

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## ***The Road Back: Restart and Recovery Plan for Education***

**School District: Sterling High School**

# Sterling High School

*The Road Back*

2023-24 Academic Year Reopening Plan

*Prepared by Mr. Matthew Sheehan*

*Superintendent*

*Draft Submitted to the Sterling High School Board of Education*

*This plan is based on the NJDOE guidance document*

<https://www.nj.gov/education/reopening/NJDOETheRoadBack.pdf>

Camden County Board of Health

Legal Guidance provided by Alicia D'Anella and Strauss Esmay

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## SHARED VISION

Our students will achieve their highest potential in personal and academic growth, becoming upstanding citizens, and contribute today's global society.

## DISTRICT MISSION STATEMENT

Sterling Regional High School District will serve the needs of a diverse student body by maintaining a safe respectful learning environment, cultivating high standards of excellence, and preparing our students for life beyond Sterling High School.

## OBJECTIVES / GOALS

Building upon our strong foundations of academic excellence, inclusion, voice, and cultural proficiency, we will organize to address student wellness, highly engage our learners through promoting creativity and accountability, and encourage our students to connect to the world beyond their classrooms.

## Sterling High School Board of Education Members

Bill Hiltner – President

Dan Radcliff - Vice President

Brian Healey

Kellie Stout

Victoria Burckley

Emily Reich

Jason Clark

Shawn Nicholas

James Mohan

Alison Manny (Laurel Springs Rep)

Lailia Solomon (Student Representative)

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## Return to Work / Return to School Committees

### Pandemic Response / Safety Committee

Jarod Claybourn, Principal	Frank D'Errico, V.P.
Robynn Considine, Director Guidance Services	Debra Sukinik, Sup of Special
Scott Manlove, Director of Athletics	Rachel Ravior, V.P. Curr.
Kevin Smith, School Resource Officer	Mary Jo Eppright, SAC
Beth Donato, School Nurse (RN) Nurse (RN)	Melissa Russomanno, School
Tara Eberly, Guidance Counselor Counselor	Patrice Litle, Guidance
Dan Riley, Family and Consumer Sciences Performing Arts	Christina Blankenship,
Emily Caracciolo, H/PE Department Education	Karen Hoffman, Individual
Doctor Gigliotti, Physician	

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## Instructional Committee

Jarod Claybourn, Principal  
Guidance

Rachel Ravior, Vice Principal of Curriculum

Charles Kiersznowski, Individual Education

Sierra Jordan, English

Emily Caracciolo, Health /PE

Tadd Kozeniewski, Technology

Jim Blumenstein, Social Studies

Lynee Covington, English

Mike Carty, English

Robynn Considine, Director

Sarah DiMarco, English

Paul Stanko, Social Studies

Jennifer Murphy, English

Edward Baynes, Mathematics

Sharon Galt, World Languages

Alexis Ciccarelli, Mathematics

Pete Marlys, Social Studies

Stephanie Zapisek, Mathematics

## Operations / Facilities

Matthew Sheehan, Superintendent

Jim McCullough, Business Administrator

Nicole Dunn, English

Gary Smith, Building and Grounds

Shawn Klenk, Athletic Trainer

Jarod Claybourn, Principal

Robynn Considine, Dir Guidance

Tom Arcinese, Building and Grounds

Julia Haughwout, Secretary

Beth Donato, School Nurse (RN)

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools

Insert: ***STERLING HIGH***  
***SCHOOL***

Board of Education

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

Fall 2023

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page #</u>
Introduction	8
A. Conditions for Learning	10
1. Health and Safety – Standards for Establishing Safe and Healthy Conditions for Learning	11
a. Critical Area of Operation #1 General Health and Safety Guidelines	11
b. Critical Area of Operation #2 Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms	12
c. Critical Area of Operation #3 Transportation	14
d. Critical Area of Operation #4 Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas	14
e. Critical Area of Operation #5 Screening, PPE, and Response to Students and Staff Presenting Symptoms	15
f. Critical Area of Operation #6 Contact Tracing	18
g. Critical Area of Operation #7 Facilities Cleaning Practices	20
h. Critical Area of Operation #8 Meals	20
i. Critical Area of Operation #9 Recess/Physical Education	21
j. Critical Area of Operation #10 Field Trips, Extra-Curricular Activities, and Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours	22
2. Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports	22

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

	<u>Page #</u>
a. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and School Climate and Culture	22
b. Multi-Tiered Systems of Supports (MTSS)	23
c. Wraparound Supports	23
d. Food Service and Distribution	23
e. Quality Child Care	24
B. Leadership and Planning	24
1. Establishing a Restart Committee	24
2. Pandemic Response Teams	25
3. Scheduling	27
4. Staffing	29
5. In-Person and Hybrid Learning Environments: Roles and Responsibilities	30
6. Educator Roles Related to School Technology Needs	36
7. Athletics	38
C. Policy and Funding	39
1. School Funding	39
D. Continuity of Learning	41
1. Ensuring Delivery of Special Education and Related Services to Students with Disabilities	41
2. Technology and Connectivity	42
3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessments	43
4. Professional Learning	45
5. Career and Technical Education (CTE)	47
<u>Appendices</u>	49



