

NORTH BELLMORE SCHOOL DISTRICT

ADMINISTRATION OFFICES

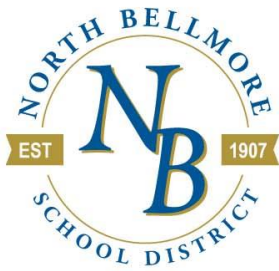
2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710
 Phone: (516) 992-3000 • Business Office Fax: (516) 992-3019 • Superintendent Fax: (516) 992-3020

North Bellmore School District Health and Safety Protocols

The following Health and Safety Protocols are in alignment with the mandatory protocols set forth in the New York State Education Department guidance entitled “Recovering, Rebuilding, and Renewing: The Spirit of New York’s Schools”.

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Health and Safety Protocol #1: Health Screenings of Students, Staff and Visitors

Daily Temperature Screenings of All Students and Staff; Daily Screening Questionnaire for Faculty and Staff and Periodic Use of the Questionnaire for Students

Students will have their temperature taken at the doors prior to gaining entrance to the school building. Periodically (at least once per week) parents will complete a student digital health screening questionnaire prior to arrival.

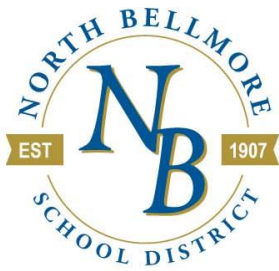
Faculty and staff members will have their temperature taken at the doors prior to gaining entrance to the school building. Additionally, each day all faculty and staff members will complete a digital health screening questionnaire prior to arrival.

Anyone with a temperature of 100°F or greater will be sent to the school health office or isolation area for further evaluation.

The screening questionnaire determines whether the individual has:

- knowingly been in close or proximate contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 or who has or had symptoms of COVID-19;
- tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days;
- experienced any symptoms of COVID-19, including a temperature of greater than 100.0°F in the past 14 days: and/or
- traveled internationally or from a state with widespread community transmission of COVID-19 per the New York State Travel Advisory in the past 14 days.

The District has assigned a designated staff person to review the incoming reports of screening by faculty, staff and parent/guardians and attesting that they are completed.



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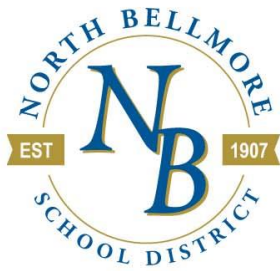
Health Screening of Visitors, Guests, Contractors, and Vendors to the School

Visitors, guests, contractors and vendors to the school will have their temperature taken at the doors and complete the digital health screening questionnaire prior to gaining entrance to the school building. Visitors will not be permitted to gain access to the building with a temperature of 100.0° F or greater or if they do not pass the health screening questionnaire.

To the extent practicable, each building will eliminate or limit the number of non-essential visitors to the building. In addition to maintaining accurate visitor logs, visitors will be required to complete the health questionnaire, have their temperature taken, sanitize hands and wear a face covering for the duration of their visit.

The District will takes steps to limit visitors to the schools including but not limited to;

- virtual CPSE, CSE and parent trainings;
- PTA meetings to be held via Zoom;
- assemblies outdoors or virtual;
- book fairs to be held online;
- grade level celebrations on pause;
- items brought to school (glasses, instruments, lunches, etc.) will be left outdoors/with security guards.



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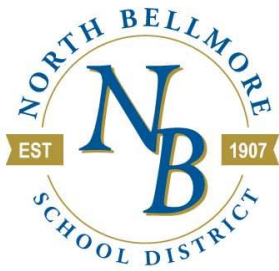
Health and Safety Protocol #2: Signs and Symptoms and COVID-19 Testing

Observing for Signs of Illness in Students and Staff and Requirement of Sending Symptomatic Persons to be sent to the School Nurse or Other Designated Personnel

Staff members will be taught the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and will be directed to observe others for signs of illness. Students and staff exhibiting signs and symptoms of COVID-19 will be sent to the health office for an assessment by the school nurse. Such reports will be made in compliance with FERPA, and Education Law 2-d. If nurses go to classrooms to make assessments of students, this will also be done in a manner that protects the student's confidentiality.

