

RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

Restart and Recovery Plan
to Reopen School

Montague Township

Board of Education

Fall 2021

RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

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Introduction

On June 26, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) published “The Road Back – Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” (NJDOE Guidance), a Guidance document to assist New Jersey school districts to develop, in collaboration with community stakeholders, a Restart and Recovery Plan (Plan) to reopen schools in September 2020 that best fits the school district's local needs. Subsequently, The Road Forward has been published by the NJDOE and Governor’s office as a guide for the 2021-2022 school year. The NJDOE Guidance presents information for New Jersey public school districts related to four key subject areas: Conditions for Learning; Leadership and Planning; Policy and Funding; and Continuity of Learning.

The Board of Education Restart and Recovery Plan (Plan) has been developed to be consistent with the requirements in the NJDOE Guidance with consideration to the school district’s local needs in order to ensure school(s) in the district reopen safely and are prepared to accommodate students' unique needs during this unprecedented time.

To ensure consistency with respect to the health and safety of school communities across the State, the NJDOE Guidance speaks specifically to health and safety measures identified as "anticipated minimum standards." These “anticipated minimum standards” are items the NJDOE Guidance recommends a school district incorporate into the Plan as definite components related to health, safety, and operations. Through this established set of Statewide standards, the NJDOE can ensure the State's educational health does not come at the expense of public health. The “anticipated minimum standards” in the NJDOE Guidance are listed and have been incorporated into the school district’s locally developed Plan.

The NJDOE Guidance also provides “considerations” that may help school officials in strategizing ways to adhere to the “anticipated minimum standards”, but do not represent necessary components of the Plan. These “considerations” are not listed in the school district Plan, but school officials have reviewed and incorporated the “considerations” included in the NJDOE Guidance when developing the Plan.

The NJDOE Guidance uses the term “should” throughout the document when referencing “anticipated minimum standards ... that school districts should incorporate into their reopening plans as definitive components related to health, safety, and operations.” Therefore, those provisions in the NJDOE Guidance listed as “anticipated minimum standards” have been interpreted to be required components in the Plan.

The NJDOE Guidance uses the term “school districts” or “schools” or “districts” when referring to the completion of tasks. For example, “districts must develop a schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfection.” This Plan assigns the responsibility for

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completing tasks to “school officials” which would be the Superintendent of Schools or a designee of the Superintendent of Schools.

The NJDOE Guidance requires a Board Policy to address several elements outlined in the NJDOE Guidance. This Plan is aligned with the requirements outlined in the NJDOE Guidance. The Appendices section of this Plan include the school district’s unique and locally developed protocols to ensure school(s) in the district reopen safely and are prepared to accommodate staff and students' unique needs during this unprecedented time. Also included in the Appendices section is a chart that includes all websites and outside guidance information that are listed in the NJDOE Guidance.

The requirements outlined in the NJDOE Guidance and incorporated into this Plan are controlled by Executive Order of the Governor of New Jersey and are subject to change.

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THE BOARD OF EDUCATION'S RESTART AND RECOVERY PLAN

The Board of Education's Restart and Recovery Plan addresses four key subject areas:

- A. Conditions for Learning;
 - B. Leadership and Planning;
 - C. Policy and Funding; and
 - D. Continuity of Learning.
- A. Conditions for Learning

Conditions for learning involve the social, emotional, and environmental factors that can impact educator capacity to teach and student capacity to learn, including standards for maintaining healthy and safe school conditions. As schools reopen, the impact of social isolation on both educators and students is a key area of concern.

Conditions for Learning include: Health and Safety – Standards for Establishing Safe and Healthy Conditions for Learning; and Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

1. Health and Safety – Standards for Establishing Safe and Healthy Conditions for Learning; and Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

The Health and Safety Section of the Board's Plan identifies Ten Critical Areas of Operation which the Board has addressed in the Plan: General Health and Safety Guidelines; Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms; Transportation; Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas; Screening, PPE, and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms; Contact Tracing; Facilities Cleaning Practices; Meals; Recess/Physical Education; and Field Trips, Extra-Curricular Activities, and Use of Facilities Outside School Hours.

Throughout this Health and Safety Section, the provisions marked "anticipated minimum standards" as outlined in the NJDOE Guidance have been incorporated into the Board's Plan and related protocols, as applicable.

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The Health and Safety section of the NJDOE Guidance also provided "additional considerations" to assist school officials in considering ways to adhere to the anticipated minimum standards. These provisions are also consistent with the Board's general obligation to ensure the health and safety of its students and staff pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:40-6 and N.J.A.C. 6A:16-2.1. District officials should abide by the advice of local health officials to determine the safest course of action based on local circumstances, which will change as the public health landscape evolves. The health and safety of students and staff is the number one priority and has guided all decisions of the Board's Plan.

Ten Critical Areas of Operation

- a. Critical Area of Operation #1 - General Health and Safety Guidelines – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan
 - (1) In all stages and phases of pandemic response and recovery, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the following actions:
 - (a) School officials will establish and maintain communication with local and State authorities to determine current mitigation levels in the community.
 - (b) School officials will ensure staff and students who are at higher risk for severe illness are protected and supported.
 - (c) The CDC's Guidance for Schools and Childcare Programs, if applicable, will be followed.
 - (d) The Board promotes behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19 such as encouraging staff and students to stay home when appropriate; encouraging the practice of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette; requiring the use of face coverings; and signs and messages in and around school buildings. Updates include vaccination of staff members or weekly testing and a continued

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mask mandate unless meeting certain specific requirements.

- (e) Reasonable accommodations will be provided for individuals that the CDC identifies as having a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, including older adults (aged 65 years and older) and individuals with disabilities or serious underlying medical conditions, which may include:
 - (i) Chronic lung disease or asthma (moderate to severe);
 - (ii) Serious heart conditions;
 - (iii) Immunocompromised;
 - (iv) Severe obesity (body mass index, or BMI, of 40 or higher);
 - (v) Diabetes;
 - (vi) Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis;
 - (vii) Liver disease;
 - (viii) Medically fragile students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs);
 - (ix) Students with complex disabilities with IEPs; or
 - (x) Students who require accommodations under a Plan in accordance with the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504 Plan).

Per Executive Order 251, all public, private, and parochial preschool programs and elementary and secondary schools, must maintain a policy

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regarding mandatory use of face masks by staff, students, and visitors in the indoor portion of the school district premises, except in the following circumstances:

- a. When doing so would inhibit the individual's health, such as when the individual is exposed to extreme heat indoors;
- b. When the individual has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face masks without assistance;
- c. When a student's documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Educational Plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, precludes use of a face mask;
- d. When the individual is under two years of age;
- e. When the individual is engaged in activity that cannot physically be performed while wearing a mask, such as eating or drinking, or playing a musical instrument that would be obstructed by a face mask;
- f. When the individual is engaged in high-intensity aerobic or anaerobic activity;
- g. When a student is participating in high-intensity physical activities during a physical education class in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet from all other individuals;
- h. When wearing a face mask creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.
- i. Students will be required to wear masks on all school buses.

[See Appendix A – Critical Area of Operation #1 – General Health and Safety Guidelines]

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- b. Critical Area of Operation #2 – Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan
 - (1) The district will allow for social distancing within the classroom to the maximum extent practicable. This will be achieved by ensuring students are seated at least three- six feet apart. If the district is not able to maintain this physical distance, additional modifications should be considered including using physical barriers between desks, turning desks to face the same direction (rather than facing each other), and/or having students sit on only one side of the table, spaced apart.
 - (2) Face coverings will be required for all students, and face coverings are always required for visitors and staff unless it will inhibit the individual's health.
 - (a) Enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for young children or individuals with disabilities.
 - (3) In a classroom setting where social distancing can take place (e.g., desks are 3 feet apart in elementary levels or 6 feet in middle school) or physical barriers are in place, face coverings will still be required while students are seated at desks, but should be worn when moving about the classroom.
 - (4) All instructional and non-instructional rooms in school and district facilities must comply with social distancing standards to the maximum extent practicable.
 - (5) Use of shared objects should be limited when possible or cleaned between use.
 - (6) All indoor facilities will have adequate ventilation, including operational heating and ventilation systems where appropriate. Recirculated air must have a fresh air component, windows will be opened, if practical, if air conditioning is not provided, and filter(s) for A/C units must be maintained and changed according to manufacturer recommendations.

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- (7) School districts will prepare and maintain hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol). Such stations should be:
 - (a) In each classroom (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
 - (b) At entrances and exits of buildings.
 - (c) Near lunchrooms and toilets.
 - (d) Children ages five and younger should be supervised when using hand sanitizer.
 - (e) For classrooms that have existing handwashing stations, stations should be prepared with soap, water, and alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol).

- (8) School officials should develop a school-wide plan where students are required to wash hands for at least twenty seconds at regular intervals during the school day and always before eating, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose, coughing, and/or sneezing.
 - (a) If washing with soap and water is not possible, washing with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) should be used.

[See Appendix B – Critical Area of Operation #2 – Classroom, Test, and Therapy Rooms]

- c. Critical Area of Operation #3 – Transportation – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan
 - (1) If the school district is providing transportation services on a school bus, face covering must be worn by all students entering the bus.
 - (2) Accommodations for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according to that

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student's particular need and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

- (3) Every school bus, either district-owned or contracted, should be cleaned and disinfected before and after each bus route.

d. Critical Area of Operation #4 – Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan

- (1) The Board's Plan should establish the process and location for student and staff health screenings.
- (2) Face coverings must be worn while in the line.
- (3) Each school in the district will provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to help ensure that staff and students remain at least six feet apart in lines and at other times (e.g. guides for creating "one-way routes" in hallways).