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

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

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

The NJDOE Guidance requires a Board Policy to address several elements outlined in the NJDOE Guidance. The Board of Education has adopted Board Policy 1648 – Restart and Recovery Plan that includes the policies required 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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

- b. 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

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

- c. Critical Area of Operation #1 – General Health and Safety Guidelines – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan
- d. In all stages and phases of pandemic response and recovery, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recommends the following actions:
  - (b) School officials will ensure staff and students who are at higher risk for severe illness are protected and supported, such as providing options for telework and virtual learning.
  - I 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.
- e. School officials will establish and maintain communication with local and State authorities to determine current mitigation levels in the community.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

I 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:

- f. 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).

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

b. Critical Area of Operation #2 – Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan

- g. Schools in 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 six feet apart. If a school in the district is not able to maintain this physical distance, additional modifications should be considered including using

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- 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) When social distancing is difficult or impossible, face coverings will be required for students, and face coverings are always required for visitors and staff unless it will inhibit the individual's health.
- h. 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 6 feet apart) or physical barriers are in place, face coverings can be removed while students are seated at desks, but should be worn when moving about the classroom.
  - (4) All instructional and non-instructional rooms in schools 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.
  - (7) School districts will prepare and maintain hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol). Such stations should be:
    - i. In each classroom (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
      - (b) At entrances and exits of buildings.
      - I Near lunchrooms and toilets.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (d) Children ages five and younger should be supervised when using hand sanitizer.
- I 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.
- j. 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
- k. If the school district is providing transportation services on a school bus and is unable to maintain social distancing, a face covering must be worn by all students who are able to do so upon entering the bus.
  - (2) Accommodations for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according to that 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.
  - [See Appendix C – Critical Area of Operation #3 – Transportation]
- d. Critical Area of Operation #4 – Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan
- l. The Board’s Plan should establish the process and location for student and staff health screenings.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (2) If physical distancing (six feet apart) cannot be maintained for individuals in line waiting to enter or exit a building, face coverings shall 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
  - m. The school district will adopt Board Policy 1648 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:
    - n. 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.
      - (b) Health checks must be conducted safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations.
      - I 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 students, which shall include the following:



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

- o. 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.
  - I 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:
    - (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 Service's Quick Reference Guidance on Discontinuation of Transmission-Based
- p. Establishment of an isolation space. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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 strongly encouraged to wear face coverings and are required to do so when social distancing cannot be maintained, 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.
- q. Accommodation for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according 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:
    - r. Doing so would inhibit the individual's health.
      - (b) The individual is in extreme heat outdoors.
      - I The individual is in water.
      - (d) A student's documented medical condition, or disability as reflected in an IEP, precludes the use of face covering.
        - I The student is under the age of two and could risk suffocation.
    - (7) If a visitor refuses to wear a face covering for non-medical reasons and if such covering cannot be provided to the individual the point of entry, the visitor's entry to the school/district facility may be denied.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

[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
- s. 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:
    - t. 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 cleaned daily (e.g. doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops).
      - I Use of all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. For disinfection, most common EPA-registered household disinfectants

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

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:

- u. 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.

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

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

[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
- v. 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:
- w. Stagger times to allow for social distancing and clean and disinfect between groups.
  - (b) Discontinue family style, self-service, and buffet.
  - I Clean and sanitize tables/surfaces between each meal service, pursuant to the protocols outlined by the EPA.
  - (d) Space students at least six feet apart.
  - I 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]

- x. Critical Area of Operation #9 – Recess/Physical Education – Anticipated Minimum Standards Incorporated into the Plan
  - (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.
    - I 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- I 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.
- y. 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.
- [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
- z. The Board’s Plan should adhere to all applicable social distancing requirements and hygiene protocols during any extra-curricular activities.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

- (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.

