

NORTH PANOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT

"BACK TO THE BUSINESS OF TEACHING AND LEARNING"



GUIDE FOR SCHOOL RE-ENTRY PLAN 2020-2021

BACK TO THE **BUSINESS** OF **TEACHING** AND **LEARNING**

Guide for School Re-Entry Plan 2020-2021

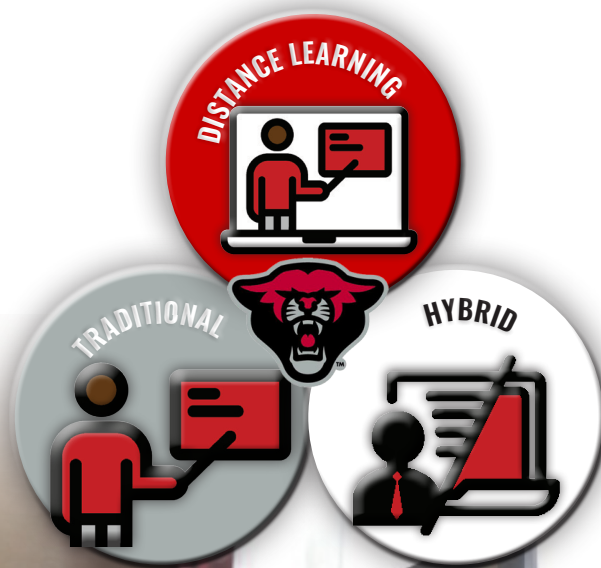


INTRODUCTION

As a result of COVID-19 and the impact it continues to have upon our community, North Panola School District has been diligently planning for the re-opening of school in August 2020. This plan encompasses when, what, and how the faculty, staff, and students will return back to the business of teaching and learning. With that being said, health and safety is our top priority, and we are following the guidelines recommended by the Center for Disease Control (CDC) Phase 2, Mississippi Department of Health (MDH), and Mississippi Department of Education (MDE). NPSD leadership and committee has produced a plan that will support our students, teachers, schools, and community. The plan will address the following areas for school re-entry:

1. Academic Programming
2. District and School Operations/Health and Safety
3. Family and Community Support/ Communication/Technology

NPSD has decided to implement a “3 Phase Model” for returning back to school based on recommendations and survey results from school personnel and community constituents. The Phase 1 will begin with **Distance Learning Model** for all students during the first nine weeks of school. Phase 2 will be the **Hybrid Model**, a combination of both face to face and distance learning, to be implemented the second nine weeks. In January 2021, we plan to implement Phase 3 using the **Traditional Model**, face to face, the remaining two nine-weeks. **It is important to note that model transitions will be based on data collected concerning COVID-19 and guidance from MDE, CDC, and MDH.**



ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

WHEN WILL STUDENTS AND STAFF RETURN TO SCHOOL?

North Panola School District is scheduled to start school August 12, 2020 for all students. Teachers will officially return to school on August 3, 2020. For the most recent updated information, please refer to our COVID-19 webpage on the district website, emails, and other social media platforms.

After student registration is completed, Tablets (PreK-2) and Chromebooks (3-5) will be disseminated to parents and students. If devices are not available by the beginning of school due to the mass ordering of devices across the nation, NPSD will disseminate instructional packets until devices are shipped and programmed for student use. We are encouraging parents with a computer at home to use that device for distance learning until we are able to provide equipment for instructional use.

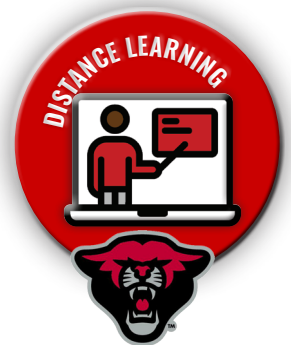
During Phase 1 Distance Learning Model, students are required to complete a minimum of 240 minutes or 4 hours of daily instruction for 5 days a week. To ensure a child is counted present, the work assigned must be completed and returned. If work is not completed and returned, the teacher will follow the standard grading policy.

During Phase 2 Hybrid Model, the school day will be reduced to allow time for controlled arrivals and dismissals to run double bus routes (if necessary), to prepare for distance learning, and to prepare classrooms for the next day. We believe by following CDC guidelines, the recommendations of the Mississippi Department of Health, and our local medical experts, we can accomplish our teaching and learning goals while ensuring the safety of students and staff. Attendance will be taken during face to face instruction as well as during distance learning.

