

Newark City Schools Remote Learning Plan FY2021

Newark City Schools will be working toward a return to normalcy in education. However, while we will be working toward that end we also have the safety of our students and staff as one of our highest priorities. To this end, we plan to open the school year using a remote model. When Covid19 conditions allow, we then plan to move to a 2-3 model. This model will allow us to work with half of our students onsite for 2 days (Monday-Tuesday) while the other half are working online, leaves Wednesday open for deep cleaning of buildings, and then the other half of the students will be onsite for 2 days (Thursday-Friday) and the students who were onsite Monday-Tuesday work online. All students would be online on Wednesday except for those who may be onsite for enrichment or extra help and support. Finally, we hope to be able to transition to a full onsite model as Covid19 conditions allow. We also have opportunities for students who have more risks with Covid19 to work remotely if their parents choose that option. NCS also has a building that is a digital academy. That building will continue to function as they have in the past with remote learning and some opportunities for students to attend for academic and social/emotional support.

Thus, our plan, if Covid19 allows, includes three phases:

Phase I: Primarily online/remote with NCS teachers and staff

Phase II: 50/50 onsite/remote (2 days on and 3 off for half of students and then switch)

Phase III: In person 100% except for those who choose the digital options we offer on a regular basis

Phase I-- Beginning the Year

Newark City Schools will begin the year with a combination of online learning and onsite learning that is more representative of remote learning rather than blended learning.

How will instruction take place?

1. The primary instruction will occur during the regular school hours with students attending virtual class schedules via the Internet. Instruction during the online classes will consist of a variety of teaching modalities and will support various learning styles. This will include teacher-student interaction and student-student interaction.
2. Projects and assignments will be completed by students outside of the regular hours of the school day.
3. A two hour block of time will exist at the end of the school's scheduled classes where students will be able to participate in extra support or extended learning either virtually or onsite. The number of students allowed onsite will be limited to ensure that Covid19 safety protocols are followed.
4. Offline lessons and instructional packets for students.

5. Onsite instruction 4 hours per day Monday-Thursday for students identified as needing onsite instruction. The number of students allowed onsite will be limited to ensure that Covid19 safety protocols are followed.

Teachers will use a variety of platforms and learning programs that include, but are not limited to, the following:

Google Classroom Gades 2-12	SeeSaw Grades K-2	Discovery Education	Edmentum	Edulastic	eSpark
Science Fusion	Ohio as America	GT Ignite	Screencastify	Newsbank	Pear Deck
Turn It In	Jason Learning	Lexia	Fuel Education (Big Universe)	Flex Curriculum	Method Test Prep
Naviance	Dreambox	Zearn	Loom	Zoom	

Teaching Strategies may include, but are not limited to, the following:

Live online sessions with the entire class	Live online sessions with parts of class or with individual students	Recordings of online sessions	Pre- Recordings for groups of students to accompany cooperative learning	Incorporation of learning programs to support curriculum and learning	Cooperative Learning
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How will instructional needs be determined and documented?

1. A gap analysis will be used to determine what curriculum may have been missed last year during the two months (April and May) that students and schools were required to be remote due to Covid19.
2. Teachers will use formative assessments at the beginning of the school year to determine students' knowledge and skill level and use those results to inform their instruction.
3. Elementary buildings (K-5) will use diagnostics and benchmarking to determine student reading needs while 6-12 will use the SRI (Scholastic Reading Inventory) to help the BLTs (Building Level Teams) determine which students need intervention.

4. Teachers will monitor students' progress while BLTs will monitor the progress of students who are receiving interventions beyond the classroom instruction.
5. Teachers will communicate with parents throughout the year to inform them of their student's progress.
6. Google Classroom and SeeSaw will be used to help communicate with parents regarding student progress.
7. Curriculum NCS teachers use is based on the Ohio Learning Standards and/or the national standards for those curricular areas that do not have specific Ohio Learning Standards.

What will be used for determining competency, granting credit and promoting students to higher grade levels?

Curriculum for NCS: <https://www.newarkschools.us/Curriculum.aspx>

Competency	Teacher grading based on board policy at https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/newark/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies#5421, 5420
Granting Credit	Credit is granted based on board policy at https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/newark/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies#5410, 5420, 5421, 5460, 5460.02, 5463,
Promote Students	Promotion of students is based on board policy at https://go.boarddocs.com/oh/newark/Board.nsf/Public?open&id=policies#5410

Competency, grading, credits, and promoting students will be determined using the current board of education policies. Teachers will monitor student competency and progress and will include information regarding both in ProgressBook which is the primary teacher gradebook which parents and guardians can access at any time to check on their student's progress.

What are the school's attendance requirements, including how the school will document participation in learning opportunities?