[See Appendix D – Critical Area of Operation #4 – Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas]

e. Critical Area of Operation #5 – Screening, Personal Protection Equipment (PPE), and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan

- (1) The school district will adopt a plan of action regarding the screening procedures for students and employees upon arrival at school or work location for symptoms and history of exposure. These screening procedures must include the following:
 - (a) Staff must visually check students for symptoms upon arrival (which may include temperature checks) and/or confirm with families that students are free of COVID-19 symptoms.

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- (b) Health checks must be conducted safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations.
 - (c) Results must be documented when signs/symptoms of COVID-19 are observed.
 - (d) Any screening policy/protocol must take into account students with disabilities and accommodations that may be needed in the screening process for those students.
- (2) The Board must adopt procedures for symptomatic staff and which shall include the following:
- (a) 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.
 - (b) 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.
 - (c) 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 must be consistent with the district's contact tracing procedures (see "Critical Area of Operation #6 – Contact Tracing") to the maximum extent practicable. The procedure includes:
 - (i) 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

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- supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.
 - (ii) Following current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.
 - (iii) An adequate amount of PPE shall be available, accessible, and provided for use.
 - (iv) Methods to assist in contact tracing including records of groups/cohorts, assigned staff, and daily attendance.
 - (v) Continuous monitoring of symptoms.
 - (vi) Re-admittance policies consistent with Department of Health guidance and information for schools and Department of Health/Communicable Disease Services Quick Reference Guidance on Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19.
 - (vii) Written protocols to address a positive case.
- (3) School officials will encourage parents to be on alert for signs of the illness in their children and to keep their child home when they are sick.
 - (4) School staff and visitors are required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age.
 - (5) Students are required to wear face coverings and are required to do so, unless doing so would inhibit the student's health. It is also necessary to acknowledge that enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for young children or individuals with disabilities.
 - (a) Accommodation for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according

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to that student's need and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.

- (6) Exceptions to requirements for face coverings shall be as follows:

Per Executive Order 251, all public, private, and parochial preschool programs and elementary and secondary schools, must maintain a policy regarding mandatory use of face masks by staff, students, and visitors in the indoor portion of the school district premises, except in the following circumstances:

- a. When doing so would inhibit the individual's health, such as when the individual is exposed to extreme heat indoors;
- b. When the individual has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face masks without assistance;
- c. When a student's documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Educational Plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, precludes use of a face mask;
- d. When the individual is under two years of age;
- e. When the individual is engaged in activity that cannot physically be performed while wearing a mask, such as eating or drinking, or playing a musical instrument that would be obstructed by a face mask;
- f. When the individual is engaged in high-intensity aerobic or anaerobic activity;
- g. When a student is participating in high-intensity physical activities during a physical education class in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet from all other individuals;
- h. When wearing a face mask creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.
- i. Students will be required to wear masks on all school buses.

- (7) If a visitor refuses to wear a face covering for non-medical reasons and if such covering cannot be

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provided to the individual at the point of entry, the visitor's entry to the school/district facility will be denied.

[See Appendix E – Critical Area of Operation #5 – Screening, PPE, and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms]

- f. Critical Area of Operation #6 – Contact Tracing
- (1) The NJDOE Guidance does not include any “anticipated minimum standards” for contact tracing. However, all school and district administrators, school safety specialists, counselors, and any other staff deemed appropriate by the Superintendent or designee should be provided information regarding the role of contact tracing conducted by State, county, and local officials.
 - (2) School officials should engage the expertise of their school nurses on the importance of contact tracing.
 - (3) The NJDOE will credit certified School Safety Specialists with three hours of training upon completion of Johns Hopkins University's COVID-19 Contact Tracing course.

[See Appendix F – Critical Area of Operation #6 – Contact Tracing]

- g. Critical Area of Operation #7 – Facilities Cleaning Practices –Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan
- (1) School officials must continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise.
 - (2) The Board's Plan and Policy will establish cleaning/disinfecting schedules, targeted areas to be cleaned, and methods and materials to be used including:
 - (a) A schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfection.
 - (b) Routinely cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and objects that are frequently touched. This may include cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily

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cleaned daily (e.g. door knobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops).

- (c) Use of all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. For disinfection, most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. A list of products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 is available on the EPA's website.

- (d) Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g. concentration, application method, and contact time, etc.). Examples of frequently touched areas in schools are:
 - (i) Classroom desks and chairs;
 - (ii) Lunchroom tables and chairs;
 - (iii) Door handles and push plates;
 - (iv) Handrails;
 - (v) Kitchens and bathrooms;
 - (vi) Light switches;
 - (vii) Handles on equipment (e.g. athletic equipment);
 - (viii) Buttons on vending machines and elevators;
 - (ix) Shared telephones;
 - (x) Shared desktops;
 - (xi) Shared computer keyboards and mice;
 - (xii) Drinking fountains; and
 - (xiii) School bus seats and windows.

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- (e) Sanitize bathrooms daily, or between use as much as possible, using protocols outlined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

[See Appendix G – Critical Area of Operation #7 – Facilities Cleaning Practices]

- h. Critical Area of Operation #8 – Meals – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan

- (1) If cafeterias or group dining areas are used in the school district, the school district will incorporate the following into the Board’s Plan, if applicable:

- (a) Stagger times to allow for social distancing and clean and disinfect between groups.
 - (b) Discontinue family style, self-service, and buffet.
 - (c) Clean and sanitize tables/surfaces between each meal service, pursuant to the protocols outlined by the EPA.
 - (d) Space students at least three-six feet apart.
 - (e) Require individuals must wash their hands after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.

[See Appendix H – Critical Area of Operation #8 – Meals]

- i. Critical Area of Operation #9 – Recess/Physical Education – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan (masks are not required during outdoor recess and PE when physical distancing can be maintained)

- (1) The Board’s Plan regarding recess and physical education should include protocols to address the following:

- (a) Stagger recess, if necessary.
 - (b) If two or more groups are participating in recess at the same time, there will be at least six feet of open space between the two groups.

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- (c) The use of cones, flags, tape, or other signs to create boundaries between groups.
 - (d) A requirement that all individuals always wash hands immediately after outdoor playtime.
 - (e) Stagger the use of playground equipment and establish a frequent disinfecting protocol for all playground equipment used by students.
 - (f) Complete an inventory of outdoor spaces (athletic fields, track, green spaces, open space, and local parks) and designate zones, use stations, mark off areas, floor markers, floor tape, poly spots, etc., to ensure separation among students (six feet apart for social distancing).
 - (g) Locker rooms may be closed to mitigate risk and prohibit students and staff from confined spaces with limited ventilation and/or areas with large amounts of high contact surfaces.
 - (i) If it is not feasible to close locker rooms the district will stagger the use and clean and disinfect between use.
 - (ii) Students may be encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and safe footwear to school that allows for safe movement and is appropriate for the weather in order to participate in physical education without the use of a locker room.
- (2) The school district will mitigate risk, limit and/or eliminate direct contact with equipment (lessons with no equipment), and will not allow sharing of equipment. If equipment must be shared, the equipment will be cleaned and disinfected between each use.
- (3) The school district will designate specific areas for each class during recess to avoid cohorts mixing.

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[See Appendix I – Critical Area of Operation #9 – Recess/Physical Education]

j. Critical Area of Operation #10 – Field Trips, Extra-Curricular Activities, and Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan

(1) The Board’s Plan should adhere to all applicable social distancing requirements and hygiene protocols during any extra-curricular activities.

(2) The Board of Education requires any external community organizations that use school/district facilities to follow district guidance on health and safety protocols.

[See Appendix J – Critical Area of Operation #10 – Field Trips, Extra-Curricular Activities, and Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours]

2. Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

In addition to taking the steps listed in the Health and Safety Guidelines section to protect students’ and educators’ physical health, leaders must Also consider the impact of social isolation on both educators and students. School officials are not mandated to develop protocols for these elements as these elements are not “anticipated minimum standards” in the NJDOE Guidance. However, the NJDOE recommends school officials consider the following elements while developing the Board’s Plan.

While only a small introduction to these elements is included in this Plan, a more detailed explanation and further considerations in the NJDOE Guidance are under the Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports section to reference as the Plan is being developed. School officials may use the supports listed in the NJDOE Guidance.

The elements listed below in A.2.a. through A.2.e. provide an explanation for school officials to indicate if the strategy is:

- Not being utilizing
- Being developed by school officials
- Currently being utilizing

There is space provided below in A.2.a. through A.2.e. for a brief explanation of the school district’s status for each element.

