

# Nokomis Montessori North

Feb. 2021

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Hello Nokomis Community,

Happy February! I hope you are all staying healthy during this time. We are incredibly excited to welcome back students into our building this month and transition our virtual students to their new classrooms. With all of the transitions and sudden changes taking place, students may feel overwhelmed or dysregulated. This is completely natural and expected. Just like the beginning of any school year, students need time to get back into the routine of school. Below are some ways that you can help prepare your student for the return to school:

- Practice wearing masks for longer periods of time this week.
- Practice proper hand hygiene at home, especially before and after eating, sneezing, coughing, and adjusting a mask.
- Continue to reinforce these behaviors by praising students for getting things correct.
- Develop daily before and after school **routines** - for example, things to pack for school in the morning (extra mask) and things to do when you return home (washing hands and masks).
- Talk to your child about how school will look different and keep communicating openly after school has resumed.
- Many children are excited to go back to school, rather than fearful. However, it is important to validate the fears that they do express.
- Celebrate the little and big successes that your student will have during the remainder of the school year!

If you notice that your child has a noticeable change in eating habits; the inability to fall asleep, and then struggle to wake up; excessive feelings of guilt and restlessness; avoiding friends; or a change in mood such as irritability, tantrums, or emotional outbursts. Please contact me and



## Upcoming Events

### Thursday, February 4th

#### **Open House for Prospective Students & Families (Virtual)**

6:00pm to 7:00pm

<https://meet.google.com/aqn-nmfg-nog>

### February 8

#### **PTO Meeting (Virtual)**

6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

[Join with Google Meet](#)

[meet.google.com/zvm-hbaa-irc](https://meet.google.com/zvm-hbaa-irc)

[Join by phone](#)

(US) +1 337-435-0478 PIN: 274 624 745#

### February 8

#### **National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID)**

### February 15th

President's Day

No School for all students

### Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>

E2 In-Person learning begins

we can discuss a more detailed plan to help your child transition back into school. Thank you for all that you have done for your student(s) during this unprecedented school year. We are eternally grateful to have you and your student(s) apart of the Nokomis North community.

In partnership,

Ms. Terri and Counselor Stephanie

## **Some helpful information for students returning to In-person school.**

### **Ipads**

- Please remember to charge your ipads and bring it to school everyday!

### **Busing Information**

- You should have received postcards in the mail with your child's bus information
- There will be assigned seats by the driver-siblings can sit together
- Students will be given Bus Tags on the first day of school

#### **Parent Reminders:**

- If you need to change your child's transportation for the day, please call No later than **3:15 pm. 651-744-7440**
- Please make sure you have all family members added on-Update for Parent pick up

## **Parent Drop-off and Parent Pick-up Information**

### **Arrival- Parent Drop off**

- **9:15 am** drop off will begin. No earlier drop off.
- **NEW safety protocol-No Parking on the street or parking lot to walk child in**
- Enter at Case Ave. into parking lot and drive to front of school-Stay in car
- Please remain in your car until a staff signals for you to open door to have your child(s) enter school
- If your child is having a hard time transition, please kindly drive around again.
- **\*\*No passing of other cars in line.**

### Dismissal -Parent Pick Up-New Procedures

- **Parent pick up will start at 3:30 pm starting with our Children's House** students (and siblings) to provide ample time for social distance and bus. E1 and E2 students will follow CH students. ( We will reflect and make adjustments if needed after the first week)
- Each family will receive a set of number cards on the first day of school. (You can add your child's name) for identification. ( You can also make a large name tag for your child and place it in the dashboard of your car )
- Please enter from Case Ave. (just like at drop off), pull up to the front of the school, staff will radio in to get your child.
- Staff will walk your child(ren) out to your car.
- **\*\*No passing of other cars in line.**

### Walkers:

We will continue to have students/adult Patrols to help with students that will be walking to and from school.

- Please call 651-744-7440 or email Ms Terri at [Theresa.jackson@spps.org](mailto:Theresa.jackson@spps.org) with any questions.

### Some important links for helpful information:

- <https://www.spps.org/nokomis>
- : [Back to School Update - January 28, 2021](#)
- [COVID-19 Student and Family Guidelines](#)
- [spps.org/reopen](https://spps.org/reopen)
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- Here are the slides from the Nokomis North Parent Information Night: [Parent Evening In-Person Q & A Slides](#)

### Important information from our Nurse -Ms. Liberty Belter

I am so excited to see your children in the building soon! While being back in the building will bring some sense of normalcy, there will be some things that will not be the same as we remember them.

Health office protocols and procedures will look a bit different this year. We want to try and keep our students and staff as healthy and safe as possible.

- Please keep your child home if they are showing any signs of illness (fever, congestion, cough, sore throat, stomach ache, nausea, headache, diarrhea, etc.) and let the health office know that they will be out due to illness.

- Students with minor illness symptoms will be sent home as a precaution

- Students with COVID symptoms will be isolated until parents or designated person can arrive, siblings may also be sent home

- All students will not be allowed to remain in the health office until the end of the day; they MUST be picked up by someone over 18 years old.

o Please make sure Nokomis North has current, working phone numbers for parents and emergency contacts

- School nurse will use information from Minnesota Department of Health and the SPPS COVID Reporting System in determining whether a child may remain in school and, if sent home, how long they need to remain at home.

- School nurse will facilitate families completing the online SPPS COVID Reporting Tool, when appropriate

If your student has a health condition that may need attention in the health office (asthma, allergies, ADHD, seizures, etc.), please reach out to me so that we can make plan of care at school. This may require completing forms and contacting child's health care provider.

In addition, SPPS Health and Wellness are continuing their efforts to ensure all students are fully vaccinated. It is very important from a public health perspective, that every student is fully immunized. Immunization protects children from potentially dangerous disease (measles, polio, whooping cough, etc.) and high immunization rates protect those who are vulnerable and unable to get immunized or have compromised immune systems (young babies, individuals with cancer or HIV, or other health conditions). I will continue to reach out to families whose children are still missing immunizations. There are a couple of immunization clinics available through SPPS and several others throughout Saint Paul.

I am in the building every day and am available to answer any questions you may have. Please feel free to reach out either by phone or email.

I look forward to seeing your children on Monday morning, until then,

Stay safe and mask up, Nokomis!

School Nurse: Liberty Belter, BSN, RN, PHN, LSN, NCSN. [Liberty.belter@spps.org](mailto:Liberty.belter@spps.org)

Please Remember to bring: iPad, mask, bus tag, patience & a sm

\*\*If you would like the newsletter in paper form or have it interpreted, please call Ms. Paula at 651-744-7440.