

# FAIRVIEW PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## SAFE REOPENING PLAN



JUNE 06, 2022



## LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, Section 2001(i)

### Introduction and Background

As announced in the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE)'s [April 28, 2021 broadcast](#), in March 2021 President Biden signed the Federal [American Rescue Plan \(ARP\) Act](#), Public Law 117-2, into law. The ARP Act provides an additional \$122 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) to States and school districts to help safely reopen, sustain the safe operation of schools, and address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation's students. As with the previous ESSER funds available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), the purpose of the additional funding is to support local educational agencies (LEAs) in preparing for and responding to the impacts of COVID-19 on educators, students, and families. Additional information on ARP ESSER may be found in the NJDOE's [funding comparison fact sheet](#).

Section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act requires each LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website, no later than 30 days after receiving ARP ESSER funds, a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools (Safe Return Plan) A Safe Return Plan is required of all fund recipients, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction. Section 2001(i)(2) of the ARP Act further requires that the LEA seek public comment on the Safe Return Plan and take those comments into account in finalization of the Safe Return Plan. Under the interim final requirements published in [Volume 86, No. 76 of the Federal Register](#) by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), an LEA must periodically, but no less frequently than every six months through September 30, 2023, review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return Plan.

Pursuant to those requirements, **LEAs must submit to the NJDOE and post on their website their Safe Return Plans by June 24, 2021.** The NJDOE intends to make LEA ARP ESSER Fund applications available in EWEG on May 24, 2021 and LEAs will submit their Safe Return Plans to the NJDOE via EWEG. To assist LEAs with the development of their Safe Return Plans, the NJDOE is providing the following template.

This template incorporates the federally-required components of the Safe Return Plan. The questions in the template below will be included in the LEA ARP ESSER Fund application in EWEG. LEAs will submit responses to the questions within the LEA ARP ESSER Fund application in EWEG by June 24, 2021. The NJDOE hopes that this template will allow LEAs to effectively plan for that submission and to easily post the information to their websites as required by the ARP Act.

Note that on May 17, 2021, Governor Murphy [announced](#) that upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year, portions of Executive Order 175 allowing remote learning will be rescinded, meaning that schools will be required to provide full-day, in-person instruction, as they were prior to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. The NJDOE and New Jersey Department of Health will share additional information regarding State requirements or guidance for health and safety protocols for the 2021-2022 school year as it becomes available.

## Template: LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

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LEA Name: Fairview

Date : 06/15/2021

Date Revised: 06/06/2022

### 1. Maintaining Health and Safety

For each mitigation strategy listed below (A–H), 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.

A. Universal and correct wearing of masks The district will ensure that all students, educators, and other staff will follow the CDC’s guidance/protocols, guidance from the NJ Department of Health and the Bergen County Health Department for correct mask wearing recommendations for all schools, district buildings and outside of school buildings on school grounds. As per the NJ Department of Health, if face coverings are required for all staff members, students, and visitors, then the district will ensure they are worn as per the guidelines. The district will monitor information about mask wearing put out by the governor’s office and will adjust mask wearing protocol accordingly. Masks will be available for students, staff and visitors at all times, if someone does not have a mask the district will provide them with a mask. The district has adopted policy 1648.11 The road forward Covid-19 health and safety and policy 1648.14 Safety plan for healthcare settings in school buildings to help guide district decisions on the correct wearing of masks for students, staff and visitors inside and outside school buildings, on school grounds and during school activities such as graduation ceremonies.

B. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding) The district will ensure that all students, staff, educators, staff and visitors will adhere to the recommended CDC guidance/protocols for physical distancing in all district schools and on school grounds. The district has adopted policy 1648.11

