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TECH

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Email to parents

1 message

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To: AllEmployees <allemployees@northeastmetrotech.com>

Mon, Aug 10, 2020 at 10:38 AM

The following message is going to all parents:

Dear Northeast Metro Tech Community,

I hope you and your family are well and healthy, and have had an opportunity to enjoy the summer break. As we finalize our preparations for the fall, I wanted to share with you our reopening plan.

The final plan still needs to be approved by the Northeast Metro Tech School Committee on Aug. 13 as well as by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE). Additional aspects of the plan also need to be negotiated with the Northeast Teachers Association. However, as the beginning of the school year nears, it is imperative that our students and their families have the information they need and are able to plan accordingly.

Northeast Metro Tech's school year will begin with remote learning from Monday, Sept. 14 through Friday, Sept. 18. During this remote learning period, students will be introduced to their teachers and learn the school's new health and wellness policies and expectations.

On Monday, Sept. 21, we will implement a hybrid teaching model during which approximately 50% of students will be in the building at any given time on an alternating schedule. Students will be grouped into cohorts for their academic courses, and will resume their career and technical education through their shops. The school will maintain its Week A/B schedule, during which students will take their academic courses one week and their shop courses the next. During the academic week, students attending in-person and remotely will follow a six period schedule during the day.

We will contact you prior to the first day with your student's cohort information and schedule. Parents and guardians have the option to choose an all-remote learning plan for students as well.

The district is also prepared to transition back to 100% remote learning if the COVID-19 pandemic worsens locally or regionally, and if we do transition to remote learning students will continue to follow a six period schedule, five days a week and will be expected to take part in live video classroom sessions with their teachers and peers.

Students will be given numeric grades for each trimester, regardless of whether we are engaging in a hybrid or fully remote learning model as the school year progresses.

For many reasons, we feel 100%, in-person learning is not in the best interest of our students, faculty or staff, nor would we be able to feasibly meet the social distancing requirements DESE has issued due to both the space in our facility and staffing limitations.

The health and wellbeing of every single member of the Northeast Metro Tech community is and will always be our number one priority, and as we continue to closely monitor the evolution of this pandemic, those will be the key factor in any decisions pertaining to hybrid or remote learning.

While pursuing a hybrid model, we will implement several procedures to promote the health and wellbeing of our community and reduce the risk of exposure to COVID-19. Notable changes will include:

- Masks will be mandatory for students, faculty and staff at all times during in-person learning.
- Six feet of physical distancing will be required in the building, including in classrooms.
- Handwashing and sanitizing stations will be available throughout the school's facility.
- Students will eat lunch either in a classroom or outside under tents, while maintaining six feet of distance from others. Prepackaged lunches will be available for students.
- A staggered start and end time to the school day will be implemented to facilitate the transportation requirements outlined by DESE.

Thank you for your continued patience and cooperation since this pandemic upended our community, and the world, earlier this year. This pandemic is not over, but our community has banded together and worked tirelessly to do what is best for our students, staff and faculty, and for that, I am incredibly grateful. Enjoy the rest of your summer, and be well.

Sincerely,

David DiBarri

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Superintendent

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