[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

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

Currently Being Utilized

---

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

---

aa. Wraparound Supports

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

---

bb. 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

---



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

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

---

[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”.

cc. 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- 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 who reflect diverse racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic demographics.
- dd. 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

- ee. School-based Pandemic Response Teams should be established in each school in the district to centralize, expedite, and implement COVID-19 related decision-making.
- ff. Each school team will have a liaison that reports to district-level administrators to ensure coordinated actions across the district.
- gg. Members of the school teams should include a cross section of administrators, teachers, staff, and parents.
- hh. 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.
- ii. If a school has an existing Crisis Response Team, that Team may serve as the Pandemic Response Team.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

- jj. Pandemic Response Team should be comprised of, at a minimum, the following members, if applicable:
  - kk. School Principal or Lead Person;
    - (2) Teachers;
    - (3) Child Study Team member;
    - (4) School Counselor or mental health expert;
    - (5) Subject Area Chairperson/Director;
    - (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:
    - ii. 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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.

mm. 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

nn. 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. 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.

oo. 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.

pp. 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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 issues which are exacerbated by viewing content on screens for an extended period.
- qq. 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 classroom receive instruction. School officials may:
  - rr. 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) Develop protocols for social distancing on buses and 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.
- ss. 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]

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

4. Staffing
  - 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 2023-2024 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:
- tt. 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 – Provides a description of flexibilities and requirements for educator evaluation

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

necessitated by the state mandated school closures caused by COVID-19. This Guidance applies to all Teachers, Principals, Assistant Principals (Aps), Vice Principals (VPs), and Other Certificated Staff for School Year (SY) 2023-2024, and is differentiated for educators with a provisional certification, in the process of earning tenure, and on a corrective action plan (CAP).

## (3) Certification

uu. 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

vv. 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.

ww. Instructional staff should:

xx. 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.).

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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.

yy. Mentor teachers should:

zz. Plan for “in-person” contact with the mentee using agreed upon communication methods and schedules that provide confidentiality and sufficient support.



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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.

aaa. Administrators – In addition to administrators’ non-instructional responsibilities, to ensure quality of continued learning in-person or virtually, administrators should:

bbb. 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.
- (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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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.
- (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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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.

ccc. Educational services staff members should:

ddd. Lead small group instruction in a virtual environment.

- (2) Facilitate the virtual component of synchronous online interactions.
- (3) Manage online platform 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.
- (9) Consider student grouping to maintain single classroom cohorts.
- (10) Consider alternative methods for one-on-one interactions avoiding in-person contact where possible.

eee. Support staff/paraprofessionals may:

fff. Lead small group instruction to ensure social distancing.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

- (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 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).

ggg. Substitutes

hhh. Develop contingency staffing plans in case of sudden long-term absences and/or vacancies.

- (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 psychologist.

[See Appendix O – Staffing]

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## 6. Educator Roles Related to School Technology Needs

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

jjj. 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).

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

lll. 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).

(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.

mmm. Student teachers should:

nnn. 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).

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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.

ooo. Additional Staff Concerns – Districts should also be prepared to navigate additional staffing concerns and topics and may also consider:

ppp. 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- (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.

[See Appendix P – Athletics]

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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 addition to other basic operational needs. Readying facilities, purchasing supplies, transporting, and feeding students may look drastically different in the 2023-2024 school year. The Policy and Funding section of the Board's Plan focuses on existing and pending Federal and State legislation, regulations, and guidance.

### qqq. School Funding

rrr. 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:

sss. Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund;

(2) Federal Emergency Management Agency – Public Assistance; and

(3) State School Aid.

### ttt. School District Budgets

Districts have finalized their FY23 budget year and have already finalized their FY24 budgets. Because of the timing of the budget process, many of the activities listed below have not been, and cannot be, factored into either budget year without additional revenue outside the amount they anticipated for FY24 in February, and budget transfers that current statute does not authorize at the start of the school year.

### uuu. 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.



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

vvv. 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 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## www. 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.

## xxx. Ensuring the Delivery of Special Education and Related Services to Students with Disabilities

yyy. 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.

zzz. 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.

aaaa. The NJDOE recommends that schools districts consider the following when addressing the education of students with disabilities for the 2023-2024 school year:

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

bbbb. 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 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

cccc. 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.

dddd. Districts should:

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

eeee. Conduct a needs assessment.

- (2) Consider the attendant needs associated with deployment of needed technology, including student and parent trainings 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.

ffff. 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 devices and/or connectivity to students that need them.

### 3. Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

gggg. 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).

hhhh. 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.

### iiii. Virtual and Hybrid Learning Environment

#### jjjj. 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

I 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

kkkk. 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 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:

llll. 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

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

mmmm. For the purposed 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.

I In the absence of Spring 2020 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.

I 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.

nnnn. 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

oooo. 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.

pppp. The school district must focus on professional development to address the learning loss for the most vulnerable populations and preparing and supporting educators in meeting the social, emotional, health, and academic needs of all students.

qqqq. Professional learning opportunities should be:

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- rrrr. Presented prior to the beginning of the year;
- (2) Presented throughout the school year;
  - (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 stake holders, 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.
- ssss. Mentoring and Induction
- ttt. 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.
- uuuu. Evaluation
- vvvv. 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.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

- (3) School districts should consider convening a District Evaluation Advisory Committee (DEAC) meeting to review evaluation policies and procedures.
- (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.