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[See Appendix K – Supplemental Materials and Explanations for Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports]

a. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and School Culture and Climate

SEL will be critical in re-engaging students, supporting adults, rebuilding relationships, and creating a foundation for academic learning.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

Paths will be provided, CARES ACT funding is dedicated to Mental Health-to be utilized at the discretion of our CST and Guidance Counselor with input from Staff, Administration, students and parents.

b. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

MTSS is a systematic approach to prevention, intervention, and enrichment in grades Pre-K through twelve for academics and behavior that offers educators and families a mechanism to identify individual students who need extra support.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

School wide RTI program infused throughout the entire school/New Montague Twp. Tiered System of Supports developed, new school wide schedule developed, and two dedicated Interventionists on staff.

c. Wraparound Supports

Wraparound services differ from traditional school-based services in their comprehensive approach to addressing the academic,

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behavioral, and social-emotional needs of students with interventions both inside and outside of the school environment.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

CARES ACT funding dedicated to at-home tutoring/virtual tutoring, at-will home-based instruction, Summer Learning Acceleration Plan implemented

d. Food Service and Distribution

School meals are critical to student health and well-being, especially for low-income students. The NJDOE considers it a moral imperative to ensure the seamless and continuous feeding of students during all phases of school reopening.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

Current program coordinated with Maschio's Food Services through HPRHS

e. Quality Child Care

Child care will be needed as schools reopen, particularly in instances where modified school schedules may increase the likelihood that families who otherwise would not utilize child care will now require it.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized: Monty's before and After care runs from 7-9 am and 3:30-5:30 pm

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[See Appendix K – Supplemental Materials and Explanations for Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports]

B. Leadership and Planning

The Leadership and Planning Section of the Board’s Plan references guidance, requirements, and considerations for the school district regarding district and school-wide logistical and operational issues with which administrators will contend in planning to reopen schools.

The provisions marked "anticipated minimum standards" as outlined in the Guidance have been incorporated into the Board’s Plan and corresponding protocols, as applicable.

The Leadership and Planning section of the Guidance also provided "additional considerations" that assisted school officials in considering ways to adhere to the “anticipated minimum standards”.

1. Establishing a Restart Committee

- a. A Restart Committee should be established as collaboration is critical to the development of the Board’s Plan.
- b. The Restart Committee should include school district and school-level administrators, members of the local Board of Education or Charter School Board of Trustees, the Presidents of the local education associations or their designees of the local education associations, and a diverse set of content experts, educators, parents, and students.
- c. The Restart Committee should work closely with the School Pandemic Response Teams, Local Health Department, and others in municipal and county government as necessary to develop the district Plan. Restart Committees and Pandemic Response Teams should help address policies and procedures for the Board’s Plan.
- d. The Restart Committee should reflect the diversity of the school community, including those representing students with disabilities, whose families speak languages other than English at home, and

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who reflect diverse racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic demographics.

- e. The Restart Committee may consider developing subcommittees to focus on age or grade-level specific needs, school specific needs, or to address issues of importance such as medically fragile students or staff.

[See Appendix L – Restart Committee]

2. Pandemic Response Teams

- a. School-based Pandemic Response Teams should be established in each school in the district to centralize, expedite, and implement COVID-19 related decision-making.
- b. Each school team will have a liaison that reports to district-level administrators to ensure coordinated actions across the district.
- c. Members of the school teams should include a cross section of administrators, teachers, staff, and parents.
- d. Pandemic Response Teams should represent a cross-section of the school and district, including its gender and racial diversity, as decision-making and communication will be more effective if decision-makers reflect the make-up of the community.
- e. If a school has an existing Crisis Response Team, that Team may serve as the Pandemic Response Team.
- f. Pandemic Response Team should be comprised of, at a minimum, the following members, if applicable:
 - (1) School Principal or Lead Person;
 - (2) Teachers;
 - (3) Child Study Team member;
 - (4) School Counselor or mental health expert;
 - (5) Subject Area Chairperson/Director;

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- (6) School Nurse;
 - (7) Teachers representing each grade band served by the school district and school;
 - (8) School safety personnel;
 - (9) Members of the School Safety Team;
 - (10) Custodian; and
 - (11) Parents.
- g. The Pandemic Response Team is responsible for:
- (1) Overseeing each school's implementation of the Plan, particularly health and safety measures, and providing safety and crisis leadership.
 - (2) Adjusting or amending school health and safety protocols as needed.
 - (3) Providing staff with needed support and training.
 - (4) Reviewing school level data regarding health and safety measures and the presence of COVID-19 and reporting that data to the district as required.
 - (5) Developing and implementing procedures to foster and maintain safe and supportive school climates as necessitated by the challenges posed by COVID-19.
 - (6) Providing necessary communications to the school community and to the school district.
 - (7) Creating pathways for community, family, and student voices to continuously inform the Team's decision-making.
- h. The Pandemic Response Team should meet regularly and provide the community with timely updates and any changes to protocols.

[See Appendix M – Pandemic Response Team]

3. Scheduling

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- a. The Board's Plan must account for resuming in-person instruction. Scheduling decisions should be informed by careful evaluation of the health and safety standards and the most up-to-date guidance from the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH), as well the input of stakeholders about the needs of all students and the realities unique to this district.
- b. As of Sept. 2021, there is no remote option available to schools. All virtual learning will be for quarantined individuals, classes and schools.
Virtual learning will continue to be guided by P.L. 2020, c.27 and the school district's updated Emergency Closure School Preparedness Plan if schools are required to deliver instruction through a fully virtual environment during limited periods throughout the school year due to a local or Statewide public health emergency.
 - (1) In accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:32-8.3, a school day shall consist of not less than four hours, except that one continuous session of two and one-half hours may be considered a full day in Kindergarten.
 - (2) School district policies for attendance and instructional contact time will need to accommodate opportunities for both synchronous and asynchronous instruction, while ensuring the requirements for a 180-day school year are met.
- c. The school district will meet the needs of their special populations in alignment with the New Jersey Specific Guidance for Schools and Districts regarding student accommodations.
 - (1) For special education and ELL students, the Board of Education will provide educators with professional development to best utilize the accessibility features and accommodations tools made available through technology-based formats. The school district will continue to ensure students receive individualized supports that meet the requirements of the IEP and 504 Plans.
 - (2) For medically fragile staff, virtual instruction is ideal for staff who are at greater risk for the impacts of COVID-19. Accommodations may need to be made for staff with health

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issues which are exacerbated by viewing content on screens for an extended period.

- d. The school district should accommodate educators teaching in-person, hybrid, and virtual learning, in a way that allows all students to meet their required instructional hours for the day, which may include remote students completing independent work while students in the classroom receive instruction. School officials may:
- (1) Provide teachers common planning time.
 - (2) Ensure school district policies are reviewed and confirmed to support in-person and remote instruction.
 - (a) Virtual learning may create privacy challenges which school districts and schools have not yet faced.
 - (b) The NJDOE strongly recommends engaging communities to better understand the landscape of challenges and opportunities when crafting policies.
 - (3) Secure a steady supply of resources necessary to ensure the safety of students and staff.
 - (4) Ensure that students understand social distancing best practices while awaiting pickup at bus stops.
 - (5) Scheduling will support a combination of synchronous and asynchronous instruction which allows for contact time between educators and their students, as well as time for students to engage with their peers. The NJDOE encourages the school district to evaluate instructional activities based on what is developmentally appropriate for each grade band.
- e. School officials will consider implementation strategies provided in the Scheduling Section of the NJDOE Guidance in developing the Board's Plan.

[See Appendix N – Scheduling of Students]

4. Staffing

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- a. The school district should consider access and equity for all staff to ensure continuity of student learning. The Board's Plan and decision-making throughout the school year should consider unique needs of each staff member, such as access to technology, social and emotional health, and child care concerns.
- b. When making staffing scheduling and assignments, the school district must comply with all applicable employment laws including, but not limited to, the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and all applicable State laws. Additionally, prior to finalizing any COVID-19 related changes for the 2020-2021 school year, school districts should also consult with the local bargaining units and legal counsel.
- c. The Board's Plan should identify roles and responsibilities of school administrators, teachers, instructional assistants, educational services professionals, and student teachers that will ensure continuity of learning and leverage existing resources and personnel to maximize student success.
- d. As schedules are adjusted, educators must maintain quality instruction for students and abide by the minimum requirements set forth in NJDOE regulations.
- e. In response to COVID-19, the NJDOE has provided flexibilities for implementation of certain regulatory requirements during the public health emergency. While the relevant Executive Orders are in effect, these flexibilities will apply:
 - (1) Mentoring Guidance – Outlines requirements and flexibilities for nontenured teachers with an induction to the teaching profession and to the school district community through differentiated supports based on the teachers' individual needs.
 - (2) Educator Evaluation Guidance – (updates to be added when received) Provides a description of flexibilities and requirements for educator evaluation necessitated by the state mandated school closures caused by COVID-19. This Guidance applies to all Teachers, Principals, Assistant

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Principals (APs), Vice Principals (VPs), and Other Certificated Staff for School Year (SY) 2021-2022, and is differentiated for educators with a provisional certification, in the process of earning tenure, and on a corrective action plan (CAP).

- (3) Certification (updates to be added when received)
 - (a) Performance Assessment (edTPA) Guidance Provides a description of the NJDOE's waiver of the teacher certification performance assessment (edTPA) requirement as necessitated by the COVID-19 state of emergency and related limitations.
 - (b) Additional COVID-19 Certification Guidance – Additional flexibilities are expected to be extended to candidates for certification in response to the logical constraints posed by the COVID-19 state of emergency and related limitations.

