



Northpoint Christian School Back to School Plan 2020-2021

Welcome to the NCS Family!

In the Midst of these uncertain times our Mission has not changed.

As a Christ-centered college preparatory school, Northpoint Christian School enables our students to:

- know and honor Jesus Christ
- grow in knowledge and wisdom
- reach their God-given potential



Our Vision Remains the Same.



We are committed to providing a place where all will be **SAFE**, where Northpoint Christian School will be a leader in distinctive Christian education by providing an **EXCELLENT** educational environment that **HONORS** Christ, **NURTURES** people, and **INSTILLS** within our students a **BIBLICAL worldview**, a **LOVE** for learning, and a **HEART** to **KNOW GOD** and fulfill His plan for their life. When school opens in August, our mission, values, and commitment to our students will be the same, but many aspects of our daily operations will look different.

As we move forward, living alongside COVID-19 will require flexibility, innovation, and understanding. We will open in person. But we must be prepared for a world where classes are held in-person, remotely, and/or both simultaneously and fluidly as DeSoto County, and the greater Memphis area infection levels dictate.



How NCS makes decisions:



Northpoint Christian School is an independent school that readily seeks out and embraces the wisdom and best practice recommendations of medical professionals and welcomes any statewide directives issued by our public health officials with regard to the safe operation of our school environment. However, because we are not a public sector school, our Head of School and Board of Trustees are empowered to make decisions in the best interest of our families without interference or micromanagement from a state department of education, a legislature, or a school district office.

NCS put together a re-opening team that has met throughout the summer and will continue to meet in preparation for a return to in-person learning this fall. The team is made up of administrators working to make decisions that will best serve our families. Our goal is to provide a safe learning environment.

We believe, no one else can assure a safer or more nimble “back to school” readiness this fall in the event of future emerging public health issues.



Will we open in-person on Aug. 11?



Yes. Our plans are to re-open with in-person learning. August 11, will be our first day of school.

Obviously, during a global pandemic when things change daily, a lot can happen over the next few weeks. But we are making plans to be on campus and provide a safe, in-person learning environment for our families.

Our re-opening plan takes into consideration health department and CDC school recommendations, as well as recommendations from medical professionals.





Help us before arriving on campus each day...

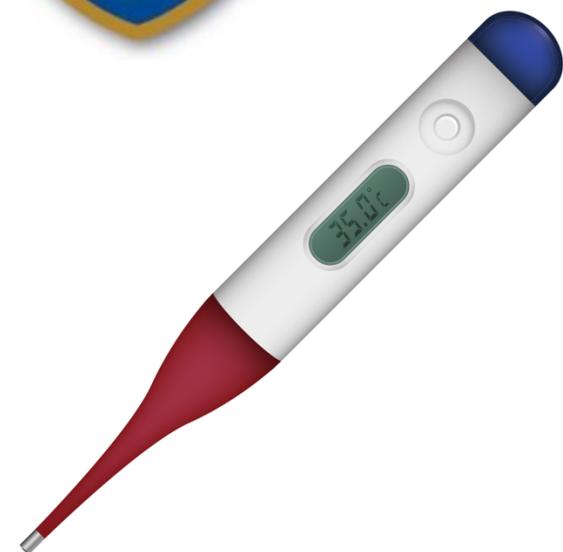
1. **Take temperatures** of each student before leaving home. If you have a fever of higher than 100, STAY HOME.

2. Ask: "**Do you have any of the following COVID-19 Symptoms?** *Cough; Fever or chills; Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing; Muscle or body aches; Sore throat; New loss of taste or smell; Diarrhea; Headache; Nausea; or vomiting?*"

3. Ask, "**Have you had close contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 or been notified that you may have been exposed** to it?"