WHAT MODEL WILL NORTH PANOLA SCHOOL DISTRICT USE TO EDUCATE STUDENTS FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR?

Phase 1: Full Distance Learning for All Grades (First Nine-weeks)

- All students Prek-12 will engage in distance learning
- Prek-2 will receive a Tablet Device (touch screen)
- Grades 3-12 will receive a Chromebook
- Five days a week and at least 4 hours of work completed daily
- Students will be held accountable daily for attendance
- All Core and Elective Courses will be delivered online
- Students without internet must contact building for support
- Students without internet will be encouraged to park at a Cougar Cub or Community Wifi Access Point.
- Grading will follow the district's current policy



Phase 2: Hybrid Model: Face to Face and Distance Learning for Grades PreK-11 (Second Nine-weeks)

- A / B Days: Students will be placed in A or B group
- Group A: Will attend school Monday and Wednesday
- Group B: Will attend school Tuesday and Thursday
- Distance Learning for all students Friday
- Core and Electives Courses will be delivered online
- 11th graders who are in need of a Graduation Required Course will follow this model
- Students will be held accountable daily for attendance
- Grading will follow the district's current policy



Phase 2 and Phase 3: Distance Learning (Home or School) for Grade 12

- Students complete online courses at home or school Monday – Friday.
- Electives will be delivered via virtual/distance learning.
- Students will be assigned a virtual course schedule.
- If students do not have internet access at home, students are encouraged to download assignments from a Wi-Fi access point at school or public place.
- Space will be available at school for students to work but not in a traditional classroom setting.

Full Distance Learning: Request made by Parents during Phase 2 and 3

- Full distance learning will be available for students who fall into one of the following categories:
 - Students who have a medical condition as determined by a physician
 - Parents who request a distance learning model after Phase 1 must submit a request to the office of the principal where the child attends school.
- If the distance learning model is chosen by the parent, this has to be the model for the entire nine weeks.
- If during Phase 2 the child is not responding well to the distance learning model, a meeting will be held with school personnel and parents to discuss a more suitable plan (hybrid or distance learning) that will meet the needs of the student.

Phase 3: Traditional Model (Face to Face) for Grades Pre-K – 11th grade (Third and Fourth Nine-weeks)

- All students Pre K-12 will engage in face to face and virtual classroom learning
- Pre K-2 will receive a Tablet Device (touch screen)
- Grades 3-12 will receive a Chromebook
- Five days a week and at least 4 or more hours of work completed daily
- Attendance based on a child being physically present
- All Core and Elective Courses will be delivered face to face or online
- Grading will follow the district's current policy
- Practice social distancing as much as possible by reducing large gatherings in classrooms and other common areas
- Reduce the amount of movement from one room to next



WHAT WILL BE TAUGHT DURING THE UPCOMING SCHOOL YEAR?

Teachers will provide instruction using the Mississippi College and Career Readiness Standards. The focus will be on mastery and not coverage of the standards. Because schools closed in March of 2020, teachers will review standards not taught on last year and teach those standards during the first nine weeks of the new school year.

WHAT WILL THE DELIVERY OF INSTRUCTION LOOK LIKE FOR STUDENTS FOR EACH MODEL?

North Panola School District will deliver instruction to students using the following methods:

Phase 1: Distance Learning Model for Grades PreK - 12

- Students will be taught by a teacher virtually using Google Classroom as the Learning Management System (LMS) for delivery of instruction and content. Students will be required to access and complete their assignments using a computer device, Tablet, or Chromebook. In addition, students will be required to log on for virtual learning using Google Meet as required by the teacher.
 - Follow the NPSD Instructional Pacing Guide
 - Students are required to log on daily for virtual learning using Google Meet based on their schedule.
 - Use Google Classroom as a tool for instruction (K-12)

Phase 2: Hybrid Model (Face to Face and Distance Learning) for Pre-K - 11

- Students will be taught by a teacher in a physical classroom setting and virtually using Google Classroom and Google Meet.
 - Follow the NPSD Instructional Pacing Guides
 - Receive teacher-directed instruction in person at least twice weekly
 - Receive virtual learning via Google Classroom three times weekly
 - Follow a virtual learning schedule to complete assignments
 - Google Meet class sessions for instruction
 - Use teacher selected materials both paper and digital.

