



Frequently Asked Questions about the NCSD Fully Remote Option

1. Who should choose the fully remote option?

Anyone with students in grades K-12 who does not feel comfortable entering the physical school buildings. Students in this separate program will not be required to physically attend school.

2. What happens to my student if the entire school district goes to remote learning?

If your student is enrolled in the remote plan from the beginning, things will not change for him/her. Students in grades K-6 will continue learning with their remote teacher, and students in grades 7-12 will continue their Compass lessons independently.

3. What supplies do I need?

You must provide a computer and internet for your student. Basic school supplies such as pencils, paper, and a calculator will also be needed.

4. Who will teach my child and offer help when needed?

Students in grades K-6 will be assigned to a Norwalk teacher who will instruct and assess the students, offering help just like in a regular classroom. Students in grades 7-12 will take self-paced online courses but will also be offered help from the Compass instructors via Zoom as needed.

5. Who will grade my student's work?

Students in grades K-6 will be graded by their assigned Norwalk teacher. Students in grades 7-12 will be graded/assessed by Compass teachers hired through North Point ESC, and Norwalk teachers may also be assigned based on the enrollment numbers.

6. Can my student participate in extra-curriculars?

Yes. Students are considered full-time Norwalk students and may participate in activities.

7. What will a typical day be like for my student?

Students in grade K-6 will participate in “synchronous” learning which means they will log on to their computers during regular school hours and interact with their teachers and peers via Zoom. Students in grades 7-12 will participate in “asynchronous” learning, logging in at the time of their choice and self-pacing their progress through the assigned course modules.

8. Why did the NCSD choose the Compass program for grades 7-12?

The Norwalk City School District has been using the Compass program for many years. The courses are approved for instruction in Ohio and follow the state model curriculum. Because of the variety of courses offered at the middle and high school and the difficulty of scheduling students, it was necessary to choose a program that allows student choice and flexibility.

9. Who can we call for assistance or more information?

For information about the Compass program, you can reach out to your student’s guidance counselors, building principal, or Rebecca Drennen at NPESC, rdrennen@npesc.org
For information about the K-6 programs, you can reach out to your building principal or email Amie Swope swopea@norwalktruckers.net

10. What kind of social interaction/peer support can we expect?

Students in grades K-6 will interact with their peers in the class and their teacher throughout the school day via Zoom. Students in grades 7-12 will work independently.

11. Is there a charge for this program?

There is no cost to parents for this program.

12. What if we change our mind and want out of the program?

While we encourage students to stick with the Remote Instruction Option for a full nine-weeks period, we also want what is best for students and will work with parents on a case-by-case basis. Students in the Compass program, however, will not receive credit for their courses if they do not finish the course, and such a move may put students behind in graduation credits.

13. Would there be a live feed in each classroom or how would that work – grade K-6?

As we prepare for remote learning for students, there are a couple of factors that are being considered. The first factor is the number of students who will be learning remotely. The second factor is who will be delivering the instruction and how. At this point, students will most likely be assigned a dedicated online teacher who will provide the instruction and manage all communication with students and parents. In this case, the student would be working directly with the online teacher through Google Classroom.

14. Will there be any tutoring or extra help if my child is having a difficult time understanding something?

Your child would have the opportunity to receive extra help if needed, as if he/she was here at school.

15. Is there a deadline to sign up for remote learning?

There is not a set deadline. We have asked parents that are "on the fence" to sign up for remote, then switch to another option later if you change your mind. **PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU HAVE SIGNED UP FOR THE FULLY REMOTE OPTION, THEN LATER CHANGE YOUR MIND – send an email to covid19@norwalktruckers.net. Also, if your child requires transportation, you will want to complete a Transportation Request, located on our website: <http://www.norwalktruckers.net/2020-2021BacktoSchoolInfo.aspx>**

16. Are the children going to all need to be logged into their classrooms at the same time? Or are there options to stagger their times to log on?

We are working on new solutions to this issue. Because we wanted to balance education with staying connected socially, we wanted to keep the instruction live. However, we also know that parents work or have multiple children. So, we need a bit more time to solve this riddle.

17. What options do we have to still online school from our home if my child/children can't log on when "school starts"?

We are currently working on solutions to this issue. While a live stream experience is the best model for keeping the kids engaged both educationally and socially, it's definitely an extreme challenge for many families.

We are currently working hard on a solution. Please give us a little more time to work with our staff to solve this problem and know that we absolutely will do everything to avoid a choice between education and safety.

Frequently Asked Questions – General

1. Will my child be in the same room all day?

The students in-person will have a normal schedule, except for the COVID protocols. The building principals and their staff teams are working on applying the district guidelines at the specific buildings as we speak. Some buildings are currently weighing the pros/cons of eating in the rooms compared to extending the lunch periods out a longer period of time.