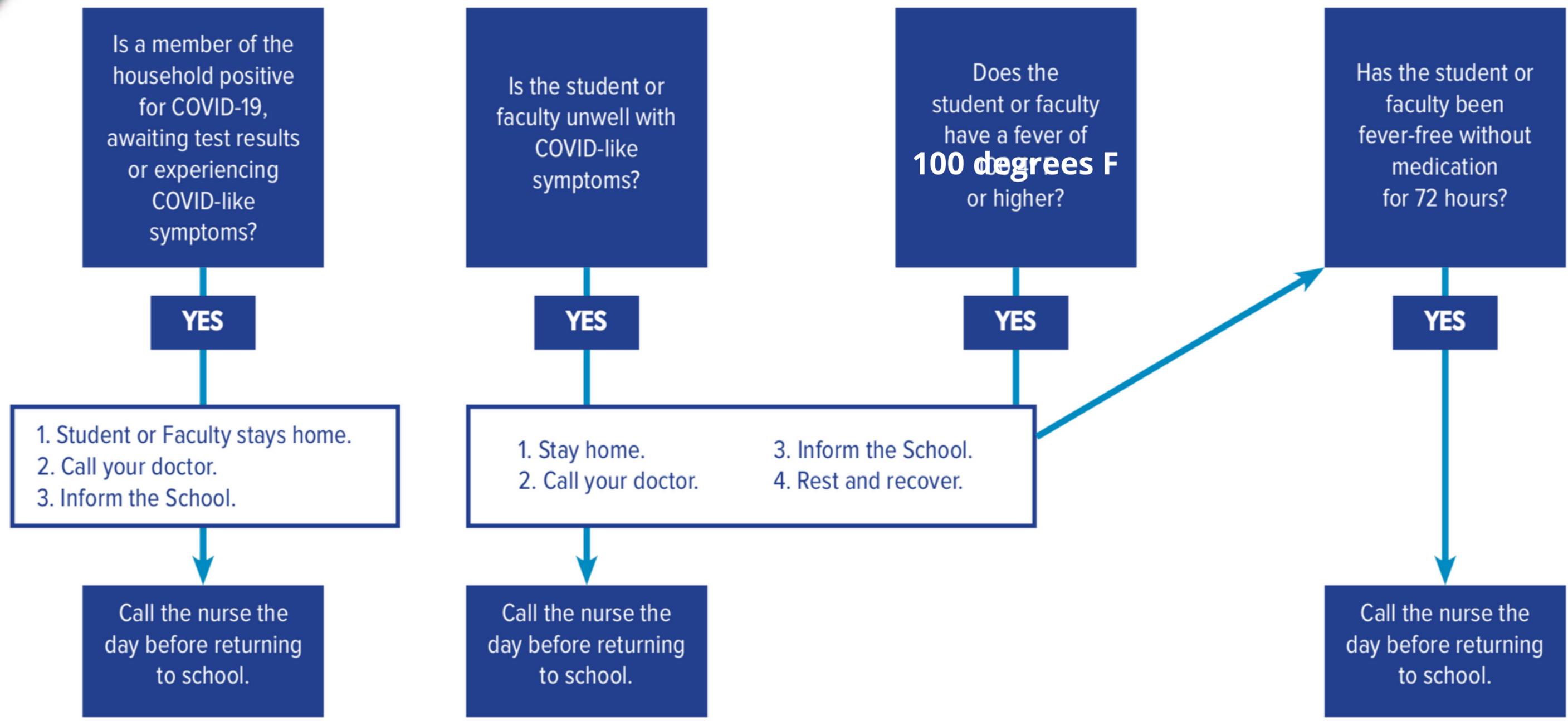
If you answered no, to all the above and are fever free, your answers indicate **you are at low risk for COVID-19 and may come to school.**

If you answered yes, to any of the above and suspect COVID-19: **Stay Home and call a health care provider.**





Deciding when to stay home...

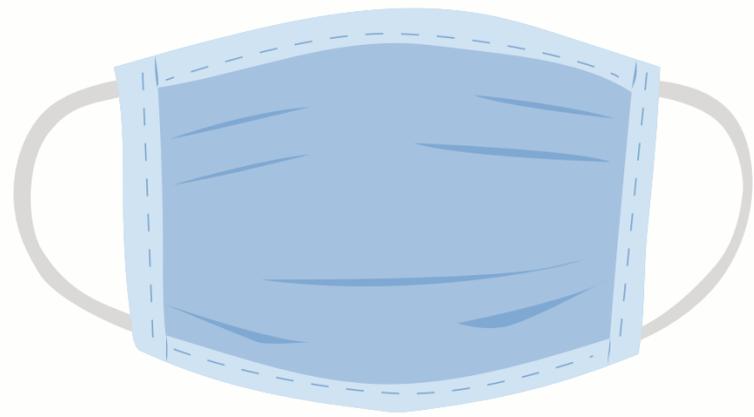


Important: If at any point the student is feeling well enough, they may participate in school remotely until returning to campus.