Phase 2: Distance Learning Model (Online Course Work) for Grade 12 Only

- Students will sign up and engage in online courses using the platform Google Classroom. Students will be required to access and complete their assignments using a computer device at school or home. This model does not require face to face. However, the building leader at any time may modify this model based on the needs of the students.
 - Follow the NPSD Instructional Pacing Guide
 - Google Meet sessions for Instruction
 - Receive an Online Course Schedule

Phase 3: Traditional Model (Face to Face) for Grades PreK-11th

- Students will be taught by a teacher in a physical classroom setting using traditional teaching methods. Students will use computer devices daily to assist with completing assignments and assessments using Google Classroom and Google Meet. This will serve as practice in the event of future closings.
 - Follow the NPSD Instructional Pacing Guide
 - Receive teacher-directed instruction in person daily
 - Use Google Classroom as the LMS for delivering online instruction
 - Google Meet sessions for instruction
 - Use teacher-selected materials both paper and digital

Phase 3: Distance Learning Model (Online Course Work) for Grade 12 Only

- Students will engage in online courses using the platform Google Classroom. Students will be required to access and complete their assignments using a computer device at school or home. This model does not require face to face. However, the building leader at any time may modify this model based on the needs of the students.
 - Follow the NPSD Instructional Pacing Guide
 - Use Google Meet as a tool for Instruction
 - Receive an Online Course Schedule

DISTRICT AND SCHOOL OPERATIONS/HEALTH AND SAFETY

As we return back to the business of teaching and learning, the district is taking the necessary steps to protect our entire school community, including all high-risk students and staff. NPSD protocols and restrictions are based upon recommended preventative measures issued by the CDC guidelines:

- Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Maintain a distance of six feet from others in as much as possible.
- Check temperature regularly or if symptoms develop.
- Cover your nose and mouth with a cloth covering (i.e., mask, face shield).
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Wash your hands often with soap and water for 20 seconds. When soap and water is not available, use hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol
- Clean and disinfect frequently touched surface areas.
- Cover your mouth or nose with a tissue when you sneeze or use the inside of your elbow.
- Be aware of COVID-19 symptoms: fever, cough, shortness of breath, and other symptoms.

WHAT HAS THE DISTRICT DONE TO HELP PROTECT THE STAFF AND STUDENTS?

NPSD has purchased hand sanitizer for each classroom, the hallways, and the building. The district has purchased equipment and/or supplies needed to support healthy hygiene behaviors. We will require staff and students to wear masks as a safety precaution throughout the day. These purchases will include, but are not limited to:

- Mobile sanitization machines for use in each school, both district offices, field house, cafeterias, and bus shop
- Adequate number of thermometers for all schools and buses
- Provide washable cloth masks for each student and staff member
- Disposable masks for staff and students as a backup
- Face shields for teachers will be provided
- Disposable gloves
- Soap
- Hand sanitizer (contains at least 60% alcohol)
- Tissues
- Bus sanitization supplies

WHAT ARE THE CLEANING EXPECTATIONS FOR THE REOPENING OF SCHOOL AND THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?

- All schools will receive a deep cleaning during the month of July and as needed throughout the year.
- The district will purchase HVAC unit filters and change them monthly.
- All schools will have a defined schedule with cleaning protocols, inclusive of when to use the disinfecting sprayers. Once students and staff leave, custodial staff should focus on hallways, restrooms, and other high traffic areas. Classrooms and the office of the principal are recommended to be disinfected/sanitized last. Once sanitized, there should be no return of any person to that area until the following day.
- Backpack sprayers will be purchased to disinfect the restrooms and hallways during the day when students or staff are not present or in the classroom. These areas will include highly touched areas such as doors and surface areas.
- For health/safety reasons, all water fountains will be unavailable for use by staff and students. Therefore, we highly encourage parents to assist the school by providing water for their child(ren) daily. Staff members should bring water for hydration as well. Students can only bring unopened water bottles to school.
- Schools will have small bottles of water on hand to assist with student hydration. However, we will only have a limited amount to share with the entire school due to the high demand. Parent support is needed.

WILL FACULTY STAFF AND VISITORS BE REQUIRED TO WEAR A MASK OR FACE COVERING?

