

# Back To School at Underwood Elementary

2021-2022



# Norms

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Norms for this meeting:

- Please remain muted.
- I will respond to questions at the end of each slide.
- Hold off on using the chat function until those pauses.
- I will respond to questions written in the chat.





# Agenda

- Introductions & Welcome to Underwood School!
- Pillars of health & safety
  - Face Coverings
  - Hand Hygiene
  - Health Self-Assessment & Multi-Layered Testing Strategies
- Logistics
  - Arrival & dismissal
  - Snack/Lunch
  - Visitors / Item drop-off
- Important Upcoming Dates
- Q&A

# Introduction to Underwood!



# About Underwood School



## Underwood Vision Statement:

- *Our vision is to be an exemplary student-centered learning community known for continuous improvement, high expectations and a commitment to inclusion.*

## Underwood Mission Statement:

- *We will educate, inspire, and support each student to achieve at high levels. Through collaboration, perseverance, and risk taking, student will develop the foundation to be lifelong learners and productive contributors to a global society.*
- 219 students & 12 classrooms grades K-5
- 57 staff members

# NPS Statement of Values & Commitment of Equity

All Newton Public Schools students have the right to thrive in a culture of equity. All members of the NPS community must actively dismantle structures rooted in racism and replace them with systems and structures that lead to more equitable outcomes for all students. We recognize that this work is critical and ongoing and requires an unyielding financial, structural, and emotional investment for years to come. NPS is committed to working tirelessly to ensure that we propel our community forward into an antiracist future.



# Commitment to Antiracism

- ★ Throughout Newton Public Schools, all community members are committed to creating conditions where ALL children feel safe & supported to learn and grow to their full potential.
- ★ We are actively seeking to dismantle systems rooted in racism and replace them with systems and structures that lead to more equitable outcomes for ALL students.
- ★ NPS is committed to working tirelessly to ensure that we propel our community forward into an antiracist future.



# School Information

- School hours: **8:20am-2:50pm (except Weds - 8:20-12:20)**
- Nut-free classrooms
- Early Morning Program: 7:20am-8:10am
- [Underwood After School Program](#): 2:50pm-6pm (M/T/Th/F) and 12:20-6pm on Wednesdays





# School Staff

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- 12 Classroom Teachers K-5
- Specialist teachers: Art, Physical Education, Library, Music
- Special Educators: Learning Center teachers, inclusion facilitators, Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA), occupational therapist, speech & language pathologist, vision specialist, special education aides, behavior therapists, interns
- Administration: Administrative Assistant, Principal
- General education support: literacy coach & assistants, math coach & aide, METCO Social Worker, School Psychologist, Flexible Behavior Technician & Flexible Building Aide
- English Language Learner (ELL) teacher & assistant
- School Nurse
- Custodians, Lunch Manager, Lunch Attendants, ISS



# Health & Safety Updates

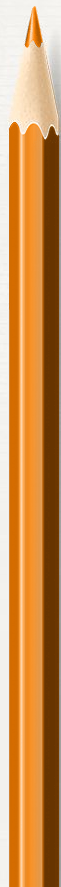


# NPS Health Pillars

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1. Face Coverings - ALL adults & students
2. Hand Hygiene
3. Health Self-Assessment
  - Every morning, an adult at home should check children for symptoms of COVID-19
  - Stay home if sick, even if vaccinated

# NPS Health Pillars



## NPS Health Self-assessment Tool

1. Do you/your child have any of the following symptoms?
  - Fever (100F or higher), chills, shaking chills
  - Cough (not due to other known causes, such as a chronic cough)
  - Difficulty breathing or shortness of breath
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Muscle aches or body aches
  - Sore throat (when in combination with other symptoms)
  - Headache (when in combination with other symptoms)
  - Nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea (when in combination with other symptoms)
  - Fatigue (when in combination with other symptoms)
  - Nasal congestion or runny nose (not due to other known causes, such as allergies and when in combination with other symptoms)
2. Have you/your child been told by a public health official to isolate or quarantine?

If your answer to either of the questions above is 'yes', stay home and do not come to school.

- Notify the school nurse, building principal, or principal's designee
- Staff should also follow standard procedures for reporting an absence
- If symptomatic, contact your health care provider for assessment and testing. As always, if you are experiencing a medical emergency, call 911.



# Testing Strategies

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- Routine Covid Screening testing weekly for asymptomatic students & staff
- Symptomatic testing: Rapid testing for students & staff who develop symptoms at school.
- Test & Stay (Close contact testing): Close contacts will receive a daily rapid test performed for at least 5 days following exposure by the school nurse.
  - Designed so close contacts can stay in school vs. quarantining at home and missing school

# Students will clean their hands...

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- ★ when they enter & leave a classroom
- ★ before & after eating
- ★ after using the bathroom
- ★ before & after using shared materials

# Handwashing/ Sanitizing



# Logistics for 2021-22



# Arrival & Dismissal Procedures

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## Arrival

- Students may enter the building at 8:10am
  - K-2 come through front door
  - 3-5 come through back door
- Entry points and hallways will be monitored by staff during arrival time.
- Students must wear masks to enter the building.
- Students should bring an **extra mask** to school, which they will keep in their bags.