The signs and symptoms of COVID-19 are:

- Fever or chills (100°F or greater);
- Cough;
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing;
- Fatigue;
- Muscle or body aches;
- Headache;
- New loss of taste or smell;
- Sore throat;
- Congestion or runny nose;
- Nausea or vomiting; and/or
- Diarrhea.



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Instructing Parents/Guardians to Observe for Signs of Illness in their Child that Require Staying Home from School

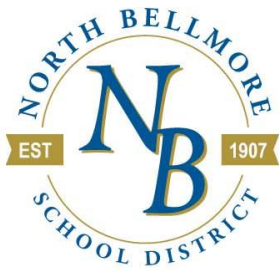
The district will instruct families on how to observe for signs and symptoms of illness that require a student to stay home from school. Parents are required to observe for signs and symptoms of COVID-19 (see list above). Please refer to the [CDC's Stay Home When You are Sick](#) guidance.

Requiring Students or Staff with a Temperature, Signs of Illness, and/or a Positive Response to the Questionnaire to be sent Directly to a Dedicated Isolation Area Where Students are Supervised, Prior to Being Picked Up or Otherwise Sent Home

Students or staff suspected of having COVID-19 or who have not passed the screening will be sent to the school health office or dedicated isolation area for further evaluation and determination of next steps. A supervising adult (nurse/designated personnel) will be present, utilizing appropriate PPE. Multiple students and/or staff suspected of COVID-19 or related symptoms may be in this isolation room simultaneously as long as they are socially distanced.

COVID-19 Testing

As per CDC guidance, schools will not conduct COVID-19 testing or require testing or antibody testing of students or staff members. The decision as to whether a test is needed to be conducted should be determined by a healthcare provider or the local department of health. If there is a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19 within the district, we will notify the Nassau County Department of Health and work in collaboration regarding the details of the particular case and determine necessary action steps.



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Health and Safety Protocol #3: Healthy Hygiene, Social Distancing, Wearing of Cloth Face Covering & Mask Breaks

Healthy Hygiene

Students and staff must practice good hand hygiene to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. Time will be devoted during the school day schedule to allow for hand hygiene.

Hand hygiene includes:

- Traditional hand washing (with soap and warm water, lathering for a minimum of 20 seconds), which is the preferred method;
- Use of alcohol-based hand sanitizers (60% alcohol or greater) when soap and water are not available, and hands are not visibly dirty.

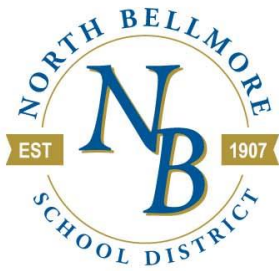
To reinforce proper hand hygiene, the District will:

- Provide hand sanitizer in every classroom and instructional space, throughout common areas (e.g. entrances, cafeteria), near high touch surfaces, and use touch free dispensers when able;
- Ensure that soap is readily available at all sinks.

Some students or staff may be unable to use alcohol-based hand sanitizers for health reasons and therefore will be permitted to wash their hands with soap and water.

Faculty, staff and students will be directed to wash their hands:

- Prior to entering their work space or classroom;
- After using shared objects or surfaces (e.g. electronic devices, musical instruments, writing utensils, tools, toys, desks or table tops);
- Before and after snacks and lunch;
- After using the bathroom;
- After helping a student with toileting;
- After sneezing, wiping or blowing nose, or coughing into hands;
- Upon coming in from outdoors; and
- Anytime hands are visibly soiled.



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Social Distancing

Pursuant to NYSED’s Guidance, schools will ensure that social distancing (i.e. 6 ft. or barriers) is maintained between individuals while in school facilities and on school grounds. The North Bellmore School District will implement and enforce social distancing whenever possible in all school facilities and on school grounds. Student groupings will be as static as possible by having the same group/cohort of students stay together. Multiple student entry points will be used rather than funneling all students through the same entry space, limiting the amount of close contact between students in high-traffic situations and times. A distance of twelve feet in all directions will be maintained between individuals while participating in activities requires projecting the voice (e.g., singing), playing a wind instrument, or aerobic activity. Student assemblies, in school events, athletic events, performances, school-wide parent meetings will be canceled/limited. Field trips will be eliminated; virtual opportunities will be explored.

