



# *New Norway School*

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## **Welcome Back!**

Welcome back everyone! We are excited to be reconnecting with our families as we approach the start of the new school year. Planning has been underway for school re-entry for some time now, even so, many things have changed over the past few days. We would like to reassure you that BRSD and NNS are working diligently to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the entire school population. We have initiated many layers of safety. The overall BRSD school re-entry plan can be accessed at this link: [BRSD School Re-Entry Plan \(Fall 2020\)](#). This letter summarizes some of the key things families need to know for day one and beyond at New Norway School.

## **At Home Learning with BRSD**

Schools will open to students on Thursday, September 3, while at-home learning programs will commence Tuesday, September 8. Families have until September 3 to finalize their decisions regarding in-school or at-home learning. Those enrolled in the at-home program can expect to receive background information by September 4, and connect with their teachers on Tuesday, September 8.

## **In School Learning at New Norway School**

### **Staffing**

BRSD as a whole has had over 700 students indicate that they will be taking "at home" learning, including over 40 from New Norway School. The result is that staffing levels have been adjusted across the district to address that need. Mr. Lindstrand, who just joined our staff, has been reassigned to assist with on-line learning, and most of our remaining teachers have had changes to their original assignments. Our new staff members, Mr. Anderson, Mrs. Bussey and the rest of our returning staff members have remained unchanged.

K-6 homeroom teachers are in the process of reaching out to each of their families, and you should hear from them within the next 12 hours if you haven't already.

## Cohorts

Students and staff have been assigned to cohorts to limit the number of crossovers as much as possible and to assist with contact-tracing should the need arise. Cohorts roughly correspond to grades, with some combining necessary. Students will remain with their cohorts throughout the day.

## Timetable

The Quarterly timetable for HS students is shown below. Junior high courses run all year, and their timetables will be shared with them on the first day. We have planned for "scenario 1" which is a near-normal return to school. In order to facilitate a more seamless transition to "scenario 2" should we be directed by AHS, we have instituted a four-day rotating schedule that will be explained to students on the first day.

	Q1 (Sept 3 - Nov 10)			Q2 (Nov 16 - Jan 29)			Q3 (Feb 1 - Apr 20)			Q4 (Apr 21 - Jun 29)		
	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12	Grade 10	Grade 11	Grade 12
AM	ELA 10 1/2	BIO 20	MATH 30 1/2	MATH 100 /3	ELA 20 1/2	SOCIAL 30 1/2	SCIENCE 30/14	SOCIAL 20 1/2	BIO 30	SOCIAL 10 1/2	MATH 20 1/2	ELA 30 1/2
PM	PE 10 CJAM 20	ART 20/30 PE 20/30	WEx /RAP	PE 10 ART 10	CHEMISTRY 20/ SCIENCE 20	WEx /RAP	CTS FOODS / FASHION STUDIES	PE 20/30 ART 20/30	WEx /RAP	CTS - REC ART 10	CHEMISTRY 30/ SCIENCE 30	WEx /RAP

## Daily Self Assessment

As directed by Alberta Education, all parents will need to complete a [Students / Parents and Guardians Daily Self-Assessment](#) with their child(ren) each day before sending them to school. This is a checklist for parents' use and does not need to be submitted to the school. This assessment will also be required for all our staff and any BRSD staff that need to enter the building. It will be necessary that families supply at least 3 emergency contacts numbers for all our students. If students develop symptoms during the day, even mild ones, students will be immediately isolated from the rest of the student population and families will be contacted to pick them up immediately. For any students that have pre-existing conditions that are the same as the symptoms of

Covid-19, parents can complete the [Medical Health Information Form – Pre-Existing/Medical Conditions - COVID 19](#) , so that our staff will be aware of existing symptoms. Documentation of baseline from a medical doctor regarding pre-existing conditions must be provided to the school.