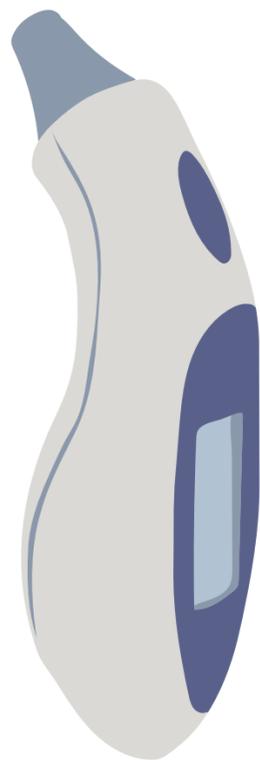
Will we wear masks?

We desire to protect our teachers, staff, and students. We want to keep our NCS Family well and safe by all means possible.

Therefore.... Yes.



- All teachers, school visitors, staff, and students (in grades 1-12) **WILL** wear a mask on school arrival, departure, and during transit within our building(s).
- Masks may be removed once students are seated inside a classroom unless they are in a class where physical distancing is limited or a teacher requests students wear masks.
- Masks should be of any solid color, and free of patterns, markings, insignias, and designs unless it is a mask with the NCS logo. *Final authority on the appropriateness of all facial coverings resides with the administration. NCS will provide a mask to each student and staff member with the NCS logo on it.*
- PK, JK, and SK students WILL NOT be expected to wear masks unless a parent chooses for them to do so. (However, masks will be provided for preschool students in the case of a learning activity where the teacher would prefer for students to wear a mask.)
- As Christians, we wear masks out of **love** and **protection for our neighbor** and **respect for medical authorities** who recommend them. We do not wear them out of fear. We will educate our students on the proper way to wear masks. We ask our families to NOT make the wearing of masks a political issue but to see this as a safety precaution during a pandemic. We want to be at school. If this helps us remain on campus, we will do so with a willing and obedient servant's heart.



What will entry to school look like?

- We will take temperatures as part of potential screenings upon entrance to the building, through the day as needed, before athletic practices, before band practices, etc. Students with temperatures higher than 100 will not be allowed inside.
- To begin the year, parents and/or guardians of preschool and lower school students will not be allowed into the building at drop-off and pick-up. *The only exception is the parents and guardians of PK, JK, and SK students **will be** allowed to drop-off students the first week of school. (Dates for PK, JK, and SK drop-off will be 8/11/20-8/14/20. After 8/14, there will be no parents allowed inside the building.)*
- We are re-working our car-rider line pick-up and drop-off procedures and will be communicating these plans.
- We WILL resume offering Trojan Care (our before and after school care). Students may arrive in before care at 7am and remain in aftercare until 6pm. Trojan Care Staff will take temperatures, practice social distancing, and practice other safety measures while students are in Trojan Care.
- We will be limiting visitors on campus to those with appointments only and those checking out students. Anyone who is visiting, must wear a mask, have temperature taken, and practice physical distancing while on campus.

ENTER



What are the campus cleaning protocols?

- The school has a stockpile of hand sanitizer, clorox wipes, gloves, etc. for our teachers and classrooms. Our school will continue and purchase these items as needed.
- Electrostatic sprayers have been purchased and will be used to clean as needed.
- Hand sanitizer and soap for frequent hand washing will be available in numerous new places throughout the campus as well as in all classrooms.
- Our school and our cleaning company have the cleaning products necessary to kill infectious diseases and will apply the cleaning products throughout the day and in the evenings during the school year. Special attention will be given to high-touch areas including doors, stair railings, water filling stations, etc.
- Additional cleaning products have been purchased and cleaning procedures will be in place for all technology equipment (laptops, Chromebooks, iPads, etc.) before and after each use.