and policy 1648.14 to help guide district decisions on the correct physical distancing protocols for students, staff and visitors inside and outside school buildings and on school grounds. All instructional and non-instructional rooms in schools and district facilities will comply with social distancing standards to the maximum extent practicable. (As a point of reference each student occupies 113 NSF, social distancing practices will be based on that number. The district will use podding whenever possible to lower the number of students in close proximity in classrooms. In the event that a classroom requires further measures, plastic barriers will be used to enhance physical distancing. Student desks will be spaced apart in each classroom and desks will be facing the same direction. Hallways will have markings and signs dividing the two sides of the hallway for social distancing and to aide in the flow of foot traffic during class changes and student movement in school buildings.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette- The district will ensure that all students, educators, staff and visitors will adhere to the CDC's guidance/protocols in all district schools and on school grounds. The district has adopted policy 1648.11 and 1648.14 to help guide district decisions on the correct handwashing and respiratory etiquette for schools. Students should wash hands for at least 20 seconds at regular intervals, including before eating, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose/coughing/sneezing. The district will prepare and maintain hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol) in all school buildings, classrooms, hallways, entrances/exits, bathrooms, offices and all-purpose rooms. Each grade level will have a designated schedule for hand-washing and will practice proper handwashing techniques. The district will also follow the Fairview School District Cleaning Procedures List and Protocol which explains daily cleaning procedures. The district will monitor information about handwashing and respiratory etiquette put out by the governor's office and will adjust protocol accordingly. The following respiratory hygiene protocol for all district schools and buildings may be followed; wear mask at all times if necessary, except when eating, cover all coughs and sneezes with tissues or the corner of the elbow, disposing of soiled tissues immediately after use.

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation- The district will ensure that all students, educators, other staff and visitors will adhere to CDC's guidelines and the guidance from the NJ Department of Health and the Bergen County Health Department for cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities and improving ventilation. The custodial staff will clean all classrooms, surfaces, door handles, windows, bathrooms, offices, hallways and all-purpose rooms with cleaning supplies approved for school buildings that are effective against COVID-19. Hand sanitizing stations

will be located at every entrance/exit to school buildings, offices, classrooms, bathrooms, hallways and all-purpose rooms on school grounds. The cleaning schedule will be posted in all school buildings as needed. Whenever possible windows and doors will be opened to increase ventilation in district school buildings. Classrooms and buildings will be airconditioned whenever possible to improve ventilation. The district has adopted policy 1648.11 and policy 1648.14 to help guide district decisions on the correct cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities and improving ventilation.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments- The district has adopted policy 1648.11 and policy 1648.14 to help guide district decisions on the correct protocol for contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments. The district will be taking the following steps when implementing contact tracing protocol; Interview students, teachers or staff with a confirmed case of COVID-19 to identify everyone they had close contact with during the time they may have been infectious, notify contacts of their potential exposure, self-quarantine, monitor contacts for signs and symptoms of COVID-19, connect contacts with services they might need during the self-quarantine period. During the Self-quarantine period- contacts are encouraged to stay home, monitor health, maintain social distance (at least 3 feet) until 10 days after their last exposure to the infected patient, in case they also become ill. The district will establish an isolation space in all school buildings with an exit and entry door so occupants do not have to re-enter the school building. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing- The Fairview School District has adopted diagnostic and screening procedures for students and employees upon arrival at school or work location for symptoms and history of exposure. These screening procedures will include the following: Nursing and other staff will monitor students and staff for symptoms upon arrival (which may include temperature checks) and/or confirm with families that students are free of COVID-19 symptoms. Health checks must be conducted safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any

applicable privacy laws and regulations. Results must be documented when signs/symptoms of COVID-19 are observed. Any screening policy/protocol must include students with disabilities and accommodations that may be needed in the screening process for those students. The Board adopted procedures for symptomatic staff and students which will include the following: Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. School officials will follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting. If the school district becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a district facility tests positive for COVID-19, officials must immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality. The procedures the district will use when someone tests positive for COVID-19 will include written procedures detailing the district's COVID-19 related response for symptomatic students and staff. The procedures are consistent with the district's contact tracing procedures to the extent possible. The procedure includes: Establishment of an isolation space. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible-The district in conjunction with the local health department and the Bergen County Department of Health has made vaccine appointments available to educators, other staff and students, if eligible, as soon as appointments were available. The district has adopted policy 1648.13 School employee vaccination requirement to guide the district in its efforts to provide vaccinations to school employees. At this time all staff members are either fully vaccinated or are submitting to weekly Covid-19 testing using a mobile testing site, as per the Governor's executive order No. 253. All eligible students are encouraged to get the covid-19 vaccine, as per parental approval. In addition, in conjunction with the Bergen County Health Department the district will continue to send educators, other staff and students, if eligible, that want vaccinations to a site provided by the Bergen County Health Department for the 2022-2023 school year. The district provided additional vaccinations to staff members on site in district schools, administered by a local hospital during the spring of 2022. The district will continue to partner with local hospitals, local board of health, Bergen County Health Department and other vaccine providers during the 2022-2023 school year for all staff and eligible students.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies- The district has the following appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies. All instruction for the 2022-2023 school year is being delivered to students with disabilities through in-person instruction. In addition to scheduled class time, teachers are