## 5. Career and Technical Education (CTE)

www. It is critical to maintain the integrity and safety of approved CTE programs and ensure that all CTE students are reached Statewide.

xxxx. The Office of Career Readiness has established guiding principles to help administrators and educators make informed decisions about how, when, and to what extent career and technical education can be safely offered.

yyyy. Guiding Principles

zzzz. It is essential that when the school district is considering innovative learning models for CTE during a time of social distancing, the State Plan Foundational Elements of Equity of Opportunity and Access as well as Partnerships must be considered.

- (2) The State Plan Goals of Quality Programs, Work-Based Learning (WBL), Career Advisement and Development, and CTE Teacher Recruitment and Retention must also be considered as CTE programs are adapting to new learning environments.

d. Quality CTE Programs

aaaa. When planning for in-person instruction, examine current curriculum content and evaluate which content is most critical in meeting the requirements of NJSLS, CTE Core Content Standards, industry certifications, college credit agreements, etc.

- (2) During a time when some credentials may not be accessible online or through other virtual means, it is necessary to ensure students have access to appropriate industry-recognized, high-value credentials.

bbbb. Work-Based Learning



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

Students must be provided the opportunity to participate in safe work-based learning, either remotely (simulations, virtual tours, etc.) or in-person. The school district should consider work-based learning opportunities addressed in the administrative code.

cccc. Career Advisement and Development

Strong career advisement in conjunction with business and community partnerships are essential components of CTE programs and cannot be compromised in a time of increased social distancing; therefore, modifications must be developed to maintain program quality.

dddd. CTE Recruitment and Retention

CTE teachers require support in transforming their curricula and shifting their instructional practices to meet the needs of the changing classroom environments in a time of social distancing.

eeee. Funding to Support CTE Programs

The school district has the ability to utilize the CARES Act – Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER) grants, local district funding, Perkins funding (if eligible), discretionary grant funding (if participating), and other Federal entitlement funds.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## Appendices

### Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools

Insert: *School District Name*  
**Board of Education**

**Fall 2023**

# 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:

- a. Protocol for High Risk Staff Members
- b. Protocol for High Risk Students
  - School officials will maintain communication with local and state authorities for mitigation levels.
  - School officials will insure staff and students who are at higher risk are protected and supported (telework and virtual learning)
  - Adhere to CDC guidelines for schools
  - School officials and school board promotes behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19
  - School Officials will follow Executive Orders; Executive Orders 302 to permit covered workers to work without vaccination or testing..
  - Reasonable accommodations will be provided for those with higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19
  - Back to School Nights / Parent Teacher Conferences will be in-person with teacher video options
  - Staff required to socially distance at in-person meetings and consideration will be given for meetings / trainings to be held virtually.
  - Board meetings are schedule to be held in person for the 2022/23 school year. The decision to alter from in-person meetings will be determined in consult with LHD. Meetings may move to virtual in a public health crisis.
  - Do to more stringent requirements to keep sick or at risk sick students at home, enforcement provisions of the attendance policy will be relaxed with considerations due to the pandemic considered. Virtual participation will replace in-person instruction when necessary. Students who are ill with COVID-like symptoms will be permitted synchronous instruction during the duration of their illness
  - Daily virtual attendance taken and required – on days when students working virtually.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## 100% Remote Learning Option

- Available to those students at higher risk for severe illness or students whose parents/guardians elect Remote Learning.
- Remote Learning for District Closures lasting more than three consecutive days due to any declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by an appropriate health agency.
- Remote Learning will be offered to students who may miss time for quarantine due to COVID-19 related issues; COVID positive or a close contact, district closures lasting more than three consecutive days due to any declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by an appropriate health agency.
  - Sterling uses Microsoft Teams and One Note as part of both in-person and remote instruction.
  - Students on Quarantine will follow our regular bell schedule beginning at 7:22 and ending at 2:29
  - If school is placed on Remote schedule will be adjusted to
    - 1<sup>st</sup> Block 7:57 – 9:00
    - 2<sup>nd</sup> Block 9:00 – 10:00
    - 4<sup>th</sup> Block 10:00 – 11:00
    - 5<sup>th</sup> Block 11:00 – 12:00
- Students are provided with a district issued Tablet and other necessary materials necessary for academic success
- Wifi required – contact administration if this is an issue for your family. Survey of community to determine if a digital divide exists.
- Message community about internet / connectivity issues via school messenger, Castle Connection, and guidance department communication.
- Upgrade connectivity and internet hot spots around the building for drive up / walk up access
- Designated time slots to reduce the amount of late, extended hours of contact beyond the typical school day to reduce disconnect and late submission of work.
- Sterling staff take attendance at the start of each block. Attendance automatically is input into our student information system and the parents are contacted via email and voice mail.
- Our Guidance staff follows up with the families of the students who are not connecting synchronously. Additionally, our admin team will make home visits on occasion to check in on and encourage students who may need extra attention in the area of attendance
- Synchronous instruction opportunities during designated instructional blocks