The district's board approved attendance policy will be in force. During Phase I students will be required to attend school online on a daily basis, during regular school hours of the adjusted school day. The student's attendance will be entered into the district's online attendance software. Teachers will use the attendance take from Google Classroom, SeeSaw, Zoom, or whatever platform they are using each day and the students' level of engagement in their online and/or assigned offline lessons and activities.

How will student progress be monitored?

Student progress will be tracked in classrooms by teachers who will use formative and summative assessments, some of which are district created and some of which are teacher created. Teachers will record information in ProgressBook which parents have the ability to access at any time. Students who are receiving academic support through Special Education, Title services, etc. will be monitored using the progress monitoring tool that best reflects the skills and knowledge that the student is working on. Students who are slated to receive intervention based on BLT recommendations will receive progress monitoring via the tool that reflects the intervention they are receiving. Parents will be apprised of their progress through building communication.

How will equitable access to quality instruction be ensured?

The district has purchased chromebooks and laptops to loan to students in the district. Students who attend the Newark Digital Academy also have received a laptop. The devices will be handed out at the beginning of the year. Hotspots have also been purchased to assist students who do not have access to reliable Internet at home. NCS also has a support team with a helpline to assist families who are having difficulties with their device. NCS also has created a page for students and parents/guardians with tutorials for the various electronic programs that we may be using this year. It is located at <https://www.newarkschools.us/BacktoSchool.aspx>. There are also teacher tutorials for these programs located at <https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1zWbzS2b3V0Vzp7gUpTjwf25djeUJ5qEMeSL6HtKGGZQ/edit#gid=0>. Students who need academic support or enrichment will have the ability to attend onsite and/or remote opportunities.

What professional development activities have been offered to teachers?

Teachers were offered a variety of professional development opportunities over the summer relating to the technology, platforms, and learning programs that NCS plans to use in the 2020-2021 school year. Teachers were offered stipends to participate in the opportunities that were directly related to their grade levels and content areas.

The following describe some of the sessions that were offered to and recorded for teachers:

Google Basics

Google 101 - Basic

(PreK-12) *Don't know Google? Come learn all the features Google has to offer! Topics include login, account management, forwarding gmail, and much more.*

Google Tips and Tricks

(PreK-12) *Come explore some Google tips and tricks to help you save time, energy and get more done!*

Google Drive Organization

(PreK-12) *HELP - My Google Drive Is a Nightmare! Come and learn some tips and tricks to better organize your Google Drive. Some topics include creating and color-coding folders, sorting your files for easier access, and adding files to multiple folders.*

Google Suites

Google Docs - Beginners

(PreK-12) *Learn the basics of Docs, including creating, organizing, and performing basic word processing skills, such as margins, fonts, and page layout options.*

Google Docs - Advanced

(PreK-12) *Learn the next steps in Docs, including adding pictures, creating tables, embedding links, and other tips to take your Docs to the next level.*

Google Slides - Beginners

(PreK-12) *Come learn the basics of google slides. Topics will include creating a presentation, making adjustments to your presentation through theme, layout, and background, and inserting videos, tables, images and transitions.*

Google Slides - Advanced

(PreK-12) *This session will support teachers in using google slides to their fullest potential. We will explore how to create interactive presentations to engage our students. Teachers attending this session should be familiar with the topics included in the Google Slides - Beginners session.*

Google Forms - Beginners

(PreK-12) *We will go back to the basics - starting from the beginning. Topics will include creating a new form, adding questions, adding collaborators, viewing responses, basic quiz grading, how to send quizzes to students, etc.*

Google Forms - Advanced

(PreK-12) *We will explore more advanced options of Google Forms, such as sequencing, forms add-ons, creating branching forms, response validations, etc.*

Google Sheets

(PreK-12) Come learn the basics of google sheets. Topics will include creating a spreadsheet, formatting data for easy viewing, utilizing some basic formulas, and sharing and protecting your Google Sheets.

Online Learning Platforms

Google Classroom - Beginner

1st session (2-5) 2nd session (6-12) We will start from the beginning - creating a class, inviting students, creating assignments, etc. This session is for participants who have never used Google Classroom before, or need a refresher on the basics of Google Classroom.

Google Classroom - Advanced

1st session (2-5) 2nd session (6-12) We will dive a little deeper into Google Classroom. We will talk about how to personalize your class, simplify your grading process, create editable PDFs and more.

Google Classroom Chat

(2-5) Informal discussion with teachers who have used Google Classroom before and during the pandemic. Come ask your questions and hear answers straight from a Google Classroom user.

Google Classroom Chat

(6-12) Informal discussion with teachers who have used Google Classroom before and during the pandemic. Come ask your questions and hear answers straight from a Google Classroom user.

Getting Started with Seesaw

(PreK-1) Come learn about the wonderful world of Seesaw! This versatile tool can do so many things to help you and your students, whether in person or virtual. You will leave with lots of resources to get started!