- All staff and students are required to wear masks or face covering as a safety precaution throughout the day.
- Face shields for teachers will be provided for those who are not able to wear a mask due to medical reasons.
- Parents are required to wear a face mask in the event they must enter the building.
- All visitors, including vendors, are required to wear a face mask or covering.
- Signage for the correct wearing of masks will be posted throughout the district.
- A video will be posted on the district's website showing the correct way to wear masks for both faculty and students.

WILL VISITATION BE ALLOWED AT THE SCHOOL?

- Visitors inside of the building will be limited to a minimum, and only those that are absolutely necessary will be granted access into the building.
- Unannounced visits to the school are prohibited; therefore, parents should schedule an appointment/conference via phone prior to coming to the building.
- If the need for a parent conference should arise, meetings will be conducted by phone conference or some means of virtual conferencing. If, for some reason the conference needs to be handled face to face, all participants will be required to wear protective masks and practice social distancing.
- All vendors who enter the building will be required to wear protective masks and sanitize their hands upon entry.
- Entry requirements may include, but are not limited to wearing a mask, temperature check, screening for COVID-19 symptoms, etc.

WILL THERE BE A SCREENING PROCESS FOR STAFF AND STUDENTS?

- Leadership teams at each school will train the faculty and staff on check-in protocols.
- Staff members will complete a daily screening process as well. Temperature checks must be recorded during check-in and kept on file.
- All buildings and schools will implement a screening process before entry.
- The district nurse has compiled a set of questions to be asked to all students and visitors before entering the building.
- Schools will have screening teams during morning duty for students who walk to school and those who are dropped off.
- Car Riders and Walkers temperatures will be checked before entering the building. Findings will be recorded daily and filed.
- In reference to Car Riders, parents cannot just drop off students and drive away. Temperatures must be checked prior to the parent/guardian leaving the premises. This will be part of the check-in process. If a child registers a high temperature, that child (and any other child who may be riding in that car) must return home until that child has been cleared by a doctor.
- NPSPD will continually to ask parents whose children walk to school to please check their temperature before leaving home. Walkers who register a high temperature must return home until that child has been cleared by a doctor.
- Bus Riders who have been temperature checked will be dropped off at a different location of the building as to not mingle with Car Riders and Walkers.
- No student will be able to enter the building without wearing a mask or face covering.

WHAT HAPPENS IF A STAFF OR CHILD BECOMES ILL OR SHOWS SIGNS OF COVID19?

- The principal will designate an area (not the nurse's station) that will be used to isolate students/adults who are symptomatic.
- Each school will assign personnel to supervise the area. Staff will wear protective covering to maintain supervision.
- The school nurse will be contacted for medical support.
- The staff or student who are symptomatic will be removed from the learning environment.
- If staff or student confirms a positive result, the district will make a decision as to how to proceed based on the situation. This may include informing parents, staff, or closing the school for two weeks for deep cleaning and allow possible infected individuals to recover from the virus to reduce spread.
- The child or staff member who tests positive for COVID-19 will need to adhere to the expectation to self-quarantine for 14 days. Upon his or her return to school, the child or staff member should not exhibit any symptoms.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN SIBLINGS STAFF AND OTHER STUDENTS IN THE HOUSEHOLD OF AN EMPLOYEE OR STUDENT HAS BEEN ASKED TO SELF QUARANTINE?

- If a student(s) or staff member who lives in the house with another student or employee who shows signs or has tested positive for COVID-19, that student or staff member will be asked to self-quarantine.
- If a student or staff member exhibits symptoms, they will also be asked to self-quarantine. Also, it may be recommended the student or staff member self-quarantine without showing symptoms due to the amount of interaction with the individual who has been asked to self-quarantine.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN A STUDENT OR EMPLOYEE RETURNS TO SCHOOL AFTER SELFQUARANTINE?

- The student or staff member must not have any symptoms of COVID-19.
- A screening process will take place (temperature check and questioned)

CHILD NUTRITION SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Phase 1: Distance Learning Model

- Breakfast and Lunch will be prepared only student who are REGISTERED in the North Panola School District.
- School buses will deliver meals to all REGISTERED students.

