



Pleasantville Public Schools

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Home of the Greyhounds

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

LEA Name: Pleasantville Public Schools

Date (06/24/2021):

Date Revised (06/23/2021):

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**

Students and staff will be required to wear face coverings in school buildings and school buses. However there may be an exception if a student's medical condition or disability precludes the use of a face covering in a school building and/or school bus. If a parent of a student with a disability believes the use of a face covering would not be possible for the child because of the child's disability, the parent should provide documentation from the child's healthcare provider. The schools will have additional disposable masks available for students, teachers and staff in case a back-up mask is needed.

Schools will teach students how to correctly wear a mask and reinforce their use. Social distance and well ventilated areas will be needed for cases when students may not be able to wear masks ex. eating in the cafeteria, gym class, band class for wind instruments and choir. As much as possible we will be moving these activities outdoors if weather permits.

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

A minimum of 3 feet of physical distancing between students should be maintained in classrooms with strict adherence to mask-wearing . Outside of classrooms, 6 feet of physical distance should be maintained to the maximal extent practicable for all grade levels. To keep the

risk of COVID-19 transmission low students are physically distanced and do not share objects. Maintaining cohorts or groups of students with dedicated staff who remain together throughout the day, including recess and lunch times will limit the amount of contact between individuals and will reduce the mixing of students, teachers and staff through groups.

c) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Staff and students will be taught procedures for handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not available the use of hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol will be used. Staff and students will be encouraged to cover coughs and sneezes then to throw away tissues immediately in the trash and then to use the procedure for hand washing. Every classroom and hallway will have adequate supplies including soap, hand sanitizers with at least 60% alcohol , tissues and no touch trash cans. Hand hygiene should take place: upon arrival at school, before and after meals and snacks, after going to the bathroom, before leaving for the day, after blowing nose, sneezing, or coughing into tissue, or when hands are visibly dirty.

d) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

Schools are following the standard procedures for routine cleaning and disinfection with an increase in the frequency of cleaning and disinfecting. Daily disinfection of surfaces and objects that are touched often. If there is a notification of a case of COVID -19 , the cleaning staff will close off the area then clean and disinfect all areas used by the ill person such as offices, classrooms, bathrooms, common areas, and shared electronics. All schools have had their HVAC systems evaluated. Airflow will be improved also by opening windows and doors where possible. Cracking windows just a few inches in the bus will be used to improve air circulation.

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

Each school is equipped with an isolation room for students that show symptoms. The room will allow for social distancing and will have hygiene supplies available. Students will be placed away from others until they can be sent home. All areas used by an individual that becomes ill will be closed immediately, the doors and windows will be opened to increase air circulation. Custodians will wait 24 hours before cleaning and disinfection. The district's contact tracer will ensure that procedures are in place to identify and respond to when a student or staff member becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms. The district contact person will notify the Local Health department when students or staff become ill have have potential COVID -19 exposure. The district contact person will provide the information for the ill person to help with the determination of the next steps.

f) Diagnostic and screening testing

Parents are strongly encouraged to monitor their children for signs of illness every day before they come to school. Schools provided parents clear directions in multiple languages on how to report symptoms and reasons for absences. All staff members must fill out a screening tool before they report to work. The nurse monitors all reports. Each school is equipped with an isolation room for students that show symptoms. Students will be placed away from others until they can be sent home.

g) Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

The district has provided information on vaccines when they became available to staff, The school district was very proactive in broadcasting where and when vaccines were available. Pleasantville will be hosting a vaccine site at the High School on June 30th, 2021. Robo calls to parents go out daily to inform them of the event.

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

Students with disabilities are required to wear face coverings in school buildings and buses unless wearing a face covering would inhibit the student's health. If this is the case the parent should provide documentation from the child's healthcare provider. Contracted transportation providers must ensure the adherence of social distancing and face coverings.

2. 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

The district has adopted Second Step the SEL program for the social emotional health of staff and students'. The program provides professional development opportunities for the staff. In addition the school district is working with the Camden County Educational Services Commission, in partnership with School Based Healthcare Solutions Network to place full-time licensed mental health professionals on the school campus to work with our students.

3. a 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

The district has reached out through the year for public comment on the reopening of schools. The Superintendent reached out through special board meetings to ask for public comments. The public comments were discussed and included in the district's plan. The Community developer has been working with the parents and has provided information to them on the reopening 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.

The reopening plan was formatted for easy comprehension. The information was also communicated in Spanish during the parent workshops, through robo calls and correspondence from the district. The document has been translated in Spanish and is posted on the district's website @pps-nj.us

Briefly describe any guidance professional learning and technical assistance opportunities the LEA will make available to its schools

The school district will make available to its staff professional learning and technical assistance opportunities for accelerated learning, hybrid learning, mental health awareness and COVID -19 protocols to prevent the spread of disease.