictions on school buses.

Continuation of Health Services, including food services.

The North Wildwood District will be open for in-person learning five days a week during a typical week of school. Students who test positive for or are exposed to COVID-19 will be required to quarantine according to the CDC and NJDOH guidelines. While students are removed from in-person instruction, they will have access to social-emotional and mental health staff through Google Meet. This includes access to the school's guidance counselor and school social worker. These students will have the ability to communicate with the school nurse for health services. Breakfast and lunch will be provided for all students at the Margaret Mace School as a grade-and-go style prepackaged meal.

Engaging Stakeholders

As this plan was developed, a draft was established, and a stakeholders meeting took place. This was an in-person and virtual meeting. Comments were logged. Following the meeting, appropriate adjustments were made, and a draft copy was presented at the Board of Education meeting, allowing for public comment. Following public comments, the North Wildwood Board of Education approved the plan.

Staff Development

Professional Learning took place for staff in Google Classroom and Google Meet and how these tools can be used to improve instruction. Staff was also provided professional learning opportunities to engage students using a virtual platform.

This plan was written in understandable language and was presented to the public. The plan will be converted to the family's home language upon request. Upon request, families can have the plan converted to an alternative format. If needed, families can have this plan converted to an oral presentation.

Approved by the North Wildwood Board of Education on August 23, 2021, Updates to the plan were Board Approved on January 3, 2022, and Updates to the plan were Board Approved December 19, 2022. Updated plan was Board approved on June 12, 2023