



Millinocket School Department

199 State Street

P.O. Box 30

Millinocket, Maine 04462

Francis N. Boynton, Superintendent of Schools

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

On behalf of the staff in the Millinocket School Department, I am happy to welcome you to the 2020/2021 school year! We are looking forward to a productive partnership with you to ensure our children can achieve their highest potential.

As you know, there have been many changes to our daily lives due to the pandemic. This will impact our education process as well. Our Hybrid Model of Learning has been passed by the School Board and that will require you to decide how to best educate your child. The In-School model will have your child attending school Monday-Thursday with Friday morning virtual lessons on devices the school will provide. We will be following strict CDC guidelines for safety in our buildings. The Virtual model will allow your child to receive instruction at home and the school will provide the necessary devices. We ask that you please read and discuss these options to make an informed decision regarding your child's education. The school will be contacting you next week, starting Monday, August 31, 2020 and we sincerely hope that you have made a decision at that time. The numbers we receive for In-School instruction will enable us to plan accordingly for social distancing within the building.

We understand that this is an uncertain time and the decision process for the best interest of your child/children is not an easy one for you. Our plan for In-School instruction contains every measure of precaution to keep your student(s) safe while they receive their education and our plan for Virtual instruction contains levels of support for teaching and learning.

Our priorities, as always, are for the health and safety of our students and providing the highest level of education. We intend to continue with these priorities at the forefront of our plans throughout the school year. The school lunch program will have the reduced/free/full-price options, there is no longer a free for everyone program. Breakfast and lunch will be offered here for In-School students. Bag breakfasts and lunches will be available for Virtual students at our drop-off locations, the Bandstand, the Saw Mill, and Hannaford.

The students first school day will be on Monday, September 14th, which will be a White Day. Students attending Region III will begin on Tuesday, September 8th, which is also a White Day. Students will meet the bus outside of the Stearns gym at 7:30. Masks are required on the bus.

Let us know how we can best support you and your children so that they will be able to reach their full potential. If you have any questions or need more information please contact the school.

Sincerely,

Josh McNaughton Ed.D

Principal- Granite Street School

Grant Coordinator- Millinocket School Department

Beth Peavey

Principal-Stearns Jr-Sr High School

Athletic Director -Stearns Jr-Sr HS



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August 21, 2020

The Plan for the Millinocket School Department:

The Millinocket School Department will engage in a hybrid plan for the reopening of school. It will allow students to participate in person and/or via virtual instruction.

Calendar (pending School Board Approval):

The calendar will be reconfigured to allow for 5 workshop days prior to the beginning of school. For staff the Workshop days will begin on September 2, 2020. The student days will begin on September 14, 2020 and extend through June 18, 2021. During the first 8 weeks the students will attend (in-person or virtual) Monday through Thursday, with Friday being a ½ day virtual morning for all students and ½ day afternoon workshop for staff. Inclement weather days when in-person school is canceled will automatically become virtual days, reducing the need for storm make-up days in June (a major power outage could result in the need for a storm day make-up). The program will be set for the first 8 weeks of the school year with the opportunity to fine tune the program beginning in week 8. Students must remain in either virtual or in-person during the 8-week period. Attendance in either program will be mandatory.

Rational:

1. The hybrid model creates the opportunity for the school to go in person or virtual with a minimum of interruption.
2. Attendance in both methods will be recorded and required.
The attendance model will allow for proper evaluation of student progress.
3. The workshops will be necessary to restructure the teaching strategy for the hybrid model and train staff in the use of the virtual learning system (CANVAS) for integrated instruction.
4. The Friday workshops will be structured to allow review of the progress and develop strategy for improvements and will focus on the CANVAS program.
5. Given the information from the parent surveys enough students will be involved in the virtual instruction to allow reasonable class sizes for the in-person setting.
6. Evaluation of the program in week 2, 4, and 6 will allow for a restructure of the program in week 8 for the next 8 weeks, if necessary.
7. Were we to have a major infection in the town or school the plan can be changed to full virtual instruction very quickly.
8. With attendance required, it make the program valid.
9. During the Friday workshops, the buildings will be disinfected with spray equipment. This will allow for a 3-day period (Friday-Saturday-Sunday) to allow the disinfecting process to reach its maximum effect.
- 10.

