

# Post-Helene School Reopening Guidance

## Section 1: All Schools

*Note: If there are any checks in areas shaded red, the school should not resume normal operations without extensive coordination with Emergency Management, the local health department, the local building inspection department and the local Fire Marshal.*

	Yes	No
Is the building safe to enter?		
Is the road accessible for fire, EMS, buses, delivery and service trucks?		
Is there electrical power?		
Is there sufficient and safe power via generator?		
Is there a reliable fuel supply (natural gas, fuel oil) for heating the building?		
Is communication available (e.g., land line, cell)? Can you call 911, if needed?		
Are fire suppression and fire alarm systems operational?		

**Has the building been inspected post-storm and passed all necessary inspections for:**

	Yes	No
Building Code		
Fire Code		

*\*This falls under the authority of the [Office of the State Fire Marshal](#) and Local Code Officials.*

	Yes	No	N/A
Has the building been used as a shelter/staging area?			
Have all personal items from shelter residents been removed?			
Has cleaning of areas used by shelter residents been completed?			
Has the area been inspected to ensure removal of chemicals, medications and other hazards?			

**Does the facility show signs of:**

	Yes	No
Flood water damage		
Other water damage (e.g., ceiling, floor, walls)		
Roof or ceiling damage		
Other structural damage		
Mold growth		
Outdoor debris/ landscape hazards		
Water damage to furniture or other classroom materials		
Damage to HVAC system		
Damage to outdoor play structures or athletic facilities		
Pest infestation		
Other safety hazards endangering students		

	Yes	No	N/A
Is the municipal sewage system damaged?			
Is there sewage backup in the school building?			
Has an alternate sewage disposal plan been implemented (pump and haul)?			

**NC Plumbing Code recommends the following ratios:**

- Grades K-8 is 1:25 for toilets and 1:60 for sinks
- Grades 9-12 is 1:30 (males) and 1:25 (females) for toilets and 1:100 for sinks
- Teachers/staff is 1:30 (males) and 1:25 (females) for toilets and 1:100 for sinks
- Drinking Fountains 1:100
- Maximum travel distance of 200 feet to toilet facilities from each classroom location
- Provide separate facilities for teachers/staff (not for student use).

Provision of temporary toilet and handwashing facilities, including number and type of fixtures and placement/location of temporary facilities, should be reviewed and closely coordinated with local code officials. Placement of temporary structures must not compromise existing life safety requirements, restrict emergency access or impede other essential campus operations.

**Section 2: Schools with Disruption to Their Primary Water Source**

**Is potable water available from one of the sources below?**

(If all answers to the below questions are no, the school should not resume normal operations.)

	Yes	No
Temporary/emergency well		
Water tanker truck		
Water delivered and stored in tanks		
Other approved source		
Bottled water		
Sufficient quantity		

**Are alternative toilet facilities available? ONE** of these two alternate facility options must be present

(If the answer to both of the first two questions is no, the school should not resume normal operations.)

	Yes	No
Toilet trailers: Do you have the appropriate ratios per your building/plumbing code?		
Portable toilet facilities with contract to regularly empty: Do you have the appropriate ratios per your building/plumbing code?		
Do you have a service contract and can the service truck reach the school?		

**Total number of toilets provided on trailers:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Total number of portable toilets provided:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Are alternative hand hygiene options available? ONE** of these two alternate handwashing options must be present (If the answer to both of the first two questions is no, the school should not resume normal operations.)

	Yes	No
Handwashing sinks on trailers: Do you have the appropriate ratios per your building/plumbing code?		
Disposable wipes and 60% alcohol-based hand sanitizer (must provide at least 1 gravity flow temporary handwashing station per building)?		
Adequate solid waste management (e.g., waste storage, pick up)?		
Are janitorial services provided (e.g., cleaning supplies adequate)?		
Are there adequate handwashing supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels)?		

**Total number of handwashing sinks:** \_\_\_\_\_

Note: If the school has a science laboratory where chemicals, burners or other hazards are used, adequate water for safety equipment must be provided or laboratory use must be suspended.

**School Nutrition**

	Yes	No
Will food be brought from another school location?		
Will pre-packaged, shelf-stable food be served?		

**If pre-packaged food or food from another location will not be used, work with your local environmental health department to ensure safe operation using these considerations:**

	Yes	No
Will food preparation continue on-site?		
Will food be brought from another school location?		
Will disposable, single-service dishware and plates be needed/used?		
Will water be needed for cooking as an ingredient?		
Will water be used for washing produce (e.g, leafy greens, berries)?		
Will temporary/gravity flow handwashing stations be used?		
Will three compartment sink be used for dish washing? Will grey water be collected?		
Will water be needed for cleaning and sanitizing?		
Will gloves be used for food workers?		
Will supplemental water heating be available (recommended)?		

	Yes	No
Will food storage areas/units (e.g., refrigeration, dry, freezer) be adequate and safe?		
Will portable toilet(s) be located within 200 feet of cafeteria (ideally within close proximity of food preparation area)?		
Will adequate solid waste management be provided?		
Will the food preparation area be served by a properly operating sewer system or alternate sewage disposal system, such as a biocell?		