

N[★]AZARETH

R E G I O N A L H I G H S C H O O L



Nazareth Regional High School Reopening Guidance

(for the Summer of 2021)

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Introduction/Statement of Purpose:

Nazareth RHS acknowledges the health and safety of our students, faculty, and staff as our first priority. With plans to reopen Nazareth, school administration has been working diligently to formulate a plan to ensure the safety of all stakeholders and provide students with an engaging and rigorous education.

This guidance illustrates our focus on student/faculty/staff health and quality instruction *for all*. In outlining newly enhanced safety measures and instructional protocol, we aim to alleviate the presence of uncertainty and provide context regarding many of the concerns and apprehensions expressed by our Nazareth family.

In confirming plans to reopen Nazareth RHS, we observed the direction of state and local officials (NYC/NYS), the Diocese of Brooklyn, State Department of Education and the Board of Regents, the Department of Health & Human Services (DOH) and made final determinations based on what was deemed suitable for our school community.

Communication/Family and Community Engagement:

Establishing ongoing, and productive, parent-partnerships is essential to communicating our plan to ensure the safety and security of all stakeholders. As a transparent school, we will be diligent in presenting our plan in a clear and concise manner and gauging the perspective of all stakeholders in the development of those plans. We have convened a reopening subcommittee (consisting of administrators, faculty/staff members, and parents) and have held informative sessions to discuss matters pertinent to reopening Nazareth RHS in a safe and secure manner.

Maintaining strong and consistent ties with parents is pivotal in promoting a school atmosphere that is conducive to advancing student achievement and promoting personal growth (especially in a time of uncertainty). Such partnerships will provide a much-needed sense of normalcy and support for our students. This philosophy will help influence and foster enriched engagement at Nazareth RHS and in the home.

Our administrative team has also been in contact with local health officials to determine proper enhanced safety measures and hygiene/health protocols to implement at the school. In addition, Nazareth RHS has taken the necessary steps to allow for a broadened forum for communication amongst stakeholders, verbal/written/electronically.

We at Nazareth RHS believe the best way to combat the spread of COVID-19 is to do so with a focus on ‘Collective Responsibility.’ As we continue this journey together, we must be selfless in keeping each other safe, mindful of our peers and neighbors, and vigilant in our focus on personal (and public) accountability.

Health and Safety:

We acknowledge the safety and security of all stakeholders as our foremost priority. We make considerations based on health and safety and how each decision will impact the health and safety of all stakeholders. It is our duty to (regardless of learning model) educate stakeholders on preventive measures to stop the spread of COVID-19 and to implement procedures (at our school) to ensure that safety is widespread. The following enhanced safety measures will be present at Nazareth RHS (upon the return of students, faculty, and staff to in-school learning):

Enhanced Cleaning: Teachers/Staff will also be responsible for maintaining daily classroom health and hygiene. Students will be provided with an opportunity to clean their hands as they enter each classroom with hand sanitizer. Students will also be provided with an antibacterial wipe to clean the seat they will be occupying in class as an extra layer of precaution.

Wellness Screening: The school has employed Fever Free to employ a health screening platform for easy and convenient screen prior to arrival at Nazareth RHS. Students are able to take their temperature before leaving for school each day and notify the school of symptoms via this platform every day before they will be allowed to enter the building. Students and staff are strongly encouraged to stay home if they feel any symptoms of illness.

Fever Free, the health screening application will communicate with the school whether an individual has:

- Knowingly been in close contact in the past 14 days with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19 or who has had symptoms of COVID-19.
- Tested positive through a diagnostic test for COVID-19 in the past 14 days.
- Has experienced any symptoms of COVID-19, including a temperature of 100.0 F.
- Has traveled internationally or to one of the state's on New York's travel advisory list.

Anyone who registers a temperature of 100.0 or higher will be asked to remain home.

If a student becomes ill and/or develops a temperature while in school, they will be placed in a designated area with a staff member until that student's family has been notified and the student has been sent home/picked up.

All administration, faculty and staff will participate in the health screening each day before entering the school building. Any employee who registers a temperature should stay home or will be sent home.

Students who fail to complete their wellness screening in the morning will be asked to complete a temperature check upon arrival.

