

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

LEA: Freehold Regional High School District (FRHSD)

Date: 6/10/2021

Date Revised: 8/17/21, 10/25/2021, 11/24/2021, 12/8/2022, 6/29/2023, 12/14/2023, 06/17/2024

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:

When required by the Governor’s Executive Order in accordance with guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health, students and staff are required to wear masks or face coverings. Staff and students will be provided with the CDC’s “Guidance for Wearing Masks” to ensure proper mask/face covering selection as well as proper fitment.

B. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)

When required by the Governor’s Executive Order in accordance with guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health, students and staff are required to maintain social distancing to the maximum extent practicable.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Staff and students will be encouraged to wash and sanitize hands frequently throughout the school day. Staff and students will be guided by the CDC’s “When and How to Wash Your Hands” protocol. Notably, hand washing should take place for at least twenty seconds and staff and students should avoid touching their face or mask, especially after touching a frequently touched surface to avoid infection. To assist with frequent hand sanitizing. Faucets and toilets in bathrooms have been converted to “touchless” operation. Staff and students will be guided by the CDC’s “Respiratory Hygiene/Cough Etiquette” which requires covering one’s mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing as well as protocols for proper disposal and hand hygiene.

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

Nightly cleaning protocols will ensure wide and deep coverage of the school building.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments

When required by Governor’s Executive Order or from the New Jersey Department of Health, the FRHSD administration and school nurses would contact trace, isolate and quarantine students and staff in collaboration with the local department of health in accordance with New Jersey Department of Health and CDC guidelines. FRHSD schools will inform students, families, and staff regarding the need to quarantine or isolate via phone, email and/or in person.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing

Students and staff who are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 will be directed to seek medical advice. The treating medical professional will determine if a COVID-19 test is appropriate based on their professional assessment.

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

FRHSD partnered with CentraState Medical Center beginning in the winter of 2021 to provide vaccinations to any staff member who elected to receive one. Additionally, all staff members were provided with information about where to receive the vaccine on their own for those who elected to receive one. Additionally, FRHSD partnered with CentraState Medical Center in the spring of 2021 to provide vaccinations to any student/family who elected to receive one. The Freehold Health Department held vaccination clinics at Freehold Township High School and Freehold High School during the late summer and early fall of 2021.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

When required by the Governor's Executive Order in accordance with guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health, students are required to wear masks or face coverings. Also when required by guidelines, social distancing will be maintained to the maximum extent practicable.

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)

Benchmark assessments are administered in core classes each marking period to assess students' academic needs. After school tutoring is available for students to remain current and successful in their classes. FRHSD will offer four options for summer learning, Original Credit, Credit Recovery, AP Bridge, and Algebra 1 Bridge. I&RS teams will service students who are struggling academically, behaviorally, socially or emotionally and provide recommendations for tiered interventions. Special education students will receive services as determined by their IEP. To address mental health concerns, licensed mental health clinicians will work with staff teams to examine cases and recommend interventions, supports, and community resources. FRHSD partnered with Centra State Hospital's Corporate Wellness Program to provide staff with options for meeting wellness goals, including the physical, emotional and mindful aspects of health.

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 LEA sought public comment on the LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services at the Board of Education meeting on June 17, 2024. Public comments and feedback will be utilized in the development of the LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. Comments from the public regarding the District's plan will be accepted on an ongoing basis throughout the school year.

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 LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services was translated into various languages so the plan is understandable for parents. Upon the request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, the plan will be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.

C. Briefly describe any guidance professional learning and technical assistance opportunities the LEA will make available to its schools. (754 of 1000 maximum characters used)

Additional support for educators and key support staff is provided, for both academic instruction, specifically high-quality grade-level content (i.e. standards-aligned instructional planning and assessment) and support to explicitly teach critical social and emotional skills using an integrated approach. Academic Supervisors provide individual, small-group, departmental, and whole-school professional development that assists in the identification of learning gaps and a scaffolded approach to remediation and acceleration. To address mental health concerns, licensed mental health clinicians will work with staff teams to examine cases and recommend interventions, supports, and community resources for students and families. FRHSD faculty will employ a Restorative Practices framework to allow school communities to proactively foster positive relationships with one another in the school community.