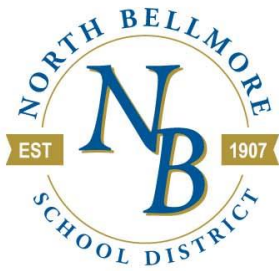
Wearing of Cloth Face Coverings and Mask Breaks

Face coverings must be worn when social distancing cannot take place. All students will be encouraged to wear face masks, to the extent practicable, even while behind desk barriers. Mask breaks will occur throughout the school day.

All students and staff members must wear cloth face coverings:

- Whenever they are within 6 feet of someone;
- In hallways;
- In restrooms; and
- In other congregate, settings, including buses and school entrances.

The District, as required, will provide acceptable cloth face coverings to employees and have an adequate supply of disposal masks in case of need. Employees are permitted to wear their own acceptable face covering. Employees with healthcare provider documentation stating they are not medically able to tolerate face covering will not be required to do so. Parents are required to send their child(ren) to school each day with an acceptable face covering. In the event a child forgets their face covering or it becomes soiled or damaged, the District will provide the child with a disposable face covering. All students will be encouraged to wear face masks, to the extent practicable, even when they can maintain social distancing.



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Health and Safety Protocol #4: Providing Accommodations to all Students and Staff who are at High Risk or Live with a Person at High Risk

The District will be responsive to groups that are at increased risk for complications from COVID-19 that may need added or alternate provisions for social distancing. The following people may notify the District, in writing, if they feel they need specialized accommodations:

- a student or staff member who is at high risk
- a student or staff member who lives with a person at high risk
- a student with special needs
- a student or staff member who is medically fragile

Please note: While ADA does not afford accommodation rights to staff members living with a person at high risk, those who wish to request district support may do so.

Staff

Staff members may notify the Superintendent, in writing, if they feel they need specialized accommodations.

Students

Students who are medically vulnerable, who have special needs and who live with family members who are in high risk groups may also need accommodations. Parents of students in these groups should consult with their healthcare provider regarding prevention. Parents of students with special needs and/or medical conditions who require accommodations should email the Office of Special Education at accommodations@northbellmoreschools.org or write a letter to 2616 Martin Avenue, Bellmore, NY 11710 Attn: Special Education Department to request a referral to the Committee on Special Education or 504 Committee.

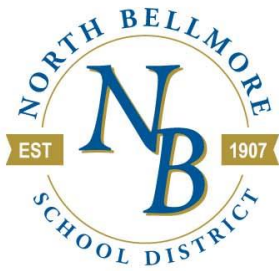
In your correspondence, be sure to include:

- Child's Name
- Child's Grade 2020-2021
- School Name
- A doctor's note detailing a description of your child's area of vulnerability/ medical risk and recommended accommodations

Alternate plans created in consultation with school health personnel on how to meet the needs of these children while keeping social distancing may include:

- Additional PPE for staff caring for such students;
- Decreased students in classroom utilizing alternating schedules
- Fully Virtual/Remote Learning Opportunity

If parents/guardians cannot send their child back to school due to medical vulnerability, the District will provide instruction remotely.



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Health and Safety Protocol #5: Actions to be Taken if There is a Confirmed Case of COVID-19

CDC guidance will be followed for allowing a student or staff member to return to school after exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19. If a person is not diagnosed by a healthcare provider (physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant) with COVID-19 they can return to school:

- Once there is no fever, without the use of fever reducing medicines, and they have felt well for 24 hours;
- If they have been diagnosed with another condition and has a healthcare provider written note stating they are clear to return to school.

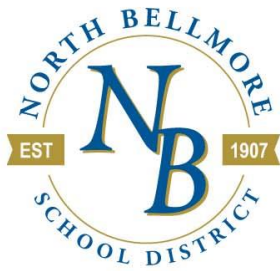
If a person is diagnosed with COVID-19 by a healthcare provider based on a test or their symptoms or does not get a COVID-19 test but has had symptoms, they should not be at school and should stay at home until:

- It has been at least ten days since the individual first had symptoms;
- It has been at least 24 hours since the individual has had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine); and
- It has been at least three days since the individual's symptoms improved, including cough and shortness of breath.