Key Points:

1. Once a parent has committed to either in-person or virtual then the student must remain with that program for the 8-week period, except that a student may be moved from the in-person school to the virtual school by parent request.
2. Attendance is required and will follow the regular school schedule for both in-person and virtual.
3. The electronic equipment necessary for the virtual part of the program will be made available from the school.
4. Parents electing virtual education only will be allowed to pickup electronic devices prior to September 14, 2020.
5. For the high school students blocks 1+2 and 3+4 will alternate on the half-day Fridays.
6. Daily schedules are being prepared at both Granite Street School and at Stearns Junior Senior High School.
7. Virtual learning students will be allowed to participate in extra and co-curricular activities.

Requirements:

1. All students and staff in the in-person setting will be required to follow CDC guidelines.
2. All students and staff in the in-person setting will be required to wear face coverings (properly worn), or face shields (if medically, mentally, or behaviorally documented and determined as necessary).
3. If a student is unable to wear appropriate protection items, then the parent should commit to the virtual program.
4. Rest breaks from the face coverings and shields (if medically necessary and supported by a doctor's note) will be setup periodically during the day.
5. Students and staff will be allowed to go outside of the building in small groups socially distances for break periods.
6. Playground equipment may not be used at any time during the school day. Playgrounds are closed.
7. Regular disinfecting of the building will take place.
8. Hand sanitizer, hand washing, will be available and social distancing will be required for all students and staff.
9. Regular monitoring of health conditions.
10. Guidelines for dealing with students and staff showing symptoms will be in place.
11. If COVID testing is required for any student or staff, arrangements have been identified for our area, with our local health care facilities.
12. Contact with Center for Disease Control and the Department of Education will be maintained.
13. Through grants and local funds face masks, shields (if medically, mentally, or behaviorally documented and determined necessary), and other items will be provided by the school.
14. Transportation will be provided for Pre-K to Grade 5 only.
15. Transportation will be provided for Region III students on Blue and White days according to the Region III schedule.
16. If out of state travel is indicated a 14-day quarantine or a current COVIDS test is required for return to school for students and staff.
17. Outside visitors including parents will be restricted from visits to the schools.

Sincerely,

Francis N. Boynton
Superintendent

COVID-19

Pre-Screening Tool for School Attendance

**Within the past 24 hours
have you had a fever
(100.4 and above*) or
used any fever reducing
medicine?**

YES =



**Do you feel sick with any
of the most common
symptoms?
(see symptom list to the right)**

YES =



**Have you been in close
contact with a person who
has COVID-19?**

YES =



**Have you traveled
outside of the state in
the past 14 days?**

YES =



**Contact
Your School**

**Stay home with any YES response to the questions above OR
with two or more of the "less common" symptoms listed to the
right.**

**Attend school when all answers are NO. Call or see your
school nurse or other designated person at school if you have
questions.**

Most Common Symptoms of Covid 19:

Cough
Shortness of
breath
or difficulty
breathing
Fever (100.4 or
greater)
Chills
Sore throat
New loss of taste
or smell

Less Common Symptoms:

Muscle pain
Nausea or
Vomiting
Stomach pain
Diarrhea
Fatigue
Headache
Rash
Swelling or redness
of hands/feet
Red eyes/eye
drainage
Congestion/
runny nose

*Fever is 100.4
regardless of
measurement
location (oral,
temporal).



DAILY SELF-ASSESSMENT

Prior to boarding the bus or drop-off, parents/guardians will need to complete a self-screening assessment daily for their child to check for symptoms of COVID-19. Certain responses will require that a child remain home. In this event, parents/guardians should contact the School Nurse.

Daily self-assessment questions:

- Have I been out of the state in the last 14 days?
- Do I or have I been living with anyone who is sick or quarantined?
- Do I or have I been around anyone exhibiting these symptoms within the last 14 days:
 - Do I or have I had a loss of taste or smell?
 - Do I or have I had shortness of breath?
 - Do I have a fever or feel feverish?
 - Do I have a cough or sore throat?
 - Do I feel unwell today?

Upon arrival at school, students, staff and visitors may be subject to a temperature screening. No personally identifiable data will be collected. Students with a fever of 100.4 F or higher will report to the School Nurse and staff/visitors will be sent home.

Parents/guardians should follow the flow chart included in the packet if any COVID-19 symptoms are identified.

STUDENT PROTOCOL FOR COVID-19