[See Appendix O – Staffing]

5. In-Person and Hybrid Learning Environments: Roles and Responsibilities
 - a. In a fully in-person or hybrid learning environment districts should leverage staff to monitor student movement, hallway traffic, and maintain safety according to guidelines. Instructional and non-instructional staff schedules can include designated time to support school building logistics required to maintain health and safety requirements.
 - b. Instructional staff should:
 - (1) Reinforce social distancing protocol with students and co-teacher or support staff.
 - (2) Limit group interactions to maintain safety.
 - (3) Support school building safety logistics (entering, exiting, restrooms, etc.).

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- (4) Become familiar with district online protocols and platforms.
 - (5) Plan standards-based lessons to meet the needs of students at various levels, ensuring versatility of lessons to apply to both fully in-person and hybrid learning environments.
 - (6) Develop predictable routines and structures for students while maintaining student engagement through varied instructional strategies/modalities.
 - (7) Provide regular feedback to students and families on expectations and progress.
 - (8) Set clear expectations for remote and in-person students.
 - (9) Assess student progress early and often and adjust instruction and/or methodology accordingly.
 - (10) Develop opportunities for real-time interactions with students (office hours, virtual meetings, etc.).
 - (11) Instruct and maintain good practice in digital citizenship for all students and staff.
 - (12) Instructional staff with additional capacity or limited time spent with students may assist with school building and safety logistics.
 - (13) Teacher leaders or instructional coaches should support teachers in making necessary curricular adjustments and continuously improving the quality of instruction in remote and hybrid environments.
 - (14) Providing materials, manipulatives, and items for at-home activities at no cost to families (particularly in pre-school).
 - (15) Limiting on-line activities for pre-school students.
- c. Mentor teachers should:

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- (1) Plan for "in-person" contact with the mentee using agreed upon communication methods and schedules that provide confidentiality and sufficient support.
 - (2) Identify the most immediate issues to address with the mentee considering technology needs and how to provide effective remote instruction.
 - (3) Establish observation protocols for remote environments that protect confidentiality, respect student privacy, and provide the mentee with relevant support.
 - (4) Integrate self-care, for mentor and mentee, into mentoring scheduling and practices.
 - (5) Continue to maintain logs of mentoring contact.
 - (6) Mentor teachers should consider all health and safety measures when doing in-person observations.
 - (7) Plan for "in-person" contact with the mentee using agreed upon communication methods and schedules that provide confidentiality and sufficient support.
 - (8) Consider alternative methods for classroom observations and avoiding in-person contact where possible.
- d. Administrators - In addition to administrators' non-instructional responsibilities, to ensure quality of continued learning in-person or virtually, administrators should:
- (1) Consider roles for staff with health concerns, leveraging them to enhance the virtual learning environment and inform in-person instruction.
 - (2) Provide time for staff collaboration and planning (See Scheduling section). Prioritize practical science and practical CTE areas for on-site opportunities.
 - (3) Prioritize vulnerable student groups for face-to-face instruction.

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- (4) Identify teachers and teacher leaders that may provide support to staff to continuously improve instruction in a virtual environment.
- (5) Work with staff and faculty to ensure that teaching and learning, and all student services are effectively and efficiently developed, planned, and delivered.
- (6) Hone collaboration, cooperation, and relationship building skills using alternative methods to remain connected to virtual instruction.
- (7) Define and provide examples of high-quality instruction given context and resources available.
- (8) Assess teacher, student, and parent needs regularly.
- (9) Ensure students and parents receive necessary supports to ensure access to instruction.
- (10) Communicate expectations for delivering high-quality instruction, assessing, and monitoring student progress in the virtual environment, in accordance with NJDOE's Professional Standards for Teachers and NJ Professional Standards for Leaders (N.J.A.C. 6A:9).
- (11) Plan a process to onboard students and reestablish the classroom environment through emphasizing relationships with students and parents and resetting routines.
- (12) Collaborate on curriculum planning and assessing student academic and social emotional well-being when students return to school.
- (13) Create feedback loops with parents and families about students' academic and social emotional health and well-being, through use of remote learning conferences and/or surveys to parents about their child's experience and learning while out of school.

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- (14) Share a comprehensive account of academic interventions and social emotional and mental health support services available through the district.
 - (15) Create and communicate realistic student schedules to increase student engagement and accountability for both hybrid and remote learning models.
 - (16) Collaborate in determining expectations for differentiated instruction and rigor in hybrid and remote learning models.
 - (17) Support families in connecting with teachers and other services they need to be successful in navigating the virtual environment.
 - (18) Ensure the Pre-school Director/Contact Person is involved in the planning in order that development activities and supports are in place for Pre-school and supports transition to Kindergarten.
- e. Educational services staff members should:
- (1) Lead small group instruction in allowable environments.
 - (2) Facilitate the virtual component of synchronous online interactions during quarantine.
 - (3) Manage online platforms for small groups of in-person students while teacher is remote.
 - (4) Assist with the development and implementation of adjusted schedules.
 - (5) Plan for the completion of course requests and scheduling (secondary school).
 - (6) Assist teachers with providing updates to students and families.
 - (7) Support embedding of SEL into lessons.
 - (8) Lead small group instruction to ensure social distancing.

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- (9) Consider student grouping to maintain single classroom cohorts.
 - (10) Consider alternative methods for one-on-one interactions avoiding in-person contact where possible.
- f. Support staff/paraprofessionals may:
- (1) Lead small group instruction to ensure social distancing.
 - (2) Consider student grouping to maintain single classroom cohorts.
 - (3) Consider alternative methods for one-on-one interactions avoiding in-person contact where possible.
 - (4) Pre-record read-alouds and videos around SEL activities and routines (Grades Pre-K through two). Caption pre-recorded instructional videos from general education teachers.
 - (5) Provide real-time support during quarantine virtual sessions.
 - (6) Research websites, videos, and links for accessible activities that teachers can incorporate into lessons.
 - (7) Support families and students in accessing and participating in remote learning. Paraprofessionals can be added to online classes as co-teacher.
 - (8) Lead small group instruction in a virtual environment.
 - (9) Facilitate the virtual component of synchronous online interactions.
 - (10) Family Workers will need to provide support to parents via virtual platforms (Pre-school).
- g. Substitutes
- (1) Develop contingency staffing plans in case of sudden long-term absences and/or vacancies.

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- (2) Develop roles and responsibilities for substitute teachers in both virtual and hybrid settings.
- (3) Designate substitutes to a single school building or grade level to avoid too much movement between schools.
- (4) Identify areas where additional staff may be necessary: school nurses, counselors, school psychologists.

[See Appendix O – Staffing]

6. Educator Roles Related to School Technology Needs

a. To ensure all staff supporting virtual learning are prepared to provide or support instruction on day one, the school officials should:

- (1) Designate staff members to provide ongoing support with technology to students, teachers, and families. Consider developing a schedule and assigning a technology point person to teachers by grade level or content area.
- (2) Survey teachers and families to determine technology needs/access (consider those that have access, but may be sharing personal devices with others).
- (3) To the extent possible, provide district one-to-one instructional devices and connectivity.
- (4) Prior to the start of the school year, provide district email addresses and access to online platforms (usernames/passwords/organizational credentials).

b. To ensure student teachers are prepared to start supporting instruction on day one, districts should:

- (1) Train student teachers to use technology platforms.
- (2) Communicate district expectations/guidelines regarding professional online etiquette/interactions with students.
- (3) Survey assistant teachers to determine technology needs/access (Pre-school).

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- (4) Virtual instruction is ideal for staff who are at greater risk for the impacts of COVID-19. Accommodations may need to be made for staff with health issues which are exacerbated by viewing content on screens for an extended period.
- c. Student teachers should:
- (1) Obtain a substitute credential to gain the ability to support students without supervision as needed.
 - (2) Lead small group instruction (in-person to help with social distancing).
 - (3) Co-teach with cooperating teacher and maintain social distancing.
 - (4) Manage online classroom for asynchronous hybrid sessions while the cooperating teacher teaches in-person.
 - (5) Implement modifications or accommodations for students with special needs.
 - (6) Facilitate one-to-one student support.
 - (7) Lead small group instruction virtually while the classroom teacher teaches in-person.
 - (8) Provide technical assistance and guidance to students and parents.
 - (9) Develop online material or assignments.
 - (10) Pre-record direct-instruction videos.
 - (11) Facilitate student-centered group learning connecting remote and in-person students.
- d. Additional Staff Concerns - Districts should also be prepared to navigate additional staffing concerns and topics and may also consider:

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- (1) Best practice and guidance from the American Academy of Pediatrics is to limit screen time for students in grades Pre-K through two. Developmentally appropriate practices show that young learners are most successful with hands-on learning, rather than worksheets or computer-based activities. In this grade band, interactive learning activities are the most effective.
- (2) Develop and communicate a plan of accountability that identifies how teachers will monitor and assess student performance. This includes how they grade students (Grades Pre-K through twelve).
- (3) Districts may also consider developing a plan to leverage community organizations, community partners, faith-based communities, or volunteers to support families outside of the school building. Utilizing community volunteer support that will interact directly with students may require criminal history background checks.
- (4) Roles and responsibilities of teacher leaders or instructional coaches in supporting teachers in making necessary curricular adjustments and continuously improving quality of instruction through remote and hybrid structures.
- (5) Increase need for all staff to address student trauma, social emotional learning, and digital citizenship.

