

Back To School at Angier Elementary

2021-2022







Agenda

- Introductions & Welcome to Angier!
- Pillars of health & safety
 - Face Coverings
 - Hand Hygiene
 - Health Self-Assessment & Testing Strategies
- Logistics
 - Arrival & dismissal
 - Snack/Lunch
 - Visitors/Item drop-off
- Open House
- Answers to your questions
- Q&A

Introduction to Angier



About Angier

- 423 students & 23 classrooms grades K-5
- 98 staff members
- Angier is a welcoming and highly collaborative community. Angier teachers create a place where all children feel safe, affirmed, and included.
- We have a vibrant PTO which supports the operation & success of the school



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.

At Newton Public Schools, we believe:

Therefore, we will:

We have a responsibility to ensure that our students, staff and families of color feel seen and heard.	Honor the diverse identities and experiences of our students, staff, and families to move toward a more just and inclusive community through representative leadership, curriculum, activities, celebrations, and more.
It is essential to give voice to those who have traditionally been underrepresented and historically marginalized.	Provide affinity spaces for our students and families of color to engage in dialogue about their shared experiences and invite feedback to support positive change.
Reflecting on one's own racial identity and unconscious bias strengthens and positively impacts our interactions with students, colleagues, and families.	Engage our district and staff in self-reflection, self-education, and self-improvement on our antiracist trajectory.
Each educator has a shared responsibility for building their capacity to implement antiracist and culturally responsive practices through professional learning and dialogue.	Apply our learning to our interactions with students and staff, curriculum choices, employment practices, structures and systems, and decision making.
A diverse faculty and staff is essential in creating a sense of connectedness and belonging for all students and can encourage increased success among groups that have been traditionally underrepresented.	Review and revise our hiring practices to be more inclusive and accessible to candidates of color, and support retention with ongoing administrative and structural support, including investing in mentorship, affinity spaces, and leadership opportunities to enhance success.
Culturally responsive instruction with a universally designed foundation, flexible tiered support, and an antiracist curriculum benefits all students.	Analyze the systems and practices of our classrooms, schools, offices, with communities to root-out institutional and internalized racism and bias and strive to constantly improve and refine our instructional practice.
The work of antiracism requires a commitment to be actively conscious about race and racism and to take actions to end racial inequities in our daily lives.	Take immediate and sustained action to dismantle racism in our schools and communities and commit to constant work of learning, growing, reflecting on our progress and shortcomings in our changing world.



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: **8:10am-2:50pm (except Weds - 8:10-12:20)**
- Nut-free classrooms
- Student dismissal system: School Pass
 - All families will receive a Welcome email from SchoolPass this week



School Staff


- 23 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, Assistant Principal, Principal
- General education support: literacy coach & assistants, math coach & assistants, METCO Social Worker, School Psychologist & interns, SEL interventionist
- English Language Learner (ELL) teacher & assistant
- School Nurse
- Custodians, Lunch Manager, Lunch Attendants



Health & Safety Updates



NPS Health Pillars

- 
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 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

- Weekly COVID-19 pool testing 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...

- ★ 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

No matter how students get to school, they will use the following spots for arrival:

- K/1- Plaza
- 2/3 - Playground Blacktop
- 4- Side door by the to library
- 5- Side door by the staff parking lot

Dismissal locations for each class will be the same as arrival.

*4th & 5th graders will be allowed to be dismissed to their youngest sibling's classroom and will be dismissed with that sibling





Late Arrival to School

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

If you need to dismiss your child early:

1. Parent/caregiver should use the buzzer at the front door & verbally check in with the office.
2. Office staff will sign your child out, then will call your child's classroom & tell your child that they are being dismissed.
3. Parent/caregiver should wait outside the front door.
4. A staff member will guide your child to the front door & ensure that the proper adult receives them.



Lunch/Snack

- **Outdoors** - When weather permits, we will eat lunch outside on the front plaza. Snack will be in the field.
- **Masks** - Masks are removed indoors only to eat. Masks are not required outdoors.
- **Seating** - If indoors, students stay seated. Quiet talking is allowed.
- **Ventilation** - Windows & doors open wherever possible in indoor eating spaces.
- **Cafeteria Seating** - Oval 12-seat tables will have 50% capacity (3 students per side staggered). Seats will be assigned.



Snacks and Drinking Water

Snack will occur outside except in bad weather.

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.



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 masks
- ★ Refillable water bottle





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 be permitted in the buildings & 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.
- Put the item, already labeled with the student's name & teacher's name, in the designated bin outside of the entry window.

Note: The main office will keep a detailed Visitor's Log to keep track of who has been in the building. Logs will be kept for 30 days.

Open House

*Welcome
Back!*

Thursday, September 2nd: 8:30-9:00AM. Students ONLY.

- Drop your child in their arrival location at 8:30AM
- Their teacher will bring them in for a peek at the classroom
- They will return to their arrival location at 9:00AM

We can't wait to see you!



Your Questions