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- Grading policy set in advance; increased 1:1 assessments and common assignments due dates and times. Credit recovery offered semesterly for those with attendance / credit issues
- Similar work requirements as in-person with some possible adjustments in the demonstration of content mastery
- Enhanced instruction will blend live, recorded instruction and self-paced work under the direction of the teacher following updated curricular and instructional guidance developed by Instructional / Reflection Committee
- Updated teacher and student expectations, policies and procedures, and other forms of communication. Encourage flexibility
- Grade level and age appropriate practices as determined by the Admin, staff, and curriculum.

## Addressing English Language Learners (ELL) Plan Needs

- ELL students will follow schedule with support from ELL staff and will receive instruction and support aligned with State and Federal requirements.
- Sterling staff will offer translation services upon request, provides information in both English and Spanish, or any other home language. Additionally, Sterling staff will offer support in all classes for ELL students consistent with our regular, in person schedule.
- Sterling High School is fully outfitted in one to one tablets and utilizes Microsoft Teams as a method of delivering instruction for both in-person and for remote instruction purposes.
- Sterling will offer alternate methods of instruction, access to technology, and strategies to ensure ELLs access the same standard of education as non-ELL peers.
- Sterling staff have received professional development to strengthen remote instruction abilities. Additionally, our staff undergoes extensive training on Microsoft Teams, learning strategies in dealing with socio-emotional learning, culturally responsive teaching and learning, and other situations that may arise during remote instruction.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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:

#### I. Social Distancing in Instructional and Non-Instructional Rooms

- Seating charts will be required for all classrooms
- Directional signs, floor markings, and classroom procedures will be distributed to each student and will be included in the teachers policies and procedures (available in One Note)
- Offices are arranged with 6' of space between desks / work stations

#### II. Procedures for Hand Sanitizing/Washing

- Each classroom will be outfitted with sanitizing wipes
- Students will wipe down work space / desk at the start and end of each block
- Students and staff will be required to use hand sanitizer upon entry to each classroom. Handwashing and hand sanitizing will be strongly recommended throughout the school day
- Mobile hand sanitizer stations will be strategically placed throughout the school day
- Hand sanitizers will be available in each classroom.
- Students and staff encouraged to carry their own hand sanitizer
- Offices will have protective plexiglass, mounted hand sanitizers, and mounted sanitizer wipes.
- Visitors to the office will be required to stay on their side of the plexiglass and to use hand sanitizers upon entering and exiting the office

#### III. Mask Protocol

- Mask wearing is optional
  - i. Individuals who test positive will need to quarantine for days 1 -5 and wear a mask for days 6 - 10.
  - ii. Individuals exposed to COVID-19 are encouraged to wear a mask.
  - iii. Individuals who become ill in school with COVID-like symptoms must wear a mask until they leave the school premises.
  - iv. Individuals who test positive and participate in high-risk activities must refrain from the activity on days 6 – 10 if a mask cannot be worn. These

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

individuals can return prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> day if they can wear a mask or if they have two negative tests after day six.

## IV.

### V. Student and Classroom Supplies

- General classroom supplies can be shared by students
- Students expected to bring tablet and other necessary school materials to school for in-person instruction
- Tablets
  - i. Tablets issued to each student and include bag, charger, and stylus
  - ii. Students forgetting their tablet may be issued a replacement tablet for the day, which will be returned and sanitized before being stored for possible future use
- Novels, textbooks, and other materials
  - i. Most classroom materials are digital.
  - ii. Teachers have a numbering system for each novel and textbook
  - iii. Students will be assigned one novel / text per student for the duration of the course (mini block, marking period, semester, or year-long)
  - iv. Teachers will keep of copy of assigned materials for reference
  - v. Assigned materials will be collected upon course completion and sanitized prior to redistribution

## VI. Fire Drills and Lockdown

- Fire drills will be conducted as per schedule
- Security drills will be conducted in a modified practice. Lock out drills can be practiced as usual. Lock down will be conducted as usual
- Drills will be practiced once per month; conduct drills that do not require adaptations.
- Drills which can involve parent community for testing and reinforcing notification systems may provide added value during remote learning circumstances
- If split schedules are implemented, consideration should be given to replicating some drills to include training for all students
- Adjustments will be made upon the receipt of additional guidance

## VII. Bathroom Routines

- Students are permitted to use the restrooms as per usual. Number of students depends upon number of bathrooms available. Students will scan in, use the bathroom, and will need to wash or sanitize hands
- No passes will be issued. Students receiving permission will have to swipe in for attendance