[See Appendix O – Staffing]

7. Athletics

Under Executive Order 149, high school sports under the jurisdiction of the NJSIAA may resume only in accordance with reopening protocols issued by NJSIAA and cannot resume earlier than June 30, 2020. School sports planed to being Fall orf 2021

[See Appendix P – Athletics]

C. Policy and Funding

The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic presents many fiscal challenges to the school district for delivery of instruction and related services to students in

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addition to other basic operational needs. Readyng facilities, purchasing supplies, transporting, and feeding students may look drastically different in the 202-2022 school year. The Policy and Funding section of the Board’s Plan focuses on existing and pending Federal and State legislation, regulations, and guidance.

1. School Funding

a. The Board shall explore options to obtain the maximum amount of available revenue to minimize expenditures and for fiscal planning in the face of considerable uncertainty. The options the Board shall explore include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund;
- (2) Federal Emergency Management Agency – Public Assistance; and
- (3) State School Aid.
- (4) ALL CARES ACT FUNDING (I, II, III)

b. School District Budgets: Updated as needed-planning for 2022-2023 school year

c. School Funding

School officials will review the Policy and Funding section of the NJDOE Guidance that includes information on Federal and State funding sources; purchasing practices; use of reserve accounts, transfers, and cash flow; and costs and contracting, including E-Rate funding and cooperative purchasing contracting.

(1) Purchasing

The school district may likely need to purchase items not needed in the past and may experience increased demand for previously purchased goods and services to implement the Plan. The school district shall continue to comply with

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the provisions of the “Public School Contracts Law”, N.J.S.A. 18A:18A-1 et seq.

(2) Use of Reserve Accounts, Transfers, and Cashflow

The school district shall apply for the approval from the Commissioner of Education prior to performing certain budget actions, such as withdrawing from the emergency reserve or making transfers that cumulatively exceed ten percent of the amount originally budgeted.

(3) Costs and Contracting

The school district shall follow all New Jersey State laws and regulations applicable to local school districts for purchasing when procuring devices and connectivity or any technology related item.

D. Continuity of Learning

Ensuring the continuity of learning is critically important during this time of great stress for families, educators, and students. The move to a fully virtual learning environment happened quickly and created significant challenges for staff and students, particularly students already considered at-risk prior to the pandemic. School officials should work closely with their stakeholders to ensure decisions are made collaboratively and transparently and prioritize safely returning students who are in need of in-person instruction. This may include, but is not limited to, students with disabilities, English language learners (ELL), homeless youth, and low-income students.

Curriculum, instruction, assessment, professional learning, and career and technical education (CTE) are all constructs that can be adjusted to serve as levers for equity.

Except where otherwise indicated, the provisions and elements of this section are “additional considerations” that may help districts in considering ways to adhere to the “anticipated minimum standards”.

While only a small introduction to these elements is included in this Plan, school officials can find a more detailed explanation and considerations in the NJDOE Guidance under the Continuity of Learning section to reference while developing their Plan for the reopening of schools.

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1. Ensuring the Delivery of Special Education and Related Services to Students with Disabilities
 - a. Consistent with guidance from the United States Department of Education, school districts must continue to meet their obligations under the Federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the New Jersey State special education regulations for students with disabilities to the greatest extent possible.
 - b. In accordance with the Extended School Year (ESY) Guidance issued by the NJDOE, student IEPs that currently included ESY services should be implemented to the greatest extent possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - c. The NJDOE recommends that schools districts consider the following when addressing the education of students with disabilities for the 202--2022 school year:
 - (1) Procedures to address the return to school of medically fragile students and students with physical or health impairments who may require accommodations and modifications as part of a 504 Plan.
 - (2) IEP teams should review student data/student progress to determine whether critical skills were lost during the period in which remote instruction was being provided to students and determine the need for additional services to address learning loss.
 - (3) IEP teams should consider the impact of missed services on student progress towards meeting IEP goals and objectives, and determine if additional or compensatory services are needed to address regression and recoupment of skills within a reasonable length of time.
 - (4) IEP teams should develop procedures to complete overdue and/or incomplete evaluations to determine eligibility for special education services.
 - (5) The use of school guidance department staff and Child Study Team personnel to identify students whose

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postsecondary plans may have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and provide support, resources, and assistance, which may include facilitating connection to community organizations, scholarship programs, county, State, and Federal opportunities to access support.

- (6) Clear communication to the parents of the procedures for student referrals and evaluations to determine the eligibility for special education and related services or a 504 Plan as required by Federal and State law.

2. Technology and Connectivity

- a. School districts should strive to ensure that every student has access to a device and internet connectivity. School districts should prioritize the provisions of technology, or alternatively, in-person instruction, to students that are otherwise without access. Additionally, these school districts should include in their reopening plan the steps taken to address the technology deficit and how it will be resolved as soon as possible.
- b. Districts should:
 - (1) Conduct a needs assessment.
 - (2) Consider the attendant needs associated with deployment of needed technology, including student and parent training and acceptable use policy implementation.
 - (3) Prioritize the purchase and roll-out of devices and/or connectivity that may involve learning based on the results of the needs assessment.
 - (4) For students with special needs, accommodations according to their instructional program must be addressed as appropriate for each student.
 - (a) If there is a device or connectivity shortage, the school district should address technology challenges in their Plan. This should include the steps the district has already taken to address the technology divide and how the school district plans to provide

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devices and/or connectivity to students that need them.

3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

a. In planning curriculum, instruction, and assessment for reopening, school officials must focus on building staff capacity to deliver highly effective instruction in hybrid environments as well as preparing them to address any learning gaps that might prevent students from meeting grade-level New Jersey Student Learning Standards (NJSLS).

b. School officials should develop a Plan that is innovative, cultivates a clear sense of shared purpose and goals, encourages collaboration among educators, and fosters an effective partnership approach with students' family members and caregivers. (PDP focus on individual student needs and interventions)

c. Virtual and Hybrid Learning Environment

(1) Curriculum

(a) Educators will be tasked not only with delivering curriculum, but also structuring the curriculum to account for the loss of learning that may have resulted from the extended school building closures.

(b) To accelerate students' progress during the upcoming school year, administrators and educators will be tasked with identifying what unfinished learning needs to be addressed.

(c) Accelerated learning focuses on providing students with grade-level materials, tasks, and assignments along with the appropriate supports necessary to fill the most critical gaps in learning. Accelerated learning seeks to help educators utilize classroom time as efficiently as possible.

(2) Instruction

(a) As school districts prepare for the upcoming school year, instructional plans that are flexible, promote innovation, and take advantage of the strengths of school leaders, teachers, students, and family and community members

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will be best suited to adapt to changing learning environments as may be necessary.

- (b) In crafting an instructional plan, the school district should consider the following:
 - (i) Develop a shared understanding among staff, students, and families across grade-levels and schools regarding learning expectations, and anticipated environments (hybrid approaches to instruction, virtual platforms, learning management systems, etc.) and expectations for interactions to ensure all students have access to high-quality instruction.
 - (ii) Design for student engagement and foster student ownership of learning.
 - (iii) Develop students' meta-cognition.
 - (iv) Collaborate with school leaders and educators to determine what types of supports are needed for effective pedagogical approaches during remote or hybrid instruction.
 - (v) Assess the district's data on how ELLs experienced instruction during remote or hybrid learning; particularly for newcomer students and students with lower English language proficiency levels.
 - (vi) Assess ELLs' levels of engagement and access in an in-person, virtual, or hybrid learning environment.
- (3) Assessment
 - (a) For the purposes of this Plan, the different assessment types are as follows: pre-assessment; formative; interim; and summative.
 - (b) Educators should focus on locally developed pre-assessments and formative assessments upon returning to school.

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- (c) In the absence of Spring 2021 summative assessment data, the school district should identify alternate sources of prior assessment data which may complement data driven decision-making regarding remediation efforts.
- (d) Online pre-assessments and formative assessments should be leveraged in either a fully virtual or hybrid learning environment to support the evaluation of student strengths and the areas for improvement, and to inform next steps, including determining whether remediation is required for an entire group of students or on an individual student basis.
- (e) Pre-assessments administered at the start of instructional units should be limited to informing instruction plans with respect to gaps in the mastery of standards while continuing to move students forward at current grade-level.
 - (i) Such pre-assessments should be incorporated into regular classroom activities and to the greatest extent practicable, should not interfere with student learning opportunities as schools reopen.

4. Professional Learning

- a. It is imperative the school district provides professional learning that will better equip leaders, staff, substitutes, students, and parents to adapt to altered educational environments and experiences.
- b. The school district must focus on professional development to address the learning loss for the most vulnerable populations and prepare and support educators in meeting the social, emotional, health, and academic needs of all students.
- c. Professional learning opportunities should be:
 - (1) Presented prior to the beginning of the year;
 - (2) Presented throughout the school year;

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- (3) Presented in order to grow each educator’s professional capacity to deliver developmentally appropriate, standards-based instruction remotely;
 - (4) Presented to include the input and collaboration of stakeholders, including all staff, parents, and community members; and
 - (5) Professional development plans (PDPs) for teaching staff and administrators, as always, should remain flexible and adaptable to the changing needs of the district, school, and individual educator.
- d. Mentoring and Induction
- (1) Induction must be provided for all novice provisional teachers and teachers new to the district.
 - (2) One-to-one mentoring must be provided by qualified mentors to novice provisional teachers.
 - (3) Ensure that mentors can provide sufficient support and guidance to novice provisional teachers working in a remote environment.
 - (4) Mentoring must be provided in both a hybrid and fully remote learning environment.
 - (5) Use online collaborative tools to remain connected to other mentors, new teachers, and administrators to maintain a sense of communal support.
- e. Evaluation
- (1) School districts should modify annual evaluation training to highlight procedures and processes which would be impacted due to potential hybrid scheduling.
 - (2) School districts should develop observation schedules with a hybrid model in mind.
 - (3) School districts should consider convening a District Evaluation Advisory Committee (DEAC) meeting to review evaluation policies and procedures.

