

NVVA will continue to follow all guidelines set forth by the State of Nevada, CDC, Nevada Health Department, NDE and SPCSA.

NVVA does not face as many barriers in mitigation that brick and mortar schools face. Students and staff who are face to face at the school location are smaller than most schools. The steps for mitigation and risks may be different than an average school. Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, NVVA has had a limited amount of onsite positive reports.

Mask Policy

NVVA is no longer requiring masks in the building according to the Governor’s Directive 052 issued on February 10, 2022. We do encourage masks for anyone entering the building. Students attending Blended at the Sandhill location will continue to have temperature checks before entering the classroom. Masks are available throughout the building.

Any staff or student reporting positive will be required to mask for 5 days upon returning.

If at any time there is further guidance from the State of Nevada, CDC, Nevada Health Department, NDE and SPCSA, the policy set forth by those agencies will be implemented.

Vaccinations

NVVA does not require that staff and students be vaccinated. The school does track which staff is unvaccinated and they are required to test weekly.

CDC continues to reinforce that vaccination is still the leading public health prevention strategy to manage the COVID-19 pandemic. COVID-19 vaccines are safe and effective at preventing COVID-19, especially severe illness and death.

Covid Testing

NVVA requires any non-vaccinated staff to be tested weekly. This will continue for the current school year and will be revisited for the 22-23 SY. If a student or staff member tests/reports positive, we will follow the current CDC and SNHD quarantine guidelines. At this time the CDC recommends a 5-day quarantine and masking for 5 days upon return to the building.

BinaxNow Antigen Rapid tests are provided to the school by the SPCSA. Three staff members are trained and certified to administer the tests. Results are submitted to the SPCSA daily by 2:00 PM.

A mobile unit contracted through the SPCSA is onsite every Wednesday for PCR testing.

Positive Cases

NVVA will report any positive cases to both the SPCSA and SNHD. If the person reporting positive has been onsite, they will be asked to quarantine for 5 days and be tested on the first day of returning to ensure they are no longer positive. The person will be required to be masked for an additional 5 days. Anyone considered as a close contact with the person reporting will be notified.

Covid Outbreak

If multiple cases are reported and those reporting have been onsite, NVVA will reach out to the SNHD to determine if the school is considered as having a Covid outbreak.

Should NVVA have an outbreak of COVID-19, the school will follow the SNHD guidelines for closure. Students and staff will continue to school/work remotely as assigned. For students assigned to blended and staff assigned to the building, they will school/work remotely for the time that the building is closed. The building will be sanitized and cleaned before reopening.

Directive 052 does state that, “Irrespective of any plan adopted by a county school district, charter school, or private school... if a local health authority determines that a school-wide outbreak of COVID-19 is occurring and is not being adequately mitigated by the [district or school], the applicable local health authority may require the mandatory and immediate use of face coverings for all students and staff in the affected school building(s) and any additional mitigation measures deemed necessary by the local health authority for that school or school building(s). In such an event, the face covering requirement and any other mitigation measures remain in effect until the local health authority determines that the outbreak is closed.”

NVVA will continue to encourage and utilize the following:

- Support vaccinations for school personnel
- Provide covid testing to staff
 - Unvaccinated staff will be tested weekly
- Facilitate physical distancing by providing space for students and staff to not be in close contact with others to the extent that is possible within the building.
 - Classroom tables are set to maximize distance for students
- Post signs encouraging proper hand washing and respiratory etiquette.
 - Posters are placed in strategic places throughout the building
 - Classrooms and offices are provided hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes and Kleenex.
- Encourage those that are feeling ill to stay home and get tested.
- Additional ventilation in the building
 - Portable air purifiers have been placed in classrooms and offices with multiple personnel
 - HVAC filters are replaced frequently
- Clean and disinfect surfaces within the building to maintain a healthy environment.
 - NVVA uses cleaning supplies recommended by the SNHD. The building is cleaned daily.
 - If an onsite positive report is received, the area where the individual has been will be closed for 24 hours and then thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.