Phase 2 and 3: Hybrid and Traditional Model

- The food service department will serve food using insulated delivery bags and rolling carts (warmers). These will be used to deliver meals to students in the classroom setting. If for any reason food delivery to the classroom is interrupted, students will pick up their meal from the cafeteria and return to their classroom for consumption.
- Teachers will assist with food distribution in the classroom.
- Food service staff and students are required to wear their masks during meal delivery.
- Food service staff will be required to have their temperature checked and go through a health screen daily before preparing food.
- Food service department will use a mobile washing sink when delivering to promote handwashing.
- When soap and water is not available, hand sanitizer containing at least 60% alcohol will be used.



TRANSPORTATION SAFETY PROTOCOLS

Phase 1: Distance Learning Model

- The transportation department will be delivering breakfast and lunch to all students who completed registration.
- The transportation department will have a team to assist with meals, and this team may consist of bus drivers and other school personnel.

Phase 2 and 3: Hybrid and Traditional Model

- All NPSD students who are being transported by bus will have their temperature checked daily and findings documented prior to boarding the bus. Students will be asked to use hand sanitizer upon entry.
- An additional staff member will be assigned to ride the bus to check student temperatures and findings (Teacher Assistants and Activity Teachers).
- In the event any of the students coming from the same home registers a high temperature, all students from that house will not be able to board the bus. These students will not be able to return to school until the students no longer exhibit symptoms.
- To support social distancing, we will encourage parents who live in Sardis and Como to drop-off and pickup their children from school.
- Students will be seated by family and spaced as much as possible to meet the social distancing recommendation.
- As weather permits, windows on the bus will be lowered to maximize external air flow and circulation.
- All students will be required to wear a face mask while being transported.
- Bus drivers will wear a face mask/covering at all times while driving the bus.
- Hand sanitizer will be provided on the buses.
- Bus drivers will disinfect handrails, bars, seats, and other highly touched surfaces frequently throughout the day.
- All buses will receive weekly deep cleaning.
- During **Phase 2 Hybrid Model**, students will be picked up by school zones. The district will be divided into two zones or groups. Group A will be transported on Mondays and Wednesdays, and Group B will be transported on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Fridays will be all distance learning for all students, and buses will thoroughly be cleaned.



ATHLETICS/EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES PROTOCOL

- School-level programs such as nine-weeks recognition programs and other recognition-type programs will be done using video conferencing or social media platforms (all year).
- Students are encouraged to wear masks when necessary.
- Sporting events will follow the MHSAA guidelines for activities. Please check all social media outlets for the latest updates.
- All NPSD coaches and players must undergo temperature checks and complete a screening process before engaging in any sporting practice or events.
- While social distancing expectations are in place, athletes are separated into smaller groups during practice to lessen the amount of physical contact.
- There will be no sharing of uniforms, towels, or other apparel and equipment.
- Only the team members, managers, coaches, and medical personnel attend practice.
- Student athletes come to practice already dressed, and there is no access to locker rooms.



FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT/COMMUNICATION/TECHNOLOGY

The North Panola School District will begin the first term of the school year with “distance learning.” To ensure each child/household has a device to support learning, one device will be given out per household provisionally until the new devices arrive and are distributed to each student currently enrolled in the district **(Phase 1)**.

NPSD is asking for parent support as we strive to keep their children and our learning community safe. Therefore, we are asking parents to adhere to the following **(Phase 2 and 3)**:

- Purchase a cloth mask or face coverings for children to wear on the bus and at school.
- Wash the cloth mask or face covering daily to ensure cleanliness.
- Take the child's temperature before leaving home daily.
- Temperature checks will be performed before a student boards the bus or enters the building if they are a Car Rider or Walker.
- Report to the school (principal or nurse only) if anyone in the household has been tested positive for COVID-19.
- Send bottles of water with children daily for adequate hydration.

NPSD will keep families and community informed as much as possible using the district's website, districtwide mobile messaging alerts, public service announcement on radio, video segment for media release, Facebook, Twitter, and other social media platforms.



NPSD Technology Department will provide parent and student support for virtual learning and communication. The Technology Department will host a **Parent Technology Academy** to demonstrate how to use various programs and devices for student learning such as:

- Using a Chromebook
- Finding, opening, and uploading files
- What's SchoolStatus?
- Maximizing ActiveParent as a parent resource
- Accessing Clever for all grades
- Accessing Google Classroom for instruction in grades Pre K-12 and
- Logging onto Google Meet for a virtual and video conferencing

NPSD parents are encouraged to contact their teachers and principal when there are questions about the use of a computer device or instructional tools we will be using for the upcoming school year. Teachers' email addresses will be posted on the district's website for instructional and technical support. We will continue to use the SchoolStatus call and text feature as well.