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- (4) School districts should consider the School Improvement Panel's (SciP) role in informing professional learning, mentoring, and other evaluation-related activities.
- (5) School districts must consider the requirements and best practices involved with provisional status teachers, nontenured educators, and those on Corrective Action Plans.

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Appendices

Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools

Montague Township

Board of Education

Fall 2021

RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

Appendix A

Critical Area of Operation #1 - General Health and Safety Guidelines

This school district should include in Appendix A the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.a., including, but not limited to:

General Health and Safety Guidelines

- District will follow all CDC recommendations and action
 - District will communicate with local health department
 - District will ensure students and staff at high risk will be supported and protected
 - District supports behaviors to reduce the spread of Covid 19 including encouraging people to stay at home when appropriate, practice hand hygiene, use face coverings
 - District will add signage to remind people to maintain social distancing
 - District will ensure vaccination of staff or weekly testing

Appendix B

Critical Area of Operation #2 - Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms

This school district should include in Appendix B the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.b., including, but not limited to:

Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms

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- All persons (staff and students) in the building are required to wear a face covering unless pre-existing conditions prevent mask wearing.
- While in classrooms all students and staff are required by the district to wear facial coverings regardless of class size.
- When moving around a classroom or in hallways face coverings must be utilized.
- Visitors are required to wear facial coverings
- Shared workspaces, labs and other shared equipment will be sanitized/cleaned at the conclusion of each classroom session.
- Staff and students will be required to wash hands at regular intervals throughout the school day.
- Student desks and seating in classrooms, cafeterias, multi-purpose rooms, and other spaces will be separated by at least a radius of 3 feet (113 ft²) per person in elementary levels when not eating and at least 6 feet in middle school to the maximum extent practicable.
- The school district will ensure that indoor facilities have adequate ventilation, including operational heating, and ventilation systems where appropriate.
 - Open windows if A/C is not provided.
 - Filter(s) for A/C units must be maintained and changed according to manufacturer recommendations.
 - School bus staff will open windows to the maximum extent possible

The school district will require hand hygiene practices for staff and students:

- If washing with soap and water is not possible, washing with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) should be used.
 - The school district will prepare and maintain hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol) at the following locations:
 - o In each classroom (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
 - o At building entrances and exits.
 - o Near lunchrooms and toilets.
 - The school district will build in the practice of handwashing throughout the day.
 - Children ages 5 and younger will be supervised when using hand sanitizer.
 - For classrooms that have existing handwashing stations, prepare stations with soap, water, and alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol).
 - Students will wash hands for at least 20 seconds at regular intervals after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose/coughing/sneezing.
 - The school district will display signage around school buildings to provide hygiene advice and reminders
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Appendix C

Critical Area of Operation #3 – Transportation

This school district should include in Appendix C the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.c., including, but not limited to:

- a. **Student Transportation**
Bus routes will run as scheduled. Parents will be given the option of driving their children to school. Staggered drop offs and pickups may need to be scheduled depending on the number of students opting out of the use of school transportation.

- b. **Social Distancing on School Buses**
The district will require the use of facemasks on all school busses. The district will adhere to state and federal guidelines for student transportation.

Appendix D

Critical Area of Operation #4 - Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas

This school district should include in Appendix D the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.d., including, but not limited to:

Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas

- Social distancing markings and directional guides will be marked on walls and floors.
- Anyone with a temperature of 100.4 or above will be quarantined and sent home.
- Markings will be placed on the sidewalk to remind students to keep six feet apart.
- Students will be dismissed from the building in small groups as designated by the

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administration. The use of common areas will be limited to times when social distancing can be maintained and students are supervised such as testing, related services, lunch etc.

- Staff and students will be required to wear masks when moving about the building.

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Appendix E

Critical Area of Operation #5 - Screening, PPE, and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms

This school district should include in Appendix E the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.e., including, but not limited to:

- a. Screening Procedures for Students and Staff
- b. Protocols for Symptomatic Students and Staff
- c. Protocols for Face Coverings
- d. Protocols for PPE

Exposed close contacts who are fully vaccinated and have no COVID-like symptoms:

- Do not need to quarantine, be excluded from school, or be tested following an exposure to someone with suspected or confirmed COVID-19.
- Should still monitor for symptoms of COVID-19 for 14 days following an exposure.
- If they experience symptoms, they should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, including SARS-CoV-2 testing and inform their health care provider of their vaccination status at the time of presentation to care

Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff

Schools should ensure that procedures are in place to identify and respond to a student or staff member who becomes ill with COVID-19 symptoms.

- Designate an area or room away from others to isolate individuals who become ill with COVID-19 symptoms while at school.
- Consider an area separate from the nurse's office to be used for routine visits such as medication administration, injuries, and non-COVID-19 related visits.
- Ensure there is enough space for multiple people placed at least 6 feet apart.
- Ensure that hygiene supplies are available, including additional cloth masks, facial tissues, and alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

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- School nurses should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions based on the care and tasks required.
- Staff assigned to supervise students waiting to be picked up do not need to be healthcare personnel but should follow physical distancing guidelines.
- Follow guidance in section 2.0: Cleaning, Disinfection and Airflow.

Exclusion

Definition of COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms

Parents should not send students to school when sick. For school settings, NJDOH recommends that students with the following symptoms be promptly isolated from others and excluded from school:

- At least two of the following symptoms: fever (measure or subjective), chills, rigors (shivers), myalgia (muscle aches), headache, sore throat, nausea or vomiting, diarrhea, fatigue, congestion, or runny nose;

OR

- At least one of the following symptoms: cough, shortness of breath, difficulty breathing, new olfactory disorder, or new taste disorder.
- For students with chronic illness, only new symptoms or symptoms worse than baseline should be used to fulfill symptom-based exclusion criteria.

When Illness Occurs in the School Setting

Children and staff with COVID-19 symptoms should be separated away from others until they can be sent home. Ask ill students (or parent/guardian) and staff whether they have had potential exposure to COVID-19 in the past 14 days meeting the definition of a close contact.

Individuals should be sent home and referred to a healthcare provider. Persons with COVID-19- compatible symptoms should undergo COVID-19 testing.

If community transmission is low, ill individuals without potential exposure to COVID-19 should follow the NJDOH School Exclusion List to determine when they may return to school. No public health notification is needed UNLESS there is an unusual increase in the number of persons who are ill (over normal levels), which might indicate an outbreak.

If ill students have potential COVID-19 exposure OR if community transmission is moderate or high, they should continue to be excluded according to the COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria.

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Schools with testing capacity should test ill students and staff, consistent with any federal and state requirements, including requirements regarding parental consent.

Ill individuals who test positive should be reported to the LHD and contact tracing should begin. Ill individuals that test negative should be referred to a healthcare provider, who may consider additional COVID-19 testing.

LEAs should notify LHDs when students or staff:

Are ill and have potential COVID-19 exposure;

When they see an increase in the number of persons with COVID-19 compatible symptoms.

Test positive for COVID-19 (when in-school testing is performed).

LEAs should be prepared to provide the following information when consulting with the LHD:

- Contact information for the ill persons;
- The date the ill person developed symptoms, tested positive for COVID-19 (if known), and was last in the building;
- Types of interactions (close contacts, length of contact) the person may have had with other persons in the building or in other locations;
- Names, addresses, and telephone numbers for ill person's close contacts in the school;
- Vaccination status if known
- Any other information to assist with the determination of next steps.

LEAs are encouraged to report weekly student and staff case counts to NJDOH through the Surveillance for Influenza and COVID-19 (SIC) Module in CDRSS. (updated August 2021)

- Registration and training on the data elements to report, timelines, and instructions on using the surveillance module can be found at <https://cdrs.doh.state.nj.us/cdrss/common/cdrssTrainingNotes>
- Regardless of vaccination status, if a student or staff experiences COVID-compatible symptoms, they should isolate themselves from others, be clinically evaluated for COVID-19, and tested for SARS-CoV-2

COVID-19 exclusion criteria for persons who have COVID-19 compatible symptoms or who test positive for COVID-19:

- Ill individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms who have not been tested or individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 should stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom

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- onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without fever reducing medications and improvement in symptoms.
- Persons who test positive for COVID-19 but who are asymptomatic should stay home for 10 days from the positive test result.
- An alternate diagnosis (including a positive strep test or influenza swab) without a negative COVID-19 test is not acceptable for individuals who meet COVID-19 exclusion criteria to return to school earlier than the timeframes above.

Close Contact (Student or Faculty)

- Student or faculty that are close contacts of confirmed cases outside the school will quarantine for 10 days
- Individuals with a temperature of 100.4 degrees or above will be quarantined.
- Quarantined students will be escorted to an isolation space until parent contact is made and the transportation home is arranged. This space will be supervised.
- Symptomatic individuals who are not students will be denied access into the building.
- District personnel working in the COVID isolation space must be equipped with a face mask, eye protection, gown, and protective gloves.
- PPE equipment such as gloves and face coverings have been ordered in abundance for distribution to faculty, staff, and students.
- Anyone who has tested positive for COVID may not return to school until they are cleared by a physician and have quarantined for the appropriate amount of time as per the guidelines of the CDC.
- Staff who will be monitoring the isolation room will wear a PPE suit and mask while attending to students' needs.
- Staff who will be in close proximity to students throughout the day will be encouraged to wear PPE suits when applicable.
- A decontamination area will store all clean PPE materials. Staff must wash their hands prior to retrieving a PPE suit from the secured area. All suits must be discarded using a sealed disposable container after each use.

