

Proposals for Face-to-Face Instruction: Innovative School District & Residential Schools

February 24, 2021



Introduction

Leaders at Southside-Ashpole and our three residential schools (ENDSD, GMS, and NCSD) have utilized the guidance provided by the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services and the *Lighting Our Way Forward: North Carolina's Guidebook for Reopening Public Schools* to plan for a safe return to in-person instruction.



Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf
Wilson, North Carolina



NC INNOVATIVE
SCHOOL DISTRICT



**“Grow & Achieve
TOGETHER”**



PUBLIC SCHOOLS OF NORTH CAROLINA

State Board of Education | Department of Public Instruction



PLANNING FOR IN-PERSON LEARNING...

Points of Emphasis

- Health and safety requirements and recommendations outlined in the state documents have guided preparing efforts.
- Transportation has been coordinated with the Public Schools of Robeson County's Transportation Department.

Surveys

- Surveys were administered to stakeholders about students returning to school.

How will your child proceed with the 2020 - 2021 academic school year? - ¿Cómo procederá su hijo con el año académico 2020 - 2021?

222 responses



Return to In-Person Instruction PROPOSED TIMELINE/SCHEDULING



Students Return - Monday, March 1, 2021

- Students will be offered 4 days (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) of in-person instruction and 1 day (Friday) of asynchronous learning weekly.
- In-person and remote instruction will occur simultaneously. Ex: Students in Group A will be in person while Group B students receive instruction remotely at the same (following the same schedule).
- K-2 students will stay connected to their currently assigned homeroom teacher as much as possible, while 3-5 will be departmentalized.
- Asynchronous learning days (Fridays) will be time for teachers to plan, hold office hours for student conferences/meetings, engage in professional development and learning communities (grade-level and horizontal and vertical alignment), and conduct school improvement team meetings.



Return to In-Person Instruction PROPOSED TIMELINE/SCHEDULING

Continued



- Classroom teachers will provide concurrent instruction to all groups of students assigned (face-to-face and remote learning) along with work packets. Packets can be picked up in the community from the designated bus area.
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided to students in the classrooms.
- P.E., Art, Music, Media (Literacy) and other elective courses will occur.
- UPD has been supporting teachers with implementation of Core Knowledge Language Arts and Eureka Math
- Professional development will continue for teachers on how to teach using both (in-person and virtual) platforms



COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES



- If approved, notifications will be posted on the district and school website.
- The re-entry plan/document will be available for all stakeholders.
- The Southside-Ashpole Parent Facilitator will host community outreach sessions.
- Information will be shared with various organizations (the 21st Century Program Tutoring Program, Indian Education Program, and faith-based community).





For additional Information, please visit:
[NC Innovative School District](#)

OR

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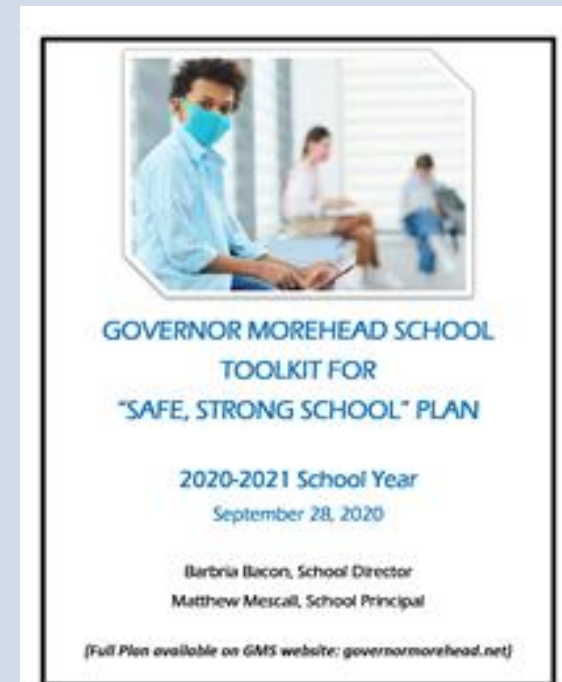




Planning for in-person learning.... StrongSchoolsNC Public Health Toolkit (Becomes) GOVERNOR MOREHEAD SCHOOL (GMS) TOOLKIT FOR “SAFE, STRONG SCHOOL” PLAN

Focuses on NCDPI and DHHS Requirements and Guidelines for:

1. Safety protocols
2. Communications
3. Resources



Unique Challenges for GMS



In addition to our students coming from $\frac{1}{3}$ of the counties across North Carolina, they also reside on campus five nights a week and are supported by three different shifts of staff. The following considerations are also worth noting:

Social Distancing

- Difficult for students with visual impairment to judge 6-foot distancing.
- 58% of our students are totally blind and cannot effectively maintain 6-foot distancing.
- 60% of our students require sighted-guides.

Vulnerable Populations

- 55% of our students are medically fragile.
- 25% have difficulties following safety guidelines.

Cleaning and Hygiene

- Keeping hands and surface clean is challenging and the need is significantly increased when the hands are used as eyes to “tactually see” and obtain information.

GMS TOOLKIT for Safe, Strong School Plan



We broadened the NC School ToolKit to include GMS's unique circumstances.

Examples of additional requirements include the following:

- Tactual markings on the floor 5-1/4" wooden thresholds
- Raised lines will be placed on sidewalks every 6 ft.
- Markings will be in contrasting colors to increase visibility.

Dining Hall

- Students with low vision will be seated at the back of the dining hall.
- Totally blind students will be seated in the middle of the dining hall.
- Students' meals will be delivered to them at their respective location.

Screening

- Temperatures will be taken every morning before leaving the cottages.
- The Health Center will identify higher-risk students who will be monitored even more closely.



GMS TOOLKIT for Safe Strong School Plan (con't)



Transportation

- Students will be screened at bus stops prior to boarding transportation.
- If a student becomes sick during the day/week, he or she must not use group transportation to return home.
- Staff will work with parents/guardians to safely transport students home when unable to use school transportation.

Cleaning and Sanitation

- Students will wait 15 minutes between showers to allow staff the opportunity to spray the showers with disinfectant before and after each shower.
- Additional housekeeping and professional staff in place to address increase in the number of individual bedrooms and bathrooms/showers.



Return to In-Person Instruction PROPOSED TIMELINE & COMMUNICATION STRATEGY



Students Return - Sunday, March 21, 2021

If approved, stakeholders will be notified through a variety of ways and an option for a parent/guardian/staff forum will be provided.

Additional Supports:

- Remote learning will continue for those who opt to remain virtual.
- Implement strategies and targeted programming to serve students with varying visual abilities across the state through short-term programming in April and May, as appropriate, and summer programming in June and July.





For additional Information, please visit:

- Governor Morehead School f/t Blind
- <https://www.governormorehead.net/>

OR

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