CDC guidance will be followed for individuals who are on home isolation. CDC recommendations for discontinuing isolation in persons known to be infected with COVID-19 could, in some circumstances, appear to conflict with recommendations on when to discontinue quarantine for persons known to have been exposed to COVID-19. CDC recommends 14 days of quarantine after exposure based on the time it may take to develop illness if infected. Thus, it is possible that a person known to be infected could leave isolation earlier than a person who is quarantined because of the possibility they are infected.

For contact tracing purposes the District will:

- Keep accurate attendance records of students and staff members;
- Ensure student schedules are up to date;
- Keep a log of any visitors which includes date, time and where in the school they visited; and
- Assist local health departments in tracing all contacts of the individual at school in accordance with the protocol, training, and tools provided through the [New York State Contact Tracing Program](#).



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Health and Safety Protocol #6: Cleaning and Disinfecting Schools Following CDC Guidance

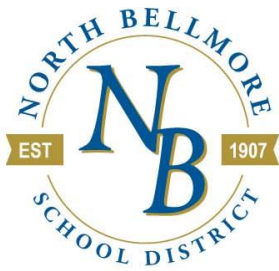
Schools will be cleaned and disinfected following the guidance provided by the CDC, and located in the [Reopening Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfection](#). Additionally, the [Cleaning and Disinfection Decision Tool](#) will aid in determining what level of cleaning and/or disinfection is necessary. School wide cleaning will include, but is not limited to, classrooms and all learning spaces, restrooms, cafeterias, libraries, playgrounds, offices, buses and high touch . Cleaning protocols will include:

- Routine cleaning with soap and water will be done to reduce the risk of exposure, and prevent the spread of COVID-19;
- [US Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)-approved disinfectants against COVID-19](#) will be utilized. Where disinfectants are used, products will be registered with the EPA and the DEC. Disinfection of surfaces and objects touched by multiple people will take place frequently;
- When [EPA approved disinfectants](#) are not available, alternative disinfectants will be used (e.g., 1/3 cup of bleach added to 1 gallon of water or 70% alcohol solutions). Bleach or other cleaning and disinfection products will never be mixed together. All disinfectants will be kept out of the reach of children;
- Schools will identify cleaning and disinfection frequency for each facility and area type;
- Schools will maintain logs that include the date, time, and scope of cleaning and disinfection in a facility or area.

Cleaning plans will include considerations regarding the safety of custodial staff. Additional cleaners will be trained, as necessary.

High touch surfaces will be cleaned and disinfected frequently though out the day. Some examples of high touch surfaces include:

- Tables
- Doorknobs
- Light switches
- Countertops
- Handles
- Desks
- Railings
- Phones
- Keyboards and tablets
- Toilets and restrooms
- Faucets and sinks



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Students will not be present when disinfectants are in use.

A schedule will be established for cleaning and/or changing heating/air conditioning system filters. If it can be done safely, windows will be opened, and remain open to increase airflow in a classroom.

The manufacturer's instructions will be followed for cleaning and disinfecting of electronic devices such as laptops, iPads, keyboards and computer mice, etc., between use. Surfaces will be dried thoroughly to avoid the pooling of liquids.

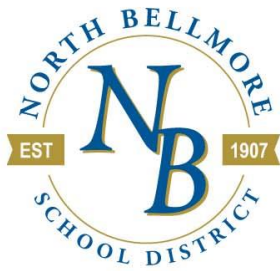
Wind instruments will not be shared between students and will be cleaned as per the manufacturer's directions.

Playgrounds will be cleaned per CDC guidance:

- Outdoor areas, like playgrounds in schools will require normal routine cleaning
- Disinfectant will be sprayed on outdoor playgrounds
- High touch surfaces made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings will be cleaned routinely
- It is not recommended that wooden surfaces or groundcovers (e.g. mulch, sand) be disinfected; therefore, it will not be disinfected

School health office cleaning and equipment will occur after each use of:

- Cots
- Bathroom
- Health office equipment (e.g. blood pressure cuffs, otoscopes, stethoscopes, etc.) will be cleaned following manufacturer's directions



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Health and Safety Protocol #7: Conducting School Safety Drills with Modifications Ensuring Social Distancing Between Persons

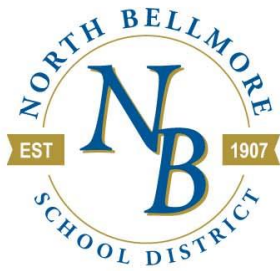
Education Law § 807 requires that schools conduct eight evacuation and four lockdown drills every school year. All drill procedures will be modified to minimize risk of spreading infection. During modified drills, students will be instructed that if it was an actual emergency requiring evacuation or lockdown, the most imminent concern is to get to safety quickly. In an actual emergency, maintaining social distancing will not be possible and will not be the priority.