Seesaw - The Power of Digital Portfolio (PreK-1)

Seesaw can be a powerful tool for students to show their learning. Come learn the ins and outs of using digital portfolios to drive instruction and assessment.

Zoom

(PreK-12) Come explore all the tips and tricks to creating interactive and engaging lessons using Zoom. Some topics include sharing your mouse, navigating between screens, adding a poll, and creating breakout rooms.

Other Online Resources

*Check back later for more information on these resources!

Screencastify

(PreK-12) *Screencastify allows teachers to record, edit, and share amazing videos with ease. Come learn all this has to offer!*

(This format will replace Loom. All NCS teacher accounts will be upgraded to Screencastify Unlimited soon.)

Flipgrid

(PreK-12) *Explore using FlipGrid as a tool for students to share their learning and thinking. Foster community in your classroom as you facilitate discussions among your students. Engage and promote all student voices in your class.*

Edulastic - Beginners

(2-12) *Come explore using digital assessments in your classroom. Edulastic can be used with google classroom. This session will explore setting up classes, finding and assigning assessments, and reports after assessments are given. We will also give an overview of the NEW Edulastic platform, as the setup, menu, and question options have changed from last year. Even if you have used Edulastic before, this session will be a refresher to the new features Edulastic has to offer in 2020.*

Edulastic - Advanced

(2-12) *Take digital assessments to the next level, by creating your own assessments. This session will build on Edulastic beginner knowledge and will explore question types used on state assessments and different ways to build assessments for students. Knowledge on the new 2020 platform will be important, so it is strongly encouraged that you complete Edulastic Beginning before this class.*

Dreambox

(K-5) *New K-5 math resource to support student learning. Come learn about how Dreambox can support your students math skills.*

NewsBank

(K-12) *The online resources available through Newsbank provide researchers of every kind with valuable information on any topic imaginable. Come discover how to access and navigate this amazing resource!*

Discovery Education

(PreK-12) *Discovery Education offers free student and teacher resources that bring learning to life both inside and outside the classroom. Come learn all it has to offer!*

Zearn

(K-5) Explore using Zearn in math to support students with distance learning. This session is for grades K-5 teachers.

Science Fusion

(Grades 5-8) Explore using the Science Fusion for enhanced digital science instruction. This session is for teachers in grades 5-8.

Study Island

(K-12) This standards aligned program provides data that can be used before, during or after a lesson. Online lessons, practice, quizzes as well as group sessions can help provide the data needed to guide instruction at any point. Come explore how to set up your classes and assignments, as well as monitor the data study island can provide to show student mastery of standards.

Exact Path

(K-8) Explore our new tool - Exact path! This product creates a learning path specific to each student based on a diagnostic assessment. Use to identify learning gaps and explore where to start teaching for each student. We will be looking primarily at math in this session.

Jason Learning

(Grades 5-12) This online Science database provides resources, interactive simulations, and lessons plans to assign through Google Classroom.

Pear Deck

(K-12) Explore using PearDeck to enhance Google slides and create interactive learning experiences with your students. A basic knowledge of using slides is necessary to use PearDeck.

Ohio As America

(4) A resource for 4th grade teachers, explore using this digital resource to support the social studies standards.

GT Ignite

(K-12) This resource to support gifted students is available for grades K-12. GT Ignite's self-paced courses include topics like differentiation, creativity, higher order thinking, and social & emotional support of gifted learners.

Flipped Classroom Elementary

(K-5) These hour long sessions will support classroom teachers in putting together the summer pd resources in both in person and distance learning. We will show you how to utilize resources, how to prioritize what is taught in person virtually, using a Flipped classroom model. Sample schedules for each grade as well as sample SeeSaw and Google Classrooms will be shared.

Seesaw Tips and Tricks (K-1)

Got questions about Seesaw? We've got answers! _____ is going to join me to show you some tips and tricks and how she has used Seesaw with remote learning to engage her students. Come with questions and leave with resources and answers!

Phase II--The timing of this phase depends upon Covid19

When Covid19 conditions allow, we plan to move to a 2-3 model which blends online and onsite learning. This model will allow us to work with half of our students onsite for 2 days (Monday-Tuesday) while the other half are working online, leaves Wednesday open for deep cleaning of buildings, and then the other half of the students will be onsite for 2 days (Thursday-Friday) and the students who were onsite Monday-Tuesday work online. All students would be online on Wednesday except for those who may be onsite for enrichment or extra help and support. Teachers would use a flipped classroom model for this phase.

Phase III--The timing of this phase depends upon Covid19

In Phase III NCS transitions to a full onsite model as Covid19 conditions allow. We also have opportunities for students who are at higher risk with Covid19 to work remotely if their parents choose that option. Since NCS has a building (Newark Digital Academy) that is primarily a remote model it will continue to function as it has in the past with remote learning and some opportunities for students to be onsite for academic and social/emotional support.