



Principal's Report:

Please find below the NativityMiguel Reopening Plan, which will be circulated to the NMS community in the coming days.

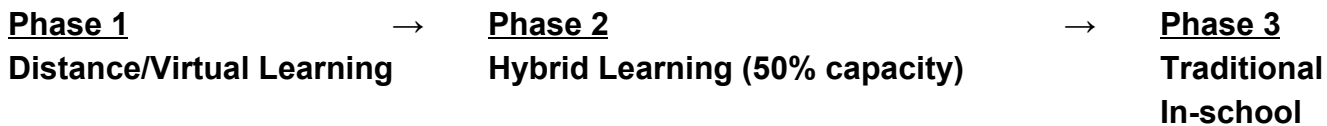
NativityMiguel School of Scranton Reopening Plan 2020-2021

NMS will implement a **three-phase learning plan** to deliver education to students for the 2020-2021 school year. The start of the school year will begin on **September 8th, 2020**, using **Phase 1 (Distance learning)** for all students. Students will continue to interact with their teachers and classmates on a regular basis and classes will be held via the google classroom platform. Each student will have three or four class periods 80 minutes in length per day in each of the major subjects (ELA, Reading, Math, Science, History, Religion.) Students will also be offered a virtual art class, gym class, and wellness/health class.

Virtual classes will be held 4 days per week online (Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday), with **Wednesday functioning as a day for learning on one's own for grades 6-8**. No virtual classes will be held for these grades on Wednesdays. **Wednesdays are not a day off.** Teachers will be facilitating extra help sessions, office hours, and posting assignments and journal entries that should be completed on one's own at home. Wednesdays can also be used as a catch up day for students. (5th Graders will be meeting with Sister Maria on Wednesday mornings. More information will be provided at a later date.)

Students will be required to attend all of these classes via google meet. Any student who is regularly not in attendance will be contacted by the principal to determine their future status at NMS.

NMS will consistently review our learning plan on a regular basis. Below is an outline of the three phases of our plan:



Transition from one phase to the next will be determined by COVID-related data, state and local recommendations, faculty and community health, and our school facility. All transitions will occur after consulting professionals in each area and when a consensus is reached. The school administration will determine the dates of these transitions and will communicate with the community when such a decision is made. The school administration reserves the right to move from one phase to another or backwards, if/when necessary, depending on the data and advice of healthcare professionals.

Phase 1: Distance/Virtual Learning Model

In phase 1, NMS will deliver instruction to all students via distance learning to start the school year. While our desire would be to deliver instruction face-to-face at NMS, we have a responsibility to ensure that all our students and families are safe and healthy during this pandemic. The health and wellness of our teachers and staff is also of paramount importance. Distance learning provides us the opportunity to deliver a rigorous education while maintaining a safe and healthy environment for all.

Students will attend each class synchronously four days per week and will also complete all asynchronous assignments on their due dates. (Synchronous learning refers to a learning event in which a group of students is engaged in learning at the same time and with their regularly scheduled class. Asynchronous learning occurs when the student and teacher are not engaged in online learning at the same time.)

All students must participate in each of their online classes to remain a student at NMS. The school will be providing chromebooks for any students who need one and will work with families to address technology issues. **Any family who is experiencing problems with technology or internet access should contact the school immediately.**

Detailed student schedules will be provided two weeks prior to the beginning of the school year.

Phase 2: Hybrid Learning Model

In Phase 2, students will begin attending classes at NMS but in a limited capacity. Teachers will teach their classes as scheduled on site at NMS. However, NMS will only be open to approximately 50% of our students during a school day. The Hybrid Learning Model requires students to follow their class schedules on a daily basis.

Students in grades 5 & 6 will be learning in-person at NMS on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5th and 6th grade students will be learning online from home.

Students in grades 7 & 8 will be learning in-person at NMS on Tuesdays and Thursdays. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, 7th and 8th grade students will be learning online from home.