Will we use the playground, library, etc.?

- We will use our common space areas, except for the preschool indoor playground. However capacity will be limited to accommodate health and safety requirements in common areas.
- We will have new guidelines, physical distancing, cleaning and safety protocols, and expectations in using these areas. These may vary by grade and will be communicated to parents and students by grade.
- Signage will communicate changes in areas and mark physical distancing reminders in common space areas throughout the building. We will have some one-way hallways to help with traffic flow and distancing.
- Students will be expected to use water bottle filling stations and not water fountains. Students should bring a water bottle to school each day.
- Bathrooms will have reminders on proper hand-washing techniques. Soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels and/or dryers will be available for frequent handwashing.



Cafeteria Protocols:



- Our cafeteria is managed by Pedestal Foods. Pedestal Foods has worked with our administration, local health department, and the CDC in the food safety protocols NCS (and all Pedestal cafeterias) will be using.
- PK, JK, SK will eat in their classrooms. They may bring lunch or order from Pedestal. Pedestal will deliver packaged meals to class.
- Pre1st-12 will eat in the cafeteria or the additional dining areas that have been added around school.
- Additional lunches have been added to accommodate students while reducing the capacity of students in the lunchroom.
- Additional tables have been purchased for additional dining areas to allow more seating in more areas to reduce capacity.
- All food will be served in individual, food containers with lids, rather than served on open plates/trays. Salads will be prepackaged in lids and will not be served in an open salad bar.
- Utensils will be individually wrapped in plastic packaging along with napkins. Condiments and salad dressings will be in individual packets.
- Drinks will be available in bottles and/or from the drink fountain, but fountain drinks will not be available for returns or refills.



Will we have sports and fine arts?

- We will offer extracurricular options to our students.
- As a member of the TSSAA, our upper school sports programs will be governed by guidelines the TSSAA sets forth. Golf, Cross Country, and Volleyball are currently planning to start seasons as scheduled. Girls' soccer, basketball and football are allowed to do weightlifting, conditioning, and fundamental work while waiting to hear fall plans on July 22, as to how they will be able to proceed.
- Marching band for upper school students has cancelled their competitive season. (This was not our decision but the decision of the sites that host band competitions.) Our band will find alternative ways for our band students to continue and grow their God-given talent.
- Our spring theatre production was postponed in March but the school found a way to allow the show to be performed in June with a smaller crowd. They will continue and work to provide theatre to our students.
- We will continue and find ways for our band, choir, theatre and fine arts students to grow their God-given talent.