## VIII. Youth Study Team Office:

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- Students will meet with their case manager or related service professional by appointment only
- Students will scan their ID card upon entry and exit from office
- IEP meetings, parent conferences, and any other meetings with YST will be held virtually; the student may be present in person, if they are in school
- In an emergency, teachers will communicate with the YST and students can be sent to the office
- The Break Room will be utilized by one student at a time and sanitized after each use
- Plexiglass protectors and face masks will be used when YST is testing, evaluating, providing therapy / counseling
- Desks, surfaces, and chairs will be sanitized by YST after student use.
- Students are remote instruction will follow IEPs to the greatest extent possible. Attempts to track services, student progress, as well as provision of accommodations and modifications when possible.
- Remote Instruction is conducted via Microsoft Teams and Special Education staff are able to implement the curricular modifications and accommodations as outlined in student IEPs.
- IEP Goals are tracked during Remote Instruction just as they are for in-person instruction; IEPs are housed in OnCourse for shared access with Special Education staff.
- Case Managers continue to be the liaison to parent during Remote Instruction. Phone calls and virtual meetings are utilized on the preference of the parent/guardian. IEP Meetings are held during Remote Learning according to the timelines outlined in the IEP. Meeting notices are still to be mailed electronically and via USPS and parents are invited in to meet in person or virtually depending upon their level of comfort and health / safety protocols.



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## **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:

- Student Transportation / Social Distancing on Buses – does not apply
  - a. The Critical Area of Operation #3 is handled by the contracted transportation service for our Multiple Disabled (MD) Students and Athletics

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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:

- I. Location of Student and Staff Screening
  - Students will be screened by their parents/guardians prior to arriving to school.
  - Students will proceed as follows
    - i. 98.6 – students will report to their homeroom / first block class
    - ii. 100.4 – students expected to stay at home until illness passes or see their physician is symptoms persist.
  - Staff will enter at a designated location for temperature check
    - i. 98.6 – staff will report to first block or duty
    - ii. 100.4 – staff expected to stay at home until illness passes or see their physician is symptoms persist.
  
- II. Social Distancing in Entrances, Exits, and Common Areas
  - i. Students will enter the building at four different entry points with staggered time to maintain social distancing
  - ii. Dismissal will follow same plan as entrance and will be staggered
  - iii. Signage and floor markings will be utilized to indicate social distancing spacing while in line or direct flow of students
  - iv. Movement during period will be limited to trips to the restroom, offices, or nurse.
  - v. Passing between blocks will follow acceptable hallway flow

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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:

#### III. Screening Procedures for Students and Staff

- Protocols for Symptomatic Students and Staff
  - i. Students and staff who present with any of the following symptoms will be directed to report to the nurse's office for evaluation
    1. Symptoms include but are not limited to: Coughing, shortness of breath, headache, fever, chills, generalized weakness, sore throat, headache, or loss of taste or smell.
  - ii. Students and staff exhibiting symptoms will be placed in an alternative location until students can be picked up or staff members leave the premises
  - iii. Parents / Guardians will be notified and required to come to school to pick up student for an evaluation from their a health care provider
- Protocols for Face Coverings
  - i. Individuals who test positive will need to quarantine for days 1 -5 and wear a mask for days 6 - 10.
  - ii. Individuals exposed to COVID-19 are encouraged to wear a mask.
  - iii. Individuals who become ill in school with COVID-like symptoms must wear a mask until they leave the school premises.
  - iv. Individuals who test positive and participate in high-risk activities must refrain from the activity on days 6 – 10 if a mask cannot be worn. These individuals can return prior to the 10<sup>th</sup> day if they can wear a mask or if they have two negative tests after day six.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## 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.

- The **superintendent** will respond to any outreach from the Camden County Health Department in order to address positive cases of COVID-19 that impacts the district/school community that may have been reported to them to commence contact tracing and case investigation. Should the district/school report to the health officer about staff, students, or any person with a close relationship to the school that tested positive, that information will be verified by the health department before it commences contact tracing and case investigation. All positive persons will undergo contact tracing and case investigation whether the information was first passed through the school or came automatically through the health department communicable disease surveillance system. The Camden County Health Department will handle all contact tracing and have staff available to perform contact tracing and case investigation.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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.