Daily attendance will be taken for all students online and in-person.

More information will be provided at a later date about the hybrid learning model and transportation plans for the in-person groups. A health and safety plan will also be introduced at this time so students and families can see the new policies and procedures that NMS will implement to ensure a safe learning environment.

Phase 3: Traditional In-School Learning Model

In Phase 3, all students, faculty, and staff will resume delivering education in the Traditional In-School format. All normal operations and programming will resume for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. An updated health and safety plan will also be introduced at this time so students and families can see the new policies and procedures that NMS will implement to ensure a safe learning environment.

Expectation for Phases 1 and 2: Distance and Hybrid Learning

Students will attend and be actively engaged in synchronous lessons that are aligned to curriculum standards while managing and completing work asynchronously. Teachers will be using Google Classroom and other technology tools to deliver synchronous lessons that integrate regular opportunities for student participation, group work, and production of independent work.

Students are expected to:

- Be engaged in the learning process in whatever platform is utilized.
- Be listening and attentive to the presenter(s) when in a virtual space and responding to prompts that require verbal and written responses.
- Completing tasks as assigned in whole and small groups, as well as independently.

- Reflecting on their progress, independently, and following up with teachers and support staff (eg., utilize office hours) when necessary.
- Monitoring their own progress using guides and tools provided by NMS.
- Adhering to academic honesty/integrity policies refraining from using technology to copy or take credit for work that is not their own. **Please note that students should cite all work appropriately, avoiding all instances of plagiarism.**

● Check Google Classroom, emails, messages, and assignments, and stay up to date on assigned academic work.

● **Have cameras turned on so teachers can see the faces of students.** (Exceptions will be made for students who experience slow internet connections.)

Any student who is having technology problems or internet connectivity issues would contact the school office ASAP for assistance.

Procedures for Attendance

Attendance is a crucial component of a successful NMS student. **It is expected that students report to each of their assigned classes on-time each day, ready to be active participants in the learning process. Any student who is absent from distance learning for sickness or an emergency, please contact the school office in advance. If we do not hear from a parent or guardian, a member of the school team will contact a parent or guardian.** During class the following procedures will be followed:

- Faculty will take attendance each class period per day within the first five minutes of the start of class.
- The school will contact the parents of any student who is not present in either a virtual or in-person setting.
- **Excessive class absences will lead to a meeting with the school principal to determine if the student can remain at NMS.**

Social-Emotional Resources

NMS will continue to provide counseling services for students. These services will be scheduled with the School Counselor and will take place at a mutually convenient time. Students and/or families can email Ms. Gina Spohr gspohr@nmscranton.org or Ms. Amanda Lara alara@nmscranton.org to set up counseling sessions. Sessions may occur via an online platform (Phases 1 and 2) or in-person (Phases 2 and 3).

Resources for Students and Families:

- Mental Health- <https://www.mentalhealth.gov/get-help/immediate-help>
- Managing Stress: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/managing-stress-anxiety.html>
- Controlling Coronavirus Anxiety:

<https://www.psychologytoday.com/us/blog/erasing-stigma/202003/controlling-coronavirus-anxiety>

- Other mental health resources and activities will be distributed throughout the school year

Tips for Successful Distance Learning

- **Maintain routines**
- **Maintain the structure of the school day, as much as possible. It would be helpful to access academic work during the usual school hours.**
- **Get a good night's sleep. Maintain a regular and reasonable bedtime and dress to do the work in the morning.**

• Keep communication lines open within the family and with the faculty and staff of NMS. We are here to support you!

• Limit recreational screen time. Since students will be using devices for remote learning, it is recommended that families set reasonable parameters around recreational technology usage.

• Stay up to date with school information by checking school Remind messages and by visiting the school's website <https://nativitymiguelscranton.org/> or the school's facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/NativityMiguel-School-of-Scranton-710758438992909/>

Questions and Comments

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Mr. Casey at **570-955-5176**.