

# FRANCIS HOWELL SCHOOL DISTRICT RETURN TO SCHOOL PLAN

As the Francis Howell School District prepares to enter into the 2022-2023 school year post-pandemic, the District will return to our pre-pandemic policies, procedures, and protocols.

2022-2023

The following plan elements are necessary to include per the requirements for ESSERIII funding (2022-2025). If a spike in COVID-19 occurs in our community and/or our District, this plan may be revised. Any changes will be communicated to our parents and community.

### **FACE MASKS**

- Masks are not required in the Francis Howel School District; however, they can be worn if desired by an individual. Current CDC recommendations for mask usage depending on the levels of community transmission can be found on the CDC website.

### **PHYSICAL DISTANCING**

- There is no cohorting at this time beyond normal grade level and/or class groupings.

### **HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE**

- We continue to focus on proper health etiquette as we typically do via policies and procedures.

### **CLEAN AND HEALTHY FACILITIES**

- We continue to focus on proper cleaning as we typically do via policies and procedures.

**2022-2023**

## **CONTACT TRACING AND QUARANTINE**

- We are not continuing COVID-19 contract tracing for isolation and/or quarantine. We ask that parents and staff report positive COVID-19 cases to the school nurse so the District can monitor the number of cases within the district. The District has discontinued the use of the COVID-19 dashboard. If there is a surge in cases, we will communicate directly with the parents and staff of the impacted school.

## **DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TESTING**

- Testing for COVID-19 is not available in the District. We ask that staff and families continue to self-screen and monitor for illnesses per our policies and procedures. We will continue to publicize testing opportunities as we are made aware. Tests are available if needed, while supplies last.

## **VACCINATIONS**

- The District is not providing COVID-19 vaccinations at this time. We will continue to publicize vaccination opportunities as we are made aware.

## **APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS**

- We continue to focus on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities through current District policies and procedures.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING

In-person instruction will begin August 22, 2022, for Francis Howell School District students. Virtual learning options are available to students for the 2022-23 school year. Due to limited enrollment, virtual students will be placed with a third-party virtual course vendor. Participation in the virtual program must be determined to be in the best educational interest of the student. This determination is made through consultation between educators, parents/guardians, and students.

The District will continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 in the district and the community. Should in-person instruction ever be interrupted by a COVID-19 shutdown, students enrolled in virtual programming will continue with their platform. In-person students will shift to online instruction provided by FHSD teachers.

FHSD provides a number of resources for students who are served through an Individualized Education Plan (IEP). Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies in this document will be made as necessary or as mandated by the IEP. If in-person instruction is interrupted by a COVID-19 shutdown, students' individualized plans will be implemented.

2022-2023

## **SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SUPPORTS**

FHSD will continue to tend to students' social, emotional and mental health needs during the 2022-23 school year by teaching positive coping skills and referring students to the counseling or care teams as necessary.

FHSD staff are eligible to take advantage of free services provided by the District's employee assistance program, PAS. Resources include health and wellness resources, financial support, and crisis tools. The District also offers the wayForward app to support the social, mental and behavioral health of staff. The app helps staff build resilience, improve communication, learn keys to good mental health, and practice mindfulness and breathing exercises.

## **SCHOOL CLINICS**

Francis Howell School District Registered Nurses continue to play an important role in maintaining a safe, successful learning environment. Clinics have been stocked with the appropriate resources and information to maintain a healthy environment throughout the year.

All school nurses have a supply of gloves, disposable gowns, and N95 masks.

## STUDENT AND/OR STAFF ILLNESS

Sick students and staff should stay home. Symptomatic individuals or their parents should contact a healthcare professional. If an individual tests positive for COVID-19, they will be excluded from school/work for 5 days from the onset of symptoms. If they show no symptoms or their symptoms are resolving (without fever for 24 hours) after the required exclusion period, they are allowed to attend school/work. It is recommended but not required to wear a mask for days 6-10 upon return to school. Positive cases should be reported to the school nurse.

A student with symptoms that reports to the nurse's clinic once at school will have their temperature, lung sounds and pulse oximetry checked. If a student has a fever or two or more of the following symptoms, a parent will be contacted. The student will be sent home and will need to be evaluated by a health care provider to assure their symptoms are not from a contagious illness or they can return to school at a minimum of 24 hours after symptom resolution without medication.

- temperature > 100.4
- pulse oximetry < 90%
- audible adventitious lung sounds
- Cough
- SOTB (shortness of breath)
- Headache
- Chills
- muscle pain
- new loss of taste or smell
- eye drainage
- rash with itching or drainage

## REVIEW AND REVISION

Revisions will be made as necessary according to changing pandemic conditions. At a minimum, this plan will be reviewed and revised every six months as required by the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) Act. Input from stakeholders is gathered via email, calls, and public comments at Board of Education meetings. The Superintendent will continue to provide updates through reports at Board of Education meetings throughout the year, on the district website, and by regular communication to staff and parents/guardians as necessary.

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