# UWD School Building

Back of School  
(3-5 Exit)

Front of School  
(K-2 Exit)

Mr.  
Solof

Mrs.  
Fucarile



Parking Lot

Mrs. Hull

Mrs.  
Castodio

Ms.  
Melanson/  
Mrs. Roy

Mrs. Tarbell  
(formerly Ms. Cipolla)

Mrs.  
Tucker

Ms. Bardin

Mrs. Dalo  
(formerly  
Ms. Murphy)

Mr.  
Hernandez

Mrs. White

Ms. Brown



Playground

Eldredge  
Street

# Arrival & Dismissal Procedures



## **Bus Riders**

- Bus riders will be greeted by staff upon arrival and remain outside (Inclement weather room TBD)
- Children enter their assigned door and proceed to classroom.

## **Late Arrival**

- Students buzz into the main entrance after 8:25am
- Students go right to their classroom and teacher mark them tardy up until 8:35am
- After 8:35am, students report to the office for a late pass.
- All teachers send attendance at 8:35am

# Arrival: First 2 Weeks of School

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## **September 9-17:**

- All teachers will come out to meet their students in the grade-level arrival location at 8:05am. Parents may wait with their children or wave goodbye once they are with their teacher. When teachers have their entire class, they will escort the students to their classrooms.

## **Beginning Monday, September 20th:**

- All teachers will remain in their classrooms and children will wait at their arrival location. Parents are strongly encouraged to wait with with children as supervision will be limited. The first bell rings at 8:10am. At that time, all children walk into the school independently. Teachers will greet their students in their classrooms.



# Late Arrival to School

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If a student arrives late to school, they should:

1. Use the buzzer at the front entrance.
2. Sign in through the main office.
3. Go directly to their classroom, check in with their teacher, and wash their hands!



# Early Dismissal

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## If children are dismissed by parent/caregiver:

- Parent/caregiver buzz into the main entrance and check in with the office.
- Ms. Lacey will ask the parent/caregiver to sign-out child, call to the classroom for child to come to office to be dismissed.
- The child will wash or sanitize their hands, gather materials, and go to main office door
- Parent/caregiver will wait outside the main door for child to exit



# Student Materials & Belongings

Classroom materials & recess equipment will be shared.

Students will wash their hands **before & after** using any shared materials.

Routine cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and materials in place.

Some supplies will go **back & forth everyday**:

- ★ Mask - wear a clean one each day
- ★ Extra mask
- ★ Refillable water bottle



# Lunch/Snack

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- **Outdoors** - We will prioritize outdoor eating, including tents, whenever possible
- **Masks** - Masks are removed indoors only to eat. Masks are not required outdoors.
- **Seating** - If outdoors, students can bring a towel or mat to sit on; If indoors, students stay seated. Quiet talking is allowed.
- **Ventilation** - Windows & doors open wherever possible in indoor eating spaces. Ventilation is maximized & air filtration added as needed.
- **Cafeteria Seating** - Rectangular 12-seat tables will have 50% capacity (3 students per side staggered).



# Snacks and Drinking Water

During snack, each student will sit at their assigned seat or designated area.

When it is time to eat, students take off their masks.

Students wash/sanitize their hands before AND after eating.

All students should **bring their own water bottles** to school.

Water fountains are closed, but “bottle filling stations” are open







# Visitors & Dropping Off Items

**Visitors will have limited access to the school building during school hours.**

- Parents are not permitted to volunteer in the school.
- Consistent with practices last year, aftercare staff, pre-service educators, and other outside service providers that are a part of our education programs will continue to be permitted in the buildings and will follow NPS health and safety protocols.

**If a parent/guardian/other adult must visit the building, they must wear a mask & maintain social distancing while on school property.**

- Go to the office to sign the visitor log & confirm that they are symptom free.

**Adults may drop off forgotten items to students.**

- Ring the doorbell & state that they are dropping off a forgotten item.
- Ms. Lacey or other Underwood staff will retrieve the item from the doorway unless directed otherwise

# Important Upcoming Dates

- 9/2: Optional Student Visits @ 2pm  
*In accordance with our current safety protocols, **only students** will be allowed to enter the building.*
- 9/9: First Day of School
- 9/14: Principal's Coffee 8:15am-9:15am
- 9/16: No School - Yom Kippur
- 9/23: Back to School Picnic @ 5:30pm-7:30pm (UWD Playground)
- 9/28: Curriculum Night (Virtual); Times for each grade level are forthcoming.



**Any Questions?**

