

North Baltimore Local Schools Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan



June 2021

Introduction:

As the state of Ohio begins to fully reopen; we strongly believe it is critical for us to be open as well to provide a safe learning environment for our students and staff. Research and medical literature shows us how necessary our services are to the health and well being of the children in our community as well as how detrimental the effects of us being away from each other has been on our kids and families both physically and mentally. School is critical to the health and well being of your child. **North Baltimore Local Schools' goal is to have**

our staff and students remain on campus for the 2021-2022 school year, everyday, five days a week, at full capacity.

As of June of 2021, the safety guidelines for the 2021-2022 school year are unclear. The guidelines below are similar to those of the previous school year. We will continue to work closely with the Wood County Health Department and update our plans accordingly.

The staff at NBLS is thrilled to keep students on our campus and in our classrooms. It is critical that we all do our part to keep each other safe and healthy by adhering to safety guidelines. It has never been more important than now to be “Everyday Heroes” for one another. Please make sure that you read all the safety policies and procedures below. We are excited to get started and can't wait to see you in August.

Go Tigers!

Required Elements of a Local Plan

- 1. Policies for Mitigation Strategies:** Plan for incorporating eight different mitigation strategies included in current CDC guidance.
- 2. Continuity of Services:** Plan to address academic and non-academic services for students and staff.

3. **Periodic Review:** Review at least every 6 months through September 30, 2023 and revise the plan as appropriate.
4. **Public Input:** Seek Public input and incorporate revisions as necessary.

Deadline: June 24, 2021

Directions: Post the plan to the district website and then email that link (URL) to:
continuityplan@education.ohio.gov

School District: North Baltimore Local Schools (050708)

District Contact: Ryan Delaney, Superintendent, rdelaney@nblls.org 419-257-3531.

POLICIES FOR INCORPORATING MITIGATION STRATEGIES

❖ Universal and correct wearing of mask:

- The North Baltimore Local School Board of Education adopted a Use of Face Coverings policy in July of 2020. Implementation began immediately after adoption. The district notified staff, parents, and students of the policy requirements. A video was created to show the proper use of face covering. We will continue to work with the Wood County Health Department to develop our mask policy for the 2021-2022 school year. Once we develop our plan, we will update this policy and communicate this to

our parents, staff, and students through our email distributions and on the district website.

❖ **Physical distancing:**

- The North Baltimore Local Schools reopened to in person instruction for the 2020-2021 school year with 6 ft. social distancing in all school facilities. Beginning with the 2021-2022 school year, 3 ft. social distancing will be encouraged and utilized where feasible.

❖ **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:**

- Signage with illustrations of proper handwashing etiquette are posted in each restroom and throughout the buildings in locations with sinks. We also created a video demonstration that was shared with our students, staff, and parents with regards to proper use of hand sanitization. This will be communicated again in the summer of 2021.

❖ **Cleaning and maintaining health facilities, including improving ventilation:**

- The North Baltimore Local Schools implemented several new cleaning procedures including misting of classrooms, frequent disinfection of high touch surfaces and the installation of numerous hand sanitation stations. The district's operations department reviewed and addressed ventilation in buildings where needed. We have always used a MERV-13 filter that is above the recommended guidelines.

❖ **Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state and local health departments:**

- The North Baltimore Local Schools conducted its own contact tracing of all students and employees, in consultation with the Wood County Health Department. All quarantines and positive cases were documented and sent electronically to the Wood County Health Department. We created a COVID-19 dashboard and website that communicated all isolations and quarantines to our community. We communicated our weekly dashboard in our newsletters every Friday throughout the school year. This website will be utilized during the 2021-2022 school year.

❖ **Diagnostic and screening testing**

- In conjunction with the Wood County Health Department, parents were asked to do daily checks with students of potential Covid symptoms. Staff members were also reminded of daily health checks following the same protocols for the 2020-2021 school year. This same system will be utilized during the 2021-2022 school year.

❖ **Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and eligible students**

- The North Baltimore Local School District participated in vaccination clinics for the Pfizer vaccine on February 19th and March 12th, 2021 for all district employees. We also held vaccine clinics on Otsego's campus on April 15th, May 6th, May 27th, and June 17th, 2021 for our eligible students, staff, and community members.

PLAN TO ADDRESS CONTINUITY OF ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC SERVICES

The details below addresses the districts continuity of services for students and staff, where needed, in the following areas:

1. Academic Services

- 1.1.** For high school students who are credit deficient, the specific courses that a student has failed or shows deficiency in will be identified and individualized plans put in place to close the gap. In addition, the district has hired an additional high school counselor that will be utilized to identify and work with students needing additional assistance with academics, college and career planning, and mental health counseling.
- 1.2.** For students in grades K-8, we will use iReady, state testing data and High Quality Student Data Measures to determine the skills and strategies most needed by students. This data will be discussed at Teacher Based Team's and to support instruction during Intervention/Enrichment time (K-5) and Success Period (6-8).
- 1.3.** Each school will review student data and make adjustments as needed.
- 1.4.** Individual students who do not respond to Tier 1 (whole group) instruction will be placed through the MTSS process to find appropriate Tier 2 interventions. The RTI process will be documented using the forms in Google Drive.
- 1.5.** The district has also hired a Special Education Transition Coordinator and Behavior Support Specialist to assist with and ensure students are working towards annual goals and benchmarks or short-term objectives; measuring and reporting progress; Assisting with and providing special education and related services; Aligning supplementary aids and services; And making program modifications for school personnel.

2. Social-Emotional

- 2.1.** Social Emotional needs will be determined through small and class counseling lessons, student self-identification, parental input and teacher identification.
- 2.2.** Additionally, the district has hired a Special Education and Transition Coordinator and Behavior Support Specialist to assist teachers and staff members with appropriate behavior interventions that are sensitive and appropriate for student needs.

3. Mental Health

- 3.1.** The district's counselors and outside mental health counselors have coordinated services with outside agencies in addition to providing repeated training for staff. In addition, the district has trained staff at each building in Trauma Informed Care for student and staff needs.
- 3.2.** The district has provided in class lessons for students in K-8 through the use of school counselors and mental health agencies.

4. Food

- 4.1.** North Baltimore Local Schools provided free lunch and breakfast for all students during the 2020-2021 school year and will continue to do so during the 2021-2022 school year. We also repeatedly updated the P-EBT documentation to provide additional support to students and families.

Public Input:

- 1. Describe how you will seek public input.**
 - 1.1.** The plan will be posted on our district website with a link to submit feedback. The plan will also be shared at a public session at the July 27, 2021 Board of Education Meeting.
- 2. Describe how you will take public input into account when making revisions.**
 - 2.1.** Public input will be reviewed as part of the revision process as changes are made.

Periodic Review

- 1. Describe how you will conduct a review of your plan at least every 6 months**
 - 1.1.** The plan will be reviewed by the Administrative Team every six months.
 - 2. Describe how you will revise the plan as appropriate.**
 - 2.1.** The plan will be updated with consideration of any new or additional guidance from the Wood County Public Health Department, Ohio Department of Education, or public input.
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