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19 2300 Hunterdon Central

Applicant: Regional - Hunterdon

Application: ARP Safe Return Plan - 00-

Cycle: Amendment 2

ARP Safe Return Plan ✓

Project Period: 9/1/2021 -

8/31/2022

SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

- (1) IN GENERAL A local educational agency receiving funds under this section shall develop and make publicly available on the local educational agency's website, not later than 30 days after receiving the allocation of funds described in paragraph (d) (1), a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.
- 2) COMMENT PERIOD.—Before making the plan described in paragraph (1) publicly available, the local educational agency shall seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

<u>Support for Schools:</u> Describe how the LEA will support its schools in safely returning to in-person instruction and sustaining safe operation. This description must include:

For each mitigation strategy listed below, please describe how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

LEA Response Table

1) Universal and correct wearing of masks ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District will comply with all mandates and orders regarding face-covering. In the absence of any such mandate, the District will allow masking to be optional and will recommend masking to those showing symptoms of COVID-like illness. The District will work in partnership with the Department of Health to determine any need for masking when public health conditions warrant, and may also require masking for individuals, groups, or all people in our school buildings at other times when local conditions require it (for example, during a local outbreak).

2) Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding) ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District will work to prioritize in-person and full time instruction (full school day, five days a week) for all students and will maximize distancing when necessary due to local conditions, to the extent possible and practicable without requiring specific distances between individuals. The District will avoid cohorting unless ordered to adopt such measures by the Department of Health or other authorities. Podding will be used as necessary in Health/PE, Athletics, lunch, and other settings.

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3) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District believes that personal hygiene is one of the most significant barriers to the spread of illness. The District will continue to promote proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette through signs and announcements, and will seek to work with the Department of Health and other partners on other initiatives. The District will also provide hand sanitizing gel containing at least 60% alcohol in classrooms and other gathering spaces.

4) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District will sanitize surfaces through use of electrostatic sprayers daily during the school week and will deploy hydroxyl generators to clean the air and surfaces in gathering locations and other special purpose spaces, such as cafeterias, when public health conditions warrant. The District may also require the sanitizing of surfaces after each use through the use of sanitizing wipes or spray and may also increase other sanitization efforts. Sanitizing wipes and spray will also be available to staff members. The District's HVAC system will continue to provide air exchange, mixing fresh air into all facilities on a regular basis. We will also continue to encourage airflow through the opening of windows and interior doors. To support the increased sanitization posture, the District may consider closing facilities to outside organizations or limitations to specific facilities for all use (IMC, Auditorium, etc.).

5) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Best practice in disease mitigation is only achieved in partnership with experts at the Department of Health. We will continue to work with the Department of Health to implement any recommended or required contact tracing and quarantine protocols, and may utilize part time or contracted contact tracers when necessary.

6) Diagnostic and screening testing ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District will engage in any required testing, and will also utilize testing as available to shorten absences due to exposure or illness.

7) Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District will continue to work with public health partners, including local and regional medical centers and the New Jersey Department of Health, to provide opportunities for vaccination for those who want or need it. Unless mandated to do otherwise, we do not plan to require vaccination for students for staff or any opportunity or activity.

8) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

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The District will follow all mandates for the accommodation of children with disabilities with respect to any public health procedures and policies. Accommodations may include, but are not limited to, the provision of plexiglass barriers and face shields.

We will offer remote instruction only to the level required by State mandates, with the goal of maximizing the number of in-person students. When students require an extended absence, we will utilize multiple measures to address the needs of homebound students.

Staff who require accommodations will engage with the District in the "interactive process" provided for such situations, which may require the input of the District Physician. We are not planning to offer extended remote work opportunities to staff members, but will utilize paid and unpaid leave as required by policy and law.

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ARP Safe Return Plan 🗸

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Safe Return Plan Updated

Safe Return Plan text and assurances must be agreed to every six months.

Date Plan Updated 06/24/2023

Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

In the event of closure, the District will utilize distance learning/video conferencing platforms, and will work with its food service provider to ensure food availability.

Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comment into account in the development of its plan. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District provided information on its initial plan through several public Board of Education meetings, website postings, and Zoom presentations. The District will continue to offer its plan for view and comment on its website. All public and stakeholder comment is reviewed and considered for inclusion in the plan through its update cycle.

Describe how the LEA ensured that the plan is in an understandable and uniform format; is to the extent practicable written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, will be orally translated for such a parent; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The plan is available is multiple languages and formats, both through translation and accessibility tools on our website, and also through hardcopies available for delivery or review.

Briefly describe any guidance, professional learning, and technical assistance opportunities the LEA will make available to its schools. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The District will continue to utilize its Safety Team to share information about the plan. In the event of any required implementation of plan components, the District will utilize its communication platform (including video conferencing, television station, radio station, and live streaming) to ensure that staff and community members are prepared to continue operations and provide learning and extracurricular opportunities to the best fidelity that alignment to best practice requires.

Provide current link to the district's website where the plan is posted.

https://www.hcrhs.org/about-hc/board-of-education/public-notifications

■ By checking this box and saving the page, the applicant hereby certifies that they will assure that the information contained in the Safe Return to School plans will be updated within this system every 6 months during this grant project period.

Assurances	Fully	Agreed	to	By:
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Jeffrey Moore