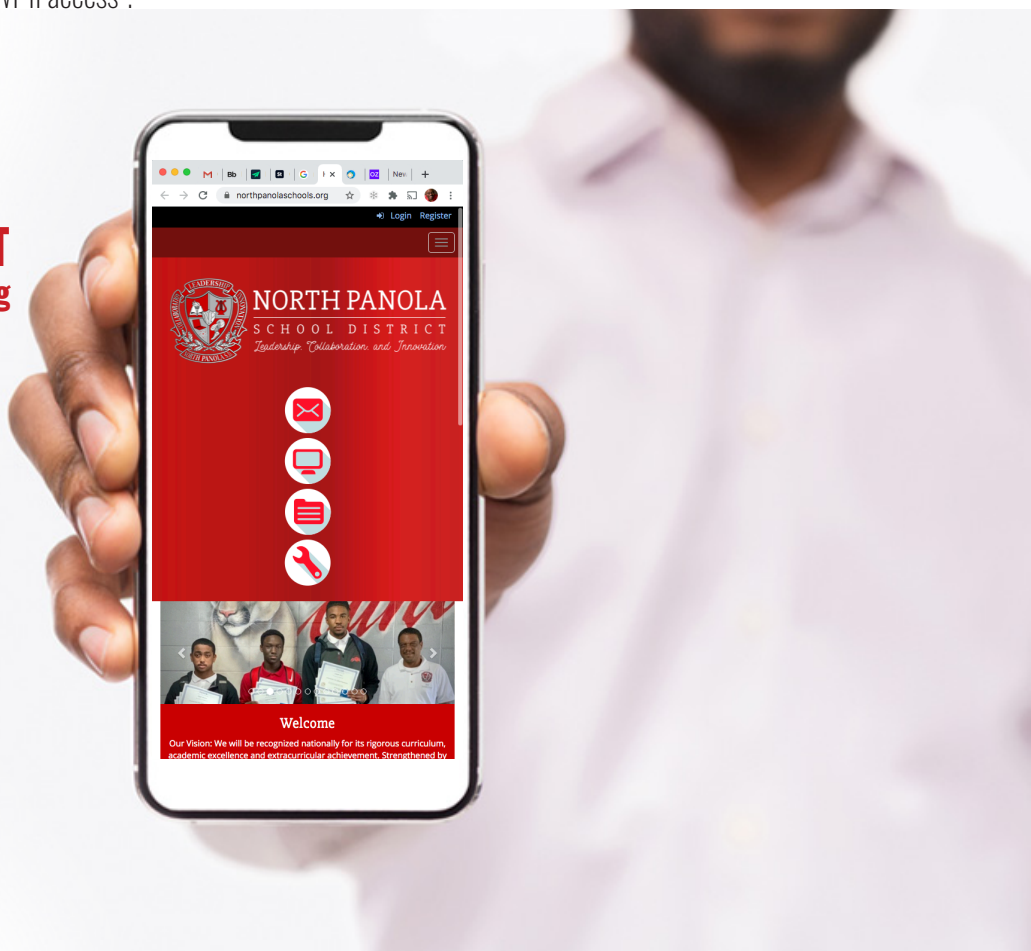
NPSD will provide all students a computer device for distance learning. Devices will be issued at the school level. A notice will be sent out as to when parents will be able to pick up devices.

NPSD will provide technical assistance to support parents via helpdesk. A building-level IT team will assist parents and students to troubleshoot through minor concerns (instruction and technology). A call-in number will be provided to parents for support. Parents and students will be able to call between 6:00a.m. to 6:00p.m.

- As an effort to support internet access, NPSD Technology Department will create a list of available Wi-fi spots across the district. This information will be communicated via website and social media platforms. In addition, we have mounted Internet extenders (300-500ft) at each campus. The extenders will provide internet access outside the building. These access points will be indicated with a sign that reads "CUB HUB HERE Wi-fi access".

VISIT US ONLINE AT
www.northpanolaschools.org

**for updates,
announcements,
and the
Re-Entry Plan.**





Leadership. Collaboration. Innovation.



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