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Appendix F

Critical Area of Operation #6 - Contact Tracing

This school district should include in Appendix F the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.f.

All school district administrators, school safety specialists, counselors, and any other staff deemed appropriate by the school district, will be provided with information regarding the role of contact tracing in keeping school communities safe from the contagious disease.

The district will collaborate with the local health department and engage their school nurses to develop contact tracing policies and procedures, as well as educate the broader school community on the importance of contact tracing.

As per the county superintendent's office, Sussex County Health Department will conduct contact tracing.

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Appendix G

Critical Area of Operation #7 - Facilities Cleaning Practices

This school district should include in Appendix G the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.g.

The school district will provide EPA-registered disposable wipes to teachers and staff so that commonly used surfaces (e.g., keyboards, desks, remote controls) can be wiped down before use.

The school district will ensure adequate supplies to support cleaning and disinfection practices.

The school district will ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection supplies, including storing products securely away from children, and ensuring appropriate ventilation so students and staff are not exposed to toxins or fumes.

Cleaning

The school district will continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise.

The school district will implement a daily schedule for increased, routine cleaning of surfaces and objects that are frequently touched including:

- Classroom desks and chairs
- Lunchroom tables and chairs
- Door handles and push plates
- Handrails
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms daily, and between use as much as possible, using protocols outlined

by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

- Light switches
- Handles on equipment (e.g. athletic equipment)
- Shared desktops
- Shared computer keyboards and mice
- Drinking fountains

Disinfecting

The school district will use all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. The school district will implement a daily schedule for the disinfection of surfaces and objects that are frequently touched including:

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- Classroom desks and chairs
- Lunchroom tables and chairs
- Door handles and push plates
- Handrails
- Kitchens
- Bathrooms
- Light switches
- Handles on equipment (e.g. athletic equipment)
- Shared telephones
- Shared desktops
- Shared computer keyboards and mice
- Drinking fountains

Appendix H

Critical Area of Operation #8 – Meals

This school district should include in Appendix H the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board’s Plan – Section A.1.h.

Meals

- Lunches will be provided by the food services company.
- During at-home virtual instruction, students who qualify for free and reduced lunch will receive meals from contracted food service provider
- Breakfast will be served in the classroom and delivered by staff following established protocols
- Individuals must wash their hands before and after handling food service items

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Appendix I

Critical Area of Operation #9 – Recess/Physical Education

This school district should include in Appendix I the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.i.

Physical Education

- Students participating in physical education classes should come to school wearing attire that is appropriate for physical activity.
- Teachers will focus more on individual pursuits or skills rather than traditional team sports or activities (e.g., dance and rhythms, exercises without equipment, fitness, mindfulness, outdoor pursuits, track and field, throwing underhand, kicking and target games).
- Teachers will use games and activities that require no physical contact and do not require students to be in close physical proximity to each other.
- Teachers will ensure lessons are planned around the available space for instruction.
- Cones, floor markings tape, flags will be utilized to create boundaries between groups
- Shared equipment will be disinfected often

Recess

- Teachers will use games and activities that require no physical contact and do not require students to be in close physical proximity to each other.
- Cleaning of Playground Equipment will be cleaned and disinfected between each use

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Appendix J

Critical Area of Operation #10 - Field Trips, Extra-Curricular Activities, and Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours

This school district should include in Appendix J the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section A.1.j.

- The district's facilities will not be available for any organizations that are not affiliated with the district until further notice.
- Districts will suspend field trips until further notice-tentatively scheduling

Appendix K

Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

This school district should include in Appendix K supplemental materials, evidence, and further explanations of the elements listed in the Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports section in the Board's Plan – Section A.2.a. through A.2.e.

Continuity of Learning Delivery of Special Education

- CST Team will continually monitor students on their caseloads to ensure all IEP goals and objectives are being followed, Classroom aides will be present in all classrooms, both virtual and in-person where mandated by IEP's
- Related services will continue to be provided, either in person or virtually as indicated by the student's IEP
- Evaluations will be completed in a timely manner to the greatest extent possible.
- Clear and consistent communication will be utilized for communicating with parents and guardians, as always, to ensure that we are aware of issues that arise and that they can be addressed in a timely manner.

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- Procedures will be developed to address students who are in need of interventions, like RTI, and will be followed as necessary.
- SEL will be infused through the climate and culture of the school community. Programs such as PATHS will be used to support SEL lessons
- Special education students who require assistive devices for communication will be supplied with those, as well as the proper apps for usage. This will allow for communication in school as well as at home.

Intervention and Referral Services (I&RS)

This program consists of an interdisciplinary team of professionals within the school building who come together twice each month to formulate coordinated services to address the full range of student learning, behavior, social, and health problems in the general education program as well as for students determined to be in need of special education programs and services.

Staff members refer students to the I&RS Committee through the building principal, who then advises the parents of the referral. The I&RS Committee develops an Action Plan containing goals, interventions, and a timeline for the plan's duration.

The I&RS committee follows a multidisciplinary approach with a well-articulated system of supportive activities and services for staff who have identified student difficulties and those who will be involved in the amelioration of the identified educational concerns.

Parents are active participants in this process once a child is referred to the I&RS Team.

Targeted Student Assistance

Guidance Services

Montague school is equipped with at least one guidance professional, as well as one child study team member.

These professionals:

- Provide counseling and social emotional support
- Provide resources for students and for families (academic, behavioral, social)
- Foster communication between teachers, students, and families
 - o For academic support
 - o For socio-emotional support
- Provide in-school assessment
- Provide crisis intervention
- Provide counseling and referral services to any student who may be experiencing personal, family, and/or peer difficulties

Concerns that students may seek assistance for may include, but are not limited to:

Depression Anxiety

Grief/Loss Crisis Management

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Family Changes
Self-Harming
Divorce
Substance Abuse
Anger
Social Skills
Bullying
Self-Esteem
Eating Disorders
Neglect

Appendix L

Restart Committee

- Restart committee is composed of various stakeholders and will work closely with the school Pandemic Team, Local Health Department and government officials as necessary.
- Restart committee will create sub committees to support In School Instruction and Virtual Learning expectations and protocols
- Goals of Pandemic Response Teams include:
 - To “centralize, expedite, and implement COVID-19-related decision-making.”
 - To work with building and district level administration to ensure that actions across the district are coordinated in the best interests of health and safety.
 - To work closely with health departments, and others in municipal and county government to monitor all school and district plans during the pandemic.
 - To make recommendations on operations of health and safety as well as logistical issues

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Appendix M

Pandemic Response Teams

- The current Crisis Response Team will serve as the school based pandemic team will be established to centralize, expedite and implement Covid 19 related decision making

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Appendix N

Scheduling of Student

- The district will offer one option to families:
 - In school instruction
- Scheduling will be based upon the number of students attending each program
- Attendance:
 - In school will utilize Real Time for Attendance purposes
 - During quarantine instruction, Real Time will be utilized

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Appendix O

Staffing

- The district will follow all scheduling and assignments in compliance with employment laws and NJDOE regulations.
- Mentoring guidelines will be flexible and differentiated supports based on teachers' individual needs.
- Educator Evaluation Guidance provides requirements and flexibility necessitated by the state mandate of school closings
- Roles and responsibilities if staffing will follow the guidelines developed by the Restart Committee

Technology and Connectivity

- If needed, the district will provide necessary devices for use during virtual instruction.
- A technology needs assessment for all students will be conducted to determine the needs of our families. Students and parents will have access to our technology department who will assist with any problems that may arise, The technology department will provide troubleshooting, tutorials and remote assistance.
- All district provided devices are connected to a central server located on campus allowing district staff to monitor accounts using a webfiler for acceptable use policies, Internet filters and monitoring software will be utilized on all district provided devices.
- Training has been continually offered for teachers and staff for new and existing technologies that support both in-person and online instruction. Google Apps for Education will be utilized by both students and staff, allowing the district to monitor classroom activities and login information.

Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

- All students have equitable access to remote learning technologies as well in-person instructional resources regardless of grade band or content area.
- The district has formed a partnership with many types of stakeholders by forming a reopening committee that includes: district administrators, teachers, support staff, school board members, and parents.
- There is regular communication between teachers, counselors, and families to keep them abreast of student progress. Staff, students, and families have been surveyed on numerous occasions seeking input and feedback on scheduling, instruction, and assessments.

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- To provide a comprehensive support system, the district utilizes CST and Guidance as well as the implementation of PATHS to help address SEL needs of our individual students.
- Various stakeholders are involved in the decision making process by taking part in the reopening committees.
- Changes to instruction, scheduling, and assessments are communicated to families as soon as possible.
- Educators are provided training and planning time for new instructional techniques during summer hours, a subscription to Google and during in-services throughout the year. Consistency in content areas is achieved by providing summer planning opportunities, common planning times, common assessments, and direct supervisor coordination.