## **General Building Safety**

**All exterior doors will remain locked throughout the day.** Parents who are dropping off students late or picking them up early are asked to call the office and we will help with these arrangements. In the event, students are late or returning from an appointment, they will need to enter the building through the main front entrance. As the doors will be locked, we ask that you call the school when you arrive so we can welcome your child into the building. The number for the school is 780-855-3936. There is also a doorbell if you are unable to call. As this bell sounds throughout the school we ask that you only use it if you cannot reach the school office or if you need assistance after hours.

## **Masks**

Students in grades 4 - 12 will be provided with their two masks that Alberta Education has provided for them at this time. Students in these grades will be required to wear masks in hallways, common areas and in classrooms when physical distancing is not possible or when the activity they are engaged in makes them necessary. Students in Kindergarten to grade 3 may also wear masks, which we encourage and support.

## **Student Arrival**

Bus students will arrive as usual and remain on the bus until the supervisor and driver facilitate student unloading and entry into the building.

Town students present at the main entrance where staff will greet them and direct them into the building.

Parents dropping off children may escort them to the street sidewalk in front of the school where staff will greet them and direct them into the building. Parents may not enter the building, but older siblings may escort the younger ones to the classroom door. **Adults bringing/picking up students are to stay in their vehicle or outside the school, and maintain a safe physical distance between themselves and others.**

- Those who need to enter the school must book an appointment with the school office. Individuals without an appointment will not be able to enter the school.

## **Building Entrances and Exits**

All K-6 students will enter the building through the main entrance and proceed directly to their classrooms.

Jr/Sr High students will enter the building through the south-facing doors by the gym and proceed directly to their classrooms.

Sr. High students who drive themselves to school will park on the north side of the building (after dropping off younger siblings on the south side if they are transporting them). They will then enter the building through the north-facing doors by the gym and then proceed directly to their classrooms.

At the end of the day, students will exit out the doors they entered through in the morning.

All people are expected to use the hand-sanitizing stations when entering and exiting the building.

## **Student Departure**

At the end of the day, students will be dismissed by individual bus cohorts first, followed by town students and those being picked up by parents.

## **Traffic Flow within the School**

When moving about the school, people are to follow the “rules of the road” and to remain on the right in hallways and on stairs, and when passing through doorways. Directional signage is in place as a reminder.

## **Bell Schedule**

At present, the school day beginning and end times will remain much as they were last year. Supervision will begin at 8:30, and students should not arrive before that time. Registration and announcements are at 8:45 and end of day dismissal at 3:30. There will be no bells during the school day this year, since cohorts will have breaks at different times throughout the day. Lunch for all students will be between 12:00 and 12:30, with eating times and outside break times staggered.

## **Recess/Breaks**

All student cohorts will have scheduled (staggered) mid-morning and mid-afternoon breaks (recess).

## **CTS Courses at ECCHS**

Starting next week, NNS junior high students will be travelling (by cohort) to Camrose for CTS courses. For safety reasons they will remain with their NNS cohort in their assigned course for each quarter. They are not able to switch-out. Since the courses are offered quarterly, students will have a range of experiences during the year.

## **Early dismissal days**

Starting in October, students will be dismissed approximately 1 hour early to allow for the monthly staff meeting. There is no early dismissal in September.

## **Lockers**

Students will be assigned lockers in a manner that reduces congestion when cohorts access them. We are encouraging students to refrain from bringing all their school supplies on the first day, since locker assignments will take longer this year.

## **Lunches**

When packing school lunches, families need to be aware that microwaves and vending machines are not available, and the breakfast program has been suspended for the time being.

## **Athletics**

New Norway School will be providing opportunities for our in school students as well as our BRSD at home learning students to participate in athletics. Details will be shared in the coming weeks.

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Again, we want to welcome you to the 2020-2021 school year. We have a wonderful team here at NNS and we are looking forward to working with you. It is our goal that every child has a positive experience at school and we will work alongside you to make that happen. More information will come your way in the days ahead, but please refer to the BRSD website at [www.brsd.ab.ca](http://www.brsd.ab.ca) or the NNS website at <https://nnorway.brsd.ab.ca/> for updated information. Please be in touch with your child's homeroom teacher or the school's administration if you have any questions.