Modifications to Evacuation Drill protocols may include, but are not limited to:

- Conducting drills on a "staggered" schedule, where classrooms evacuate separately rather than all at once, and appropriate distance is kept between students to the evacuation site. Staggering by classroom, minimizes contact of students in hallways, stairwells, and at the evacuation site. If conducting drills using a modified procedure, it is required that the drill be conducted with all students in the school building on that school day, it may be necessary to do so during a class period that is extended for this purpose.
- If schools re-open with a "hybrid" in-person model, such as one where students attend school on alternate days to reduce the occupancy of the school building, schools will ensure that all students receive instruction in emergency procedures, and participate in drills while they are in attendance at school.

Modifications to Lockdown Drills may include, but are not limited to:

- Conducting lockdown drills in a classroom setting or learning space while maintaining social distancing and using masks.
- Conducting lockdown drills on a "staggered" schedule with smaller numbers of students present to maintain social distancing; however, schools will be certain that all students are receiving instruction in emergency procedures and participating in drills while they are in school.
- Conducting lockdown drills in the classroom without "hiding"/ "sheltering" but the teacher will provide a verbal overview (or show a video) of how to shelter or hide in the classroom or learning space during an emergency.



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Health and Safety Protocol #8: Quarantine Criteria for COVID-19

If there is a confirmed case of COVID-19, the District will work with the Nassau County Department of Health relative to the specific instance. Necessary action will be followed on a case by case basis (analyzing the unique factors specific to each case), including the decision of who may need to quarantine and for how long. School staff will not try to determine who is to be excluded from school based on exposure without guidance and direction from the local health department.

Students or staff members will be informed if they were in close contact to an individual with a confirmed case of COVID-19 and have to complete a quarantine period. This means they will be required to stay home so they do not risk exposing others to COVID-19 if they become sick.

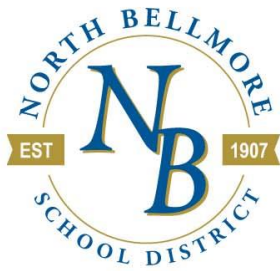
If an entire class needs to quarantine, parents and affected faculty/staff will be notified while respecting confidentiality, and that class will receive instruction through the remote learning model from the classroom teacher for the duration of the quarantine.

In the event an entire school needs to quarantine, the school building will close and all students will move into a remote model of instruction.

The District is not permitted to presumptively quarantine until a positive test result has been obtained. At that point the District will communicate with the affected families, faculty and staff accordingly.

The Nassau County Department of Health will only discuss names of cases with appropriate school personnel consistent with HIPAA. No parents or other students will be informed of names or identifying information.

- **Close Contact:** The standard quarantine period is fourteen (14) days after the date of the last close contact with a person while they were contagious with COVID-19 (48 hours prior to onset of symptoms).
- **Household Contact:** Per CDC guidance, if the student or staff member lives in the same household as the confirmed case and cannot avoid continued close contact with the infected



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person, they will have to quarantine for an additional fourteen (14) days after the day their household member has been cleared from their isolation period.

- **Other Household Members in Quarantine:** Per CDC guidance, if the student or staff member lives in the same household as someone in quarantine, they will not necessarily need to quarantine themselves unless the household member in quarantine is then determined to be a COVID-19 case.

All students under individual quarantine may engage in Virtual Learning while they are not attending school in person.

Travel

The rules regarding quarantine following travel to an area designated as a hot spot are determined and enforced by New York State. The District screening questionnaire (daily for teachers and periodic for students) includes a question about recent travel. Those individuals who indicate that they have traveled internationally or from a state with widespread community transmission of COVID-19 per the New York State Travel Advisory in the past 14 days will not pass the screening and therefore; will not be permitted into the school building. The District will strictly adhere to the CDC travel restrictions that are in place and will follow up on travel matters that are brought to our attention.

Reference: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/if-you-are-sick/quarantine.html>