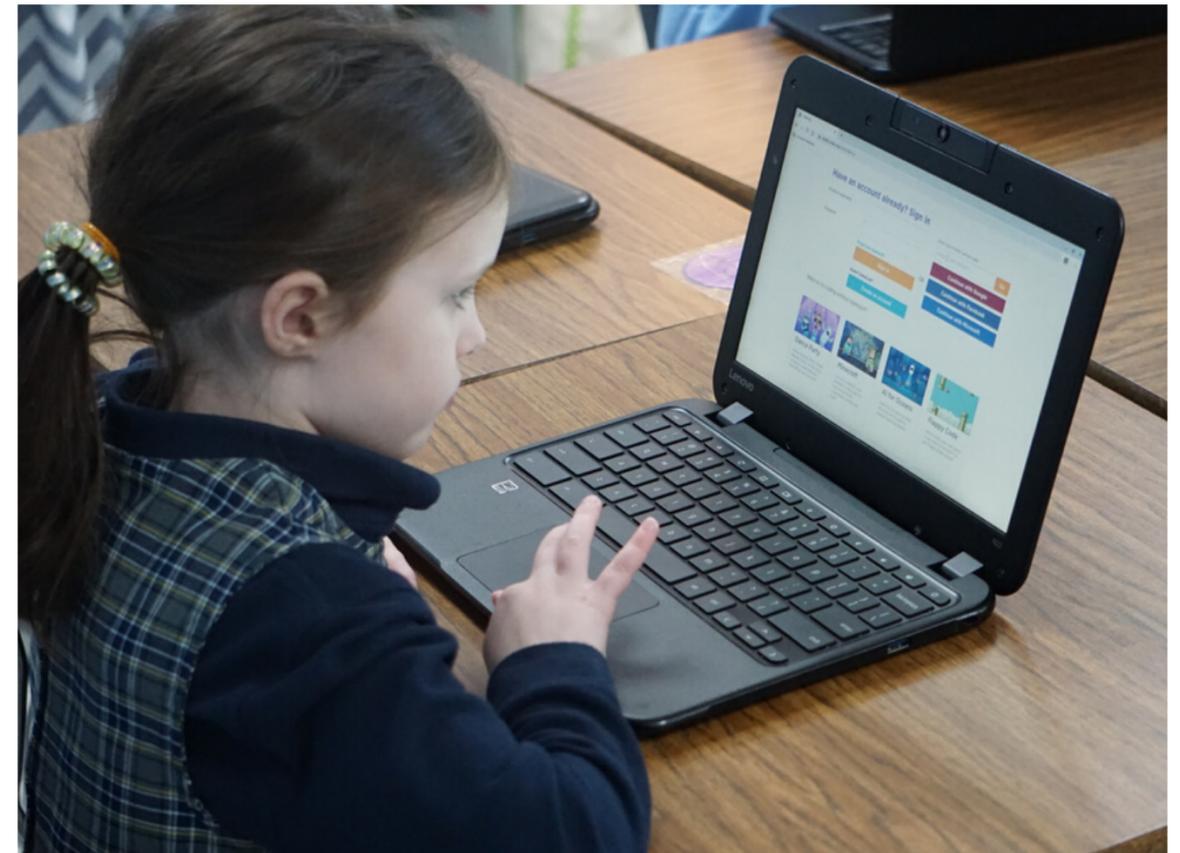


Northpoint plans to open August 11, with in-person learning...what if my student needs to learn remotely?



While we will re-open school with in-person learning, we do have some students and households with health conditions that may cause a family to prefer remote learning instead of in-person learning. In these cases, Northpoint Christian School does offer to serve students remotely on August 11, instead of in-person. **If a family prefers a student to learn remotely rather than in-person, please reach out and let us know by Friday, July 24, so we may work to serve you.** After this date, students will only be able to enroll as remote learning students by special permission with documentation as needed.

Please email ssheron@ncstrojans.com if you know this is a need in your family. The tuition price will remain same for in-person and students who choose to learn remotely. There will be no reduction in tuition.



If something changes and the entire school did have to return to remote learning what will it look like?



- Northpoint received parent praise for the remote-learning product provided during the spring. However, Northpoint would provide more structure where students would be required to attend daily, live instructional sessions via the internet for all classes during assigned times in grades PK-12.
- The PowerSchool Learning program proved to be invaluable during remote learning at the end of last school year and will continue to be used as the main way of communicating between teachers and students during this school year. This program will be extended for use in the Preschool area this year and therefore PowerSchool Learning will be used school-wide in grades PK-12.
- PowerSchool Learning would be used to post assignments/resources, communicate with students/parents, give assessments, etc.
- NCS uses Zoom and Google GSuite for Education to assist students with their learning experiences.
- Additional information will be provided for each grade level as needed.

Thanks for being a part of our NCS Family!



We thank you in advance for your help in keeping our NCS Family safe. While the school will do its part in attempting to mitigate exposure during the school day, it is important that our families take an active part in ensuring the same when the school day ends. We all have the same goal, to have an in-person education experience on campus for our students. So please, even when you are away from NCS, do all you can to stay well!

We can't wait! We are looking forward to the start of school.

Please be sure you are receiving constant contact communication, as we will use it to communicate. If you aren't receiving it, please email lbiglane@ncstrojans.com. We will also post COVID-19 related communication on our website and on social media.

Also, we have created a COVID-19 email address for any and all COVID-19 related questions. Send those to:
covidquestion@ncstrojans.com