available to students outside of class hours to individually help those that are struggling or in need of assistance. Students continue to have access to all necessary textbooks in class and all student will have a school issued chromebook. Teachers and related service providers follow the accommodations and modifications set forth in each student's IEP. All teachers and providers document both the provision of services and communication with parents and case managers. Weekly child study team meetings are held as well as weekly faculty meetings and student participation is discussed. Communication between administration, teachers, service providers and case managers allows for follow up regarding student participation. For those students who are not participating in classes as scheduled, the teacher and/or case manager calls and/or emails the parent to follow up and see if there are issues that we need to be aware of. Parents are reminded of the importance of participation and attendance. Case managers are in continuous contact with the parents via phone, email and virtual meetings online (Zoom, Google Hang Outs, Microsoft teams). Case managers continue to communicate with families regarding student participation in classes and follow up with administration to resolve obstacles the students may be facing. Bilingual case managers are joining other case managers in meetings to translate where needed. The district CST addresses the needs of all students with disabilities through the IEP implementation process, including the tracking of services, student progress and all necessary accommodations and modifications. Currently, social histories and teacher reports and evaluations are conducted in person or can be conducted virtually as needed. All IEP meetings will be conducted in person unless a health or other condition prohibits it. Students will have in person evaluations and communication is continual with parents and teachers. Annual review meetings are continuing in person and communication with the high school students that are attending out of district will continue in order to provide a smooth transition for our students for the 2022-23 school year.

## 2. Ensuring Continuity of Services

A. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. (1000 character limit) Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and School Climate and Culture.

SEL – The district will provide support from district personnel trained in counseling and emotional support. The district guidance counselor, school social workers and school psychologists will be available to help staff and students to support the emotional well-being and learning needs of students and staff during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Multi-tiered Systems of support (MTSS)- The district will use this systemic approach to prevention, intervention, and enrichment in grades PK-8 for academics and behavior that offers educators and families a mechanism to identify individual students who need extra support.

Wraparound Supports- The district will use wraparound services for their comprehensive approach to addressing the academic, behavioral, and social emotional needs of students with interventions both inside and outside of the school environment. This will include mental health support, primary health and dental care, family engagement, expanded after school and summer programs and mentoring programs.

Food Service and Distribution- The district recognizes that school meals are critical to student health and well-being and will serve breakfast and lunch meals to all students during the school day for the 2022-2023 school year.

Quality Child Care- The district recognizes that child care will be needed as schools reopen, especially where modified school schedules may cause families that usually do not utilize child care to now require it. However, the district will use the current aftercare provider for the 2022-2023 school year. After care will be available for the 2022-2023 school year for all students/parents that need it.

Breakfast/ Lunch Meals-Students that are participating in the in-person learning model will eat breakfast and lunch at school. Staggered lunch times to allow for social distancing, and cleaning and disinfecting surfaces between groups in the cafeteria. The district has resumed in person breakfast and lunch meals for the 2022-2023 school year. The district will continue to:

- i. Clean and sanitize tables/surfaces between each meal service, pursuant to the protocols outlined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- ii. Individuals must wash their hands after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.
- iii. If serving meals the district will serve meals in classrooms or outside when possible instead of a group dining area.
- iv. Serve individually plated meals or meals in pre-packaged boxes or bags.

Use disposable food service items (e.g., utensils, dishes).

Encourage proper hand washing before and after eating meals.

### **3. Public Comment**

A. Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comments into account in the development of its plan. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 60-day revision to the plan. (1000 character limit)

The district sought public comment on its plan by discussing it at the public session of the board of education meeting in June 2022 and by posting information about the Safe Reopening Plan on the district website. The district also sent text messages to parents explaining the plan and sent out a voice message to students, parents, and community members about the development of the district Safe Reopening Plan. The district used feedback and comments from parents and community members about the plan and incorporated the feedback and comments into the development of the plan.

B. 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. (1000 character limit)-

The district ensured that the plan is in an understandable format by making sure the plan is written in a clear, plain and understandable manner, and is translated into other languages for parents who do not speak English. The district will provide written translations to parents with limited English proficiency. The district will also have staff available at all school buildings to orally translate the plan into a language the parent can understand upon request or will provide appropriate translation services as needed. Also, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, the district will provide a translation in an alternative format accessible to that parent.