Based on the diagnostic of the wellness check, a student or staff member may be required to provide the school with a medical clearance note prior to returning.

Sanitary Practices:

Students and faculty will be asked to bring and wear precautionary face masks (PPE) all day in school.

Latex gloves are available for students and staff in the general office. Trash bins are placed on each floor and at each exit (to discard used/old PPEs and gloves).

Only one student will be permitted in the bathroom at a time. Bathrooms will be adequately stocked with hand soap, toilet paper and paper towels. Hot water will be available to students/staff at all times. Every common area will be disinfected daily.

When entering a room, all classrooms will have a hand sanitizing station and each student will be provided a disinfectant wipe to wipe down their own desk prior to class instruction. Teachers will also use Lysol spray after every class.

Additional supplies - Automatic Hand-Sanitizer Dispensers, PPE and gloves will be available in the General Office and at the entrance of the building for student/staff use.

Disinfectant Spray will also be provided in each subsequent classroom and used by our maintenance team on deep-cleaning days.

Deliveries will be sanitized prior to opening and all opened packaging will be discarded immediately. Plexiglass will now border the school's security and office areas.

Water Fountains:

Students will not be permitted use of the school's spout water fountains. Students will be allowed to have in their possession personal water bottles, for daily use and may refill in the hands-free dispenser attached to the water fountains.

Student Entrance:

Students will be permitted to enter the building 15 minutes prior to their classes starting.

Visitor Access:

Visitor-Access (including parents) will be limited to essential-purpose visits only. Approved visitors will be by appointment only. All essential visitors will be stopped at the front desk and permitted to enter after their temperature check has proven they are within school policy guidelines (below 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit), they have completed a symptom-based questionnaire, and they are equipped with a face mask.

Facilities Guidance:

Nazareth is currently designed to follow health guidance related to social distancing and other safety measures that will be put in place to slow the spread of COVID-19. We acknowledge the vital importance of maximizing protections throughout the physical spaces that students and staff members occupy and have configured them in a way that promotes social distancing and the COVID-19 prevention. The following accommodations are in place.

- Modified Classrooms: All classrooms have been properly measured and labeled for safety assurance. In instances of necessity, we will utilize our common areas (gymnasium, cafeteria) to accommodate possible larger groups.
- Signage: Social Distancing signage, markers, and stickers are in full view to help promote social distancing and health awareness.
- Bathroom Use: Students will be permitted to use the restroom one-at-a-time and respect their peers (in patiently waiting) while maintaining social distancing protocol. Faculty/Staff will be present to provide elevated hall supervision. Students will also be educated to wait until the restroom is vacant before using it.
- Hallways: Teachers will dismiss students one at a time to ensure social distance. Nazareth has increased our transition time from 3 to 5 minutes in between classes. During any such exchange between classes, students, faculty, and staff are required to wear face masks to help further promote a healthy environment.
- Locker Use: Students will NOT have access to lockers. The lockers have been sealed shut until further notice.
- Handshaking: To maintain social distancing protocol, students, and faculty/staff members are prohibited from engaging their peers and/or colleagues in any contact-related greeting.
- Fire Code Compliance: We will continue to comply with the requirements of the 2020 New York State Uniform Fire Prevention and Building Code (BC), except as specified in 19 NYCRR 1221.2(d).
- Emergency Drills: Nazareth will conduct standard operations and procedures to the best of its abilities without deviating from current requirements. We acknowledge that Fire (evacuation) Drills and Lockdown Drills are required by Education Law and regulation and the Fire Code and they must be conducted without exceptions.

Monitoring / Reporting / Containment / Testing:

Monitoring:

Faculty and staff are responsible for making a conscious effort to detect possible student/peer symptoms, ailments, fatigue, and illnesses and report them to administration immediately. They will be escorted by an Administrative Member to a secure location for further medical evaluation.

Parents are asked to keep their child home if they are experiencing any underlying viral symptoms. This sentiment is required of staff as well. This will ensure that students/staff who may not have a fever (but are possibly experiencing other symptoms) have their access to peers and school surroundings limited. School administration will then follow up with parents/staff regarding their condition.

