



Medway Middle School



Framework for Returning to Classroom Instruction 2022-2023

The following Framework for Returning to Classroom Instruction is based on the guidelines set forth by the Maine Department of Education (DOE) and Maine Center for Disease Control (CDC).

Points of Interest

- We will continue to hold traditional school day, 5 days per week.
- When a positive case is confirmed the school nurse and building administrator will be responsible for determining the quarantine of students and staff in accordance with the Maine DOE and Maine CDC.

Framework for Returning to Classroom Instruction

Part I - Physical Health and Safety Considerations

Part II - Social, Emotional, Behavioral, and Mental Health Considerations

Part III - Academic Programs and Student Learning Considerations

Part IV - Common Expectations for Hybrid and Remote Learning Models

Part V - Additional Considerations

Part I - Physical Health and Safety Considerations

Determining when it is safe to return to school:

- I. We will continue to monitor the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and CDC three-tiered categorization system when making determinations on how to proceed with student learning.
- II. School capacity for implementing health and safety requirements
 - A. Symptom Screening Before Coming to School
 1. Students (caregivers/parents) and staff members are encouraged to conduct self-checks for symptoms prior to boarding buses or entering the school building each day. Information will be provided to families and staff with clear directions for completing the check each day.
 - a) Do you feel sick with any symptoms consistent with COVID-19?
 - b) Have you been around anyone who is unwell?
 - c) Have you been in close contact with a person who has COVID-19?
 - d) Within the past 24 hours, have you had a fever (100.4 or above) or used any fever reducing medicine?

e) If the answer is yes to any of the questions, stay home.

- III. Physical Distancing and Facilities
 - A. All classrooms will socially distance to the greatest extent possible given the space available in classrooms when positive cases are detected within the school.
- IV. Masks/Face Coverings
 - A. When returning to school after a positive COVID-19 test, students and staff will be required to mask for 5 consecutive days. However, students or staff with two negative COVID-19 tests may choose not to mask.
- V. Hand Hygiene
 - A. All students and staff will receive training in proper hand hygiene and other COVID-related guidelines in the week we return to school.
- VI. Personal Protective Equipment
 - A. PPE will continue to be provided in the form of facemasks.
- VII. Return to School after Illness
 - A. Sick staff members and students returning after a positive COVID-19 test must mask for 5 consecutive days. However, students or staff with two negative COVID-19 tests may choose not to mask.
- VIII. Testing
 - A. COVID-19 tests will be provided to students and families through the school nurse.
- IX. Vaccination
 - A. The school administration will continue to work in partnership with Millinocket Regional Hospital to provide access to COVID-19 vaccinations.
 - B. Transportation will be provided by the school for vaccine clinics.
- X. Responding to a Positive Case of COVID-19
 - A. Students exhibiting symptoms may be given a COVID-19 test at parents' request.
 - B. A person diagnosed may not return to school until they have met all CDC criteria to discontinue home isolation.
 - C. Health officials, staff, and families will immediately be notified of a positive case while maintaining confidentiality and other applicable federal and state privacy laws.

Part II - Social, Emotional, Behavioral, Mental Health

- I. Ongoing:

- A. Staff is encouraged to be vigilant with respect to student and staff mental health; professional development will be provided to staff to increase the awareness of signs of anxiety and depression.
- B. Staff concerns should be reported to school administration to facilitate support.

Part III - Academic Programs and Student Learning

- I. Professional Development
 - A. We will continue our relationship with our Thoughtful Education consultant in our planning process.
 - B. The planning team will continue to meet to create more elaborate plans for a transition to fully remote learning in the event of another school closure.
- II. Groupings, Courses, and Units
 - A. Each grade level will be split into two homerooms.
 - B. Teachers are encouraged to utilize project-based, interdisciplinary learning activities.
 - C. Skills and practice necessary for successful remote learning will be built into the in-person learning students receive.
 - D. We will plan to ensure students have equitable access to learning regardless of which learning model we are part of.
- III. Formative Assessment
 - A. Formal assessment will be used thoughtfully and efficiently to ensure we have the necessary data, being mindful of students and family capacity and reducing unnecessary stress.
 - B. Expectations will remain high for students. Students will be given scaffolded opportunities to reach or exceed grade-level goals.
- IV. Additional Learning Needs
 - A. Recovery learning will be provided throughout the school year to compensate for students who developed gaps during remote learning in the spring of 2020.
- V. Students with Disabilities
 - A. Each student with an IEP or 504 will have their plan reviewed by a team consisting of classroom teachers, special education teachers, and the special education director prior to the student start of the year. The review will result in a plan to best meet the individual needs of that student.

Part IV - Common Expectations for Hybrid and Remote Learning Models

- I. Students who do not have internet access will be provided a device with internet access in the event we have to go fully remote.
- II. Students are expected to attend both in-person and remote classes. Attendance will be taken each day, and will be reported to the DOE as it is in a normal year.
- III. There is no optional remote learning this year.

Part V - Additional Considerations

- I. Child Nutrition Programs
 - A. All CDC standards for food service will be met.
- II. School Health Office
 - A. Students who are determined to be exhibiting symptoms associated with COVID-19 will be sent home for testing.
 - B. Parents are responsible for picking up students exhibiting symptoms as soon as possible.