2. Do students get to take breaks without masks at some point through the day?

All teachers have been empowered and encouraged to frequently use mask breaks. During these breaks social distancing requirements are mandatory.

3. If a child tests positive for the virus then do the other children in that child's classroom have to quarantine for 14 days as well?

Any quarantine orders will come from Huron County Public Health or primary care physicians. We as schools do not have the authority to order or suggest quarantines.

4. What is the face covering policy?

Our face covering policy includes all students K -12. They are required to wear a face covering whenever district social distancing guidelines cannot be maintained. For NCSD that is 3ft for K/1 students and 6ft for 2-12 students. Our teachers have been empowered and encouraged to use mask breaks often (with social distancing required). Also, a face covering in our policy can be either a mask or a face shield. **(Gov. DeWine has since said a face shield can only be used with a mask.)**

5. How will Covid effect the absence policy? Will they have a distinction between quarantine days vs sick days in their absence? And if they quarantine and not sick will they move to online schooling?

A COVID related illness would be treated like all other absences for illness reasons. This illness reason would not kick in any truancy issues, as long as the proper documentation is forwarded to the school office. For students forced to quarantine, we would move them to a remote option during the quarantine period, so they would not be technically absent from school.

6. What will require students to be absent from school? Runny nose? Cough? Or Just fever?

Any combination of the typical COVID symptoms would initiate a contact to parents. Knowing children and what they experience on a yearly basis, I would expect fevers to be top symptom that gets most children sent home for further evaluation by their primary care physician. We are being told that typically a child with a fever but doesn't develop other symptoms should be able to return to school after being fever free for 72 hours.

7. Will there be recess?

Yes, but the principals and teachers are still working on what the protocols will be.

8. Will kids be seated six feet apart for lunch when they have their masks off?

K/1 a minimum of 3ft and 6ft for 2-12 for lunch. I expect this will be accomplish either through extending the lunch period timeframe or relocating some children to other locations to eat their lunch.

9. Will they be adding anything to help with air flow in the buildings in the hot months?

Thus far we have not been told to change our typical use of fans in the non-air-conditioned buildings. The lack of A/C was the main factor in getting approval for staff and students to use face shield as a face covering.

10. How will busing work?

Busing will work the same as in years past, except for the COVID protocols. Students will be required to wear face coverings (due to insufficient social distancing), family units will sit together, loading and unloading will be adjusted to limit the number of times kids walk past each other, and kids will have assigned seats for the year (for contact tracing). Hand sanitizer will be available and sneeze barriers will be installed near the driver.

If you signed your child up for the FULLY REMOTE OPTION, you will need to remove them from the list by emailing covid19@norwalktruckers.net and complete a transportation request on our website: <http://www.norwalktruckers.net/2020-2021BacktoSchoolInfo.aspx>.

11. Do I need to register my child/children for busing this year, even if nothing has changed?

Yes, please register all children who need transportation. Because we are giving parents a remote option, we would like to have a solid handle on the number of children who will need transportation.

If you are opting for remote learning, you do not need to register your children, **unless you decide to place them physically**. A registration paper was sent home with students, so if you've already completed a request for the 2020-2021 school year, there is no need to complete a new request, unless there have been changes over the summer.

You can register here: <https://forms.gle/CZRXWMXb9SpL9K2BA>

12. Will there be a calendar mailed home this year?

No. Our administration felt that it would be next to impossible to set dates for events with so many unknowns. Administrators will work on the calendar once we have a better idea about what events may or may not be happening year.

13. How will our children safely switch classrooms?

The high school will be meeting with their reopening team on Monday (8/3/2020). At that meeting they will develop protocols for addressing this issue.

Possibilities will include one-way hallways and stairways to keep the kids from crossing each other.

Other schools have also added a minute or two to the transitions to allow for staggered releases from class periods.

14. Will by child be able to borrow a Chromebook?

We will loan as many Chromebooks out as possible. We have ordered more but are at the mercy of our supply chain. If you'd like to request a Chromebook, please complete the questions on our website: <http://www.norwalktruckers.net/2020-2021BacktoSchoolInfo.aspx>. Or email covid19@norwalktruckers.net. You must be put on a list and then you may drive up to the Ernsthausen Performing Arts Center at the High School on August 27 and 28 between the hours of 7-3. We will only loan one Chromebook per family in the first round, but there may be a later opportunity to borrow an additional one if supplies permit.

Please check back for updates as questions arise.

If you have questions that have not been answered, please send it to:
Covid19@norwalktruckers.net