Reporting & Containment:

In the Event of Symptomatic Students and/or Personnel:

Upon arrival, and after a temperature check has been administered, a faculty/staff member or student exhibits an elevated temperature (of 100.0 degrees Fahrenheit or above) they will not be permitted access to the building. Students will be ushered to a nearby isolation room and parents will be contacted soon thereafter to pick them up. Faculty/staff members who exhibit similar symptoms will be informed of their obligation to exit school grounds and seek medical attention. The matter will be handled as privately as possible. The student/teacher/staff member will be asked to have a COVID-19 test administered and a note from a doctor clearing them to return to school. In any case, a student or teacher/staff member must receive (and present) a negative COVID-19 test before returning to school.

Our closest free testing site is located at:

NYC Health + Hospitals/South Shore HS

Address: 6565 Flatlands Avenue, Brooklyn NY, NY 11236

Phone: [\(844\) 692-4692](tel:(844)692-4692)

In the Event of a Positive COVID-19 Test Result:

In the case of a positive COVID-19 test result of a student or faculty/staff member, Nazareth will contact the appropriate state and local health departments. If the nurse is unable, an Administrator or representative of the school will administer protocol. We will also seek to retrace the steps of the faculty/staff member/student and have maintenance disinfect the work area and all other areas the faculty/staff member/student occupied throughout within that given timeframe. We will notify our school community (and all stakeholders) and inform any student/staff/faculty member that needs to self-quarantine. Once more, a student, teacher/staff member, or those conducting a self-quarantine must receive clearance from a doctor and/or a negative COVID-19 test before returning to school.

Nazareth will immediately go into quarantine status with all the students/faculty and staff until the proper authorities, Department of Health confirms that we can resume in-person classes.

If two students or faculty/staff members in separate classes test positive for COVID-19 within 5-day timeframe, then school administration will close the school and require that everyone get tested and quarantine for a period of 14 days. No student, faculty, or staff member will be permitted back to the school without presenting a negative Covid-19 test result.

We encourage all students to consult with their pediatricians about whether getting the COVID-19 vaccination is right for you.

Closure & Crisis Management:

In the event of a spread (of the virus) amongst those in our Nazareth family, or a second, more extreme wave of COVID-19 throughout the city/state, we, as a school, will, once again, cease in-school operations and transition (fully) to distance learning. Students will work remotely, from their homes, and all families will be continuously updated on the status of the situation.

Attendance:

Regular attendance is imperative to a student's success. Students are given a schedule every semester that they must adhere to. Students have an exchange of classes and are given 5 minutes between the end and start of their next class.

Students are required to attend all classes and missed classes are considered "cuts." Only the Principal, Assistant Principal or Dean of Student Life may excuse a student from class. If a student does not attend class, a parent will be contacted.

Excessive absences and lateness are correlated to student performance. Therefore, it is imperative students attend classes regularly in a timely manner. Attending class regularly is proven to have a positive effect on student self-esteem, individual growth, academic and spiritual intrigue, and self-confidence.

There is a class attendance policy at Nazareth. Students who are absent (including both excused and unexcused absences) more than 3 days for a summer school course will receive no credit for that course regardless of what their grade would have been. These absences include sickness, suspension, doctor's visits, death in family, absences for non-payment of tuition, and family emergencies.

To note, students who become ill with COVID-19 will not be penalized according to standard school attendance/lateness policies. However, students are responsible for making up any missed assignments in order to receive credit for the course.

A parent/legal guardian is required to call the school no later than 9:00 AM to report a student's absence for the day of the absence. Please call (718) 763-1100, ext. 225.

Our school attendance policy will not deviate based on distance learning, in-school learning, or hybrid/blended models. Occurrences of lateness and missed classes will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

Compliance

We fully expect our study body and faculty/staff members to comply with our enhanced safety measures and operational protocol. Those that fail to adhere to newly instituted policies will not be permitted access to the building and may be subject to further recourse, thereafter. Administration reserves the right to dismiss a student who fails to comply with school policies (per the student handbook).

Once more, we at Nazareth believe the best way to combat the spread of COVID-19 is to do so with a focus on ‘Collective Responsibility.’ As we continue this journey together, we must be selfless in keeping each other safe, mindful of our peers and neighbors, and vigilant in our focus on personal (and public) accountability.