Virtual and In School Learning Environment - Curriculum

- Study Island and ESGI the district's diagnostic software will be used as a pre assessment tool to identify gaps in content knowledge in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Teacher developed assessments and Benchmark assessments (LinkIt) will be utilized
- Supplemental instruction will be based on the results of these assessments and used to maximize efficiency of classroom instruction.
- Grade level vertical articulation for content areas will meet during in services and professional development days to address and discuss unfinished learning and to develop programming for the seamless infusion of unfinished learning.
- In all other departments, assessments will provide analytical data to address critical content knowledge gaps needing remediation.
- District Administration will determine the appropriate amount of time allocated to remediate content knowledge gaps.
- Ongoing grade analysis and student progress will be monitored using lesson and unit plans as well as assessment data.

Instruction

- A daily schedule will be provided by the administration that engages classroom instruction either in-person or remotely.
- During quarantined instruction, learning expectations can remain consistent, yet provide flexibility for instruction and learning outcomes.
- Summary assessments are created collaboratively within each department to best determine the mastery of learning standards.
- If quarantined instruction occurs, MTS will allow time for individualized student contact during "office hours" with teachers and counselors.

Student Expectations and Learning Protocols

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- Committees will continue to meet to discuss expectations for Virtual and Full

Assessment

- Pre-assessments will be used as a diagnostic tool to determine knowledge gaps in course content as needed.
- Formative assessments are continually ongoing and documented in teacher gradebooks within the district's SMS.
- Gradebooks are monitored by district administrators and department supervisors and contain such formative assessment as homework, quizzes, tests, etc.

Professional Learning

- Professional development days and Inservice days will be utilized as part of the ongoing professional development of educators which will include: Google classroom, common assessment design, collaborative planning, SGO development, subject specific supports and technology training.
- Teacher evaluation training will happen during in-service time at the outset of the school as required by the NJDOE. SCIP panel will meet as scheduled.

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Appendix P

Athletics

This school district should include in Appendix P the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section B.7.

MTS will begin Athletics in the Fall of 2021.

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CHART OF USEFUL LINKS

Conditions for Learning		
Section	Title	Link
Critical Area of Operation #1	CDC Activities and Initiatives supporting the COVID-19 Response and the President’s Plan for Opening American Up Again	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/php/CDC-Activities-Initiatives-for-COVID-19-Response.pdf?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fcommunity%2Fschoools-day-camps.html%20-%20page=46
	Childcare, Schools, and Youth Programs	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html
	People Who Are at Increased Risk for Severe Illness	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/need-extra-precautions/people-at-increased-risk.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fneed-extra-precautions%2Fpeople-at-higher-risk.html
	Considerations for Schools	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html
	Reopening Schools in the Context of COVID-19: Health and Safety Guidelines from Other Countries	https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/reopening-schools-covid-19-brief
Critical Area of Operation #2	ASHRAE Offers COVID-19 Building Readiness/Reopening Guidance	https://www.ashrae.org/about/news/2020/ashrae-offers-covid-19-building-readiness-reopening-guidance
	When and How to Wash Your Hands	https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html
Critical Area of Operation #3	Bullock announces phased approach to reopen Montana	https://nbcmontana.com/news/coronavirus/bullock-announces-phased-approach-to-reopen-montana
	What Bus Transit Operators Need to Know About COVID-19	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/bus-transit-operator.html
Critical Area of Operation #4	Stop the Spread of Germs (Printable Poster)	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs-11x17-en.pdf
	Handwashing (Printable Posters)	https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/posters.html

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Critical Area of Operation #5	Communicable Disease Service	https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/
Section	Title	Link
	COVID-19: Information for Schools	https://www.state.nj.us/health/cd/topics/covid2019_schools.shtml
	Quick Reference: Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19	https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/NCOV/COVID-QuickRef_Discont_Isolation_and_TBP.pdf
	Guidance for Child Care Programs that Remain Open	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/guidance-for-childcare.html
	General Business Frequently Asked Questions	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/general-business-faq.html
Critical Area of Operation #7	Guidance for Cleaning and Disinfecting	https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/2020-04/documents/316485-c_reopeningamerica_guidance_4.19_6pm.pdf
	EPA Approved Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)	https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19
Critical Area of Operation #8	EPA Approved Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)	https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration/list-n-disinfectants-use-against-sars-cov-2-covid-19
Social Emotional Learning and School Climate and Culture	A Trauma-Informed Approach to Teaching Through Coronavirus	https://www.tolerance.org/magazine/a-trauma-informed-approach-to-teaching-through-coronavirus
	CASEL – An Initial Guide to Leveraging the Power of Social and Emotional Learning as You Prepare to Reopen and Renew Your School Community	https://casel.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/05/CASEL_Leveraging-SEL-as-You-Prepare-to-Reopen-and-Renew.pdf
Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)	New Jersey Tiered System of Supports (NJTSS) Implementation Guidelines	https://www.nj.gov/education/njtss/guidelines.pdf
	RTI Action Network	http://www.rtinetwork.org/
	The Pyramid Model: PBS in Early Childhood Programs and its Relation to School-wide PBS	https://challengingbehavior.cbcs.usf.edu/docs/Pyramid-Model_PBS-early-childhood-programs_Schoolwide-PBS.pdf
Wraparound Supports	SHAPE	http://www.schoolmentalhealth.org/SHAPE/

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	Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies	https://www.childcarenj.gov/Parents/Child-Care-Resource-and-Referral-Agencies.aspx
	Coronavirus Resources for Mentoring	https://nationalmentoringresourcecenter.org/
Section	Title	Link
Food Service and Distribution	Benefits of School Lunch	https://frac.org/programs/national-school-lunch-program/benefits-school-lunch
Quality Child Care	Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies	https://www.childcarenj.gov/Parents/Child-Care-Resource-and-Referral-Agencies.aspx
	Division of Early Childhood Education	https://www.nj.gov/education/ece/hs/agencies.htm
Leadership and Planning		
Section	Title	Link
Scheduling	New Jersey Specific Guidance for Schools and Districts	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/sped/guidance.shtml
Staffing	Mentoring Guidance for COVID-19 Closures	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/mentguidance.shtml
	Educator Evaluation During Extended School Closure as a Result of COVID-19	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/eevaluation.shtml
	Performance Assessment Requirement for Certification COVID-19 Guidance	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/edtpaguidance.shtml
	Educator Preparation Programs and Certification	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/eppcert.shtml
Athletics	Executive Order No. 149	http://d31hzhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20200530/7d/e6/d1/5c/09c3dc4d1d17c4391a7ec1cb/EO-149.pdf
	NJSIAA COVID-19 Updates	https://www.njsiaa.org/njsiaa-covid-19-updates
	NJSIAA provides return-to-play guidelines – Phase 1	https://www.njsiaa.org/events-news-media/news/njsiaa-provides-return-play-guidelines-phase-1
	Guidance for Opening up High School Athletics and Activities	https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812287/2020-nfhs-guidance-for-opening-up-high-school-athletics-and-activities-nfhs-smac-may-15_2020-final.pdf
Policy and Funding		
Section	Title	Link

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Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	CARES Act Education Stabilization Fund	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/boardops/caresact.shtml
	NJDOE EWEG	https://njdoe.mtwtgms.org/NJDOEGMSWeb/logon.aspx
FEMA – Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance (RPA) Process	https://njemgrants.org/site/rpasubmission.cfm
Section	Title	Link
Purchasing	New Jersey School Directory	https://homerom5.doe.state.nj.us/directory/district.php?districtname=educational+services+commission
	NJSTART	https://www.njstart.gov/bso/
	Division of Local Government Services	https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/
	Local Finance Notice – Coronavirus Response: Emergency Procurement and Use of Storm Recovery Reserves	https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/20/2020-06.pdf
	Local Finance Notice – COVID-19 – Supplemental Emergency Procurement Guidance	https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/20/2020-10.pdf
Costs and Contracting	E-rate	https://www.usac.org/e-rate/
	Technology for Education and Career (NJSBA TEC)	https://www.njsba.org/services/school-technology/
Continuity of Learning		
Section	Title	Link
Ensuring the Delivery of Special Education and Related Services to Students with Disabilities	IDEA	https://sites.ed.gov/idea/
	Guidance on the Delivery of Extended School Year (ESY) Services to Students with Disabilities – June 2020	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/boardops/extendedschoolyear.shtml
Technology and Connectivity	Joint Statement of Education and Civil Rights Organizations Concerning Equitable Education	https://www.naacpldf.org/wp-content/uploads/Joint-Statement-of-National-Education-and-Civil-Rights-Lead

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	during the COVID-19 Pandemic School Closures and Beyond	ers-on-COVID-19-School-Closure-Updated-FINAL-as-of-5.15.2020.pdf
Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment	Learning Acceleration Guide	https://tntp.org/assets/set-resources/TNTP_Learning_Acceleration_Guide_Final.pdf
	Mathematics: Focus by Grade Level	https://achievethecore.org/category/774/mathematics-focus-by-grade-level
	Teacher Resources for Remote Instruction	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/teacherresources.shtml
	NJDOE Virtual Professional Learning	https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/virtualproflearning.shtml
Section	Title	Link
Professional Learning	Distance Learning Resource Center	https://education-reimagined.org/distance-learning-resource-center/
Career and Technical Education (CTE)	Communicable Disease Service	https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_schools.shtml
	Considerations for Schools	https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html