- To ensure the health and safety of all students and staff:
  - Highly touched surfaces will be sanitized throughout the school day (such as door handles, bathrooms, water fountains, radios, telephones, computer labs, etc.)
- Teachers and other staff will be provided with sanitizing wipes for use as needed
- At the end of each day custodial staff will sanitize
  - Classrooms
  - Gymnasiums
  - Bathrooms
  - Hallways
  - Foyers
  - Offices
  - Media Center
  - Cafeteria
  - Auditorium
  - Windows
  - Counter tops
  - Foods Room
  - Fitness Center
  - All purpose room
  - Business Office
  - IN addition to the above, the custodial staff will complete a more intensive sanitizing / cleaning process by using machinery, misting sprayers
- All Classrooms and offices will be equipped with sanitizing wipes for individual use as desired
- Building will continue to be supervised during remote instruction by maintenance staff

\*\*All chemicals used for sanitizing are approved by OSHA

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## 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.

- Breakfast and lunch will be provided during normal school times. Sterling will be participating in the National School Lunch Program to provide free meals for all eligible students during the academic school year.
- Students arriving for Breakfast should report directly to the cafeteria beginning at 7:00 AM. Only students who preorder breakfast will be permitted in the cafeteria during this time.
- Lunches will be pre-ordered daily and divided into two main locations, both with the opportunity for outside dining.
- Remote Instruction Contingency and Meal Distribution:
  - Sterling High School will be serving lunch on Wednesday during the day between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM and Wednesday evenings between 4:00 and 6:00 PM. Students and parents can pick up pre-packaged meals with five days’ worth of lunches. Select staff offered to delivery meals to those students in need, who also lacked transportation.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## 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 classes will be conducted as scheduled. Students will be able to use lockers rooms and will be encouraged to wear comfortable clothing conducive for physical activity. Attendance will be taken in the gym area, while students are assigned stations recognizing the 6' social distancing.
- Physical Education students will work individually or in small groups as established by the teacher. Students will work on individual strength, agility, flexibility,
- Limit or eliminate the use of equipment; disinfect items as needed

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## 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.

- Adhere to all current guidelines for distancing and hygiene for every activity
- Encourage virtual opportunities
- All extra-curricular activities will be in-person. Activities are prepared to pivot to virtual pending health guidelines
- Outside use of facilities will be limited to community groups, pending review of outside of community requests. Use of facilities approvals are subject to change
- Use of Facilities Plan
  - Outdoor, Indoor, and organization meeting to outside community groups beginning August 1, 2023 pending certificate of insurance and BOE approval.
- Outside groups are expected to follow all health and safety protocols as determined by state and local agencies
- Use of facility requests and schedules may adjust accordingly to the public health numbers



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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.

#### I. 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

##### i. Student Orientation

v. An extended student orientation experience is planned at the start of the school year to focus on safety, new building procedures, remote/hybrid learning, grading procedures, technology support, and social/emotional services

##### vi. Information videos, tours, PSA’s

vii. Youth Study Team Case Managers will work with staff to the that the IEP is fully implemented even while students are on remote or hybrid learning schedules

Currently being Utilized

- No Place for Hate Designation, student and staff development, assembly plans, school climate surveys, project (safe garden), and many other resources provided by the Anti-Defamation League

#### II. Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)

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

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

i. Youth Study Team Case Managers will work with staff to the that the IEP is fully implemented even while students are on remote or hybrid learning schedules

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## IV. Wraparound Supports

Wraparound services differ from traditional school based services in their comprehensive approach to addressing the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of student with intervention both inside and outside of the school environment.

Being Developed

Currently Being Utilized

- i. Youth Study Team Case Managers will work with staff to the that the IEP is fully implemented even while students are on remote or hybrid learning schedules

## V. Food Service and Distribution

School meals are critical to students 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.

Being Developed

## VI. 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

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## **Appendix L**

### **Restart Committee**

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

- The Restart Committee has met weekly via Microsoft Teams and will continue to meet throughout the school year either in person or via Microsoft Teams
  - Developed Survey for Students and Parent which focused on the upcoming remote/hybrid learning
  - Developed a Survey for Staff which focused on the upcoming remote/hybrid learning
  - Analyze the data from the two surveys and make recommendations for the upcoming school year based upon the data
  - Developed Orientation Experience for staff and students to welcoming everyone back to school, provided a focus of safety and well-being, remote/hybrid learning, SEL

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## Appendix M

### Pandemic Response Teams

This school district should include in Appendix M the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section B.2.

- Pandemic Response Team held meetings throughout the summer months and will continue to meet Monthly throughout the school year or as needed based upon needs
  - Focused on School Safety
  - Return to School Procedures
    - Student and Staff screening and temperature checks
    - Isolation Room location, procedures, and maintenance
    - Movement throughout the school; direction arrows, social distancing reminders
    - Confirming student entry and exit strategies
    - Access to school nurses during the school day
    - Develop and implement procedures to foster and maintain safe school environment
    - Create communication pathways for staff, students, parent/guardians to help in making informed decisions

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## Appendix N

### Scheduling of Students

This school district should include in Appendix N the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Section B.3., including, but not limited to:

- I. School Day
  - a. A Hybrid Model / A-B Schedule has been created to provide for student / staff safety, well-being, and daily instruction.
  - b. Students will receive five days of instruction, two of the days will be in-person instruction and the other three days will be live, synchronous instruction.
  - c. The keys to the Sterling Blue Silver Hybrid Plan
    - i. Students will be split alphabetically into Blue and Silver Groups
      1. Blue Students will attend in-person instruction Monday and Thursdays
      2. Silver Students will attend in-person instruction Tuesdays and Fridays
      3. Wednesdays are scheduled as Remote Learning Days and the students will continue to follow their schedule remotely
      4. Students who are not scheduled for in-person instruction will be logged on remotely at the start times of each block and will be dismissed at the end of the block to their next class
      5. Students will have access to staff remotely in the afternoon, providing more opportunity synchronous instruction, follow up, and extra help
  - d. Student Arrival and Dismissal Times will be staggered to limit the number of students in the hallways at any given time

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## Appendix O

### Staffing

This school district should include in Appendix O the locally developed protocols addressing the anticipated minimum standards as required by the NJDOE Guidance and referenced in the Board's Plan – Sections B.4., B.5., and B.6.

#### I. Administration

- a. Reinforce social distancing, support safety logistics, model proper safety guidelines, and be present in assisting student / staff activities around the building
- b. Support staff to continuously improve virtual environment virtual environment, work with staff directly to ensure teaching and learning, assessment, and all services are planned and implemented
- c. Develop a system for assessing student and family needs regularly, provide supports were possible
- d. Consider roles and coverages for staff who need accommodations
- e. Set clear expectations for teachers, appropriately evaluate
- f. Create a student schedule, both in person and remote, which provides balance for school and family needs
- g. The district will ensure essential employees are identified and a list will be provided to the county office at the time of the district's transition to virtual instruction.

#### II. Instructional Staff

- a. Reinforce social distancing, support safety logistics, be present in common areas
- b. Become familiar with online platforms, plan standards-based lesson and establish predictable routines, including digital citizenship
- c. Develop system for monitoring student wellness
- d. Provide regular feedback, assess student progress early and often
- e. Develop instructional care packages for students to enhance classroom, tablet instruction, and current events

#### III. Educational Support Staff

- a. Reinforce social distancing, support safety logistics, be present in common areas

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

- b. Lead small group instruction or provide the synchronous component of remote learning, work with teachers to improve remote learning
- c. Assist teachers and administration in checking in and providing updates to families, supported embedded SEL lessons, train teachers in SEL

#### IV. Support Staff

- a. Reinforce social distancing, support safety logistics, be present in common areas
- b. Assist Administration with procedures and coverages as needed
- c. Encourage mask wearing, vaccination, and testing.

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

---

## **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.

- Board approved head coaches permitted to conduct summer session as per the NJSIAA.
  - Temperature Checks
  - Health History Questionnaire
  - Increase in conditioning skill work from individual to increased activity.
- Recognize Keys Dates as per NJSIAA
- Receive guidance from the New Jersey Interscholastic Athletic Association (NJSIAA).



# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

## 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	<a href="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%2Fschools-day-camps.html%20-%20page=46">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%2Fschools-day-camps.html%20-%20page=46</a>
	Childcare, Schools, and Youth Programs	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/index.html</a>
	People Who Are at Increased Risk for Severe Illness	<a href="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">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</a>
	Considerations for Schools	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html</a>
	Reopening Schools in the Context of COVID-19: Health and Safety Guidelines from Other Countries	<a href="https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/reopening-schools-covid-19-brief">https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/reopening-schools-covid-19-brief</a>
Critical Area of Operation #2	ASHRAE Offers COVID-19 Building Readiness/Reopening Guidance	<a href="https://www.ashrae.org/about/news/2020/ashrae-offers-covid-19-building-readiness-reopening-guidance">https://www.ashrae.org/about/news/2020/ashrae-offers-covid-19-building-readiness-reopening-guidance</a>
	When and How to Wash Your Hands	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html">https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/when-how-handwashing.html</a>
Critical Area of Operation #3	Bullock announces phased approach to reopen Montana	<a href="https://nbcmontana.com/news/coronavirus/bullock-announces-phased-approach-to-reopen-montana">https://nbcmontana.com/news/coronavirus/bullock-announces-phased-approach-to-reopen-montana</a>
	What Bus Transit Operators Need to Know About COVID-19	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/bus-transit-operator.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/organizations/bus-transit-operator.html</a>
Critical Area of Operation #4	Stop the Spread of Germs (Printable Poster)	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs-11x17-en.pdf">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/stop-the-spread-of-germs-11x17-en.pdf</a>
	Handwashing (Printable Posters)	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/posters.html">https://www.cdc.gov/handwashing/posters.html</a>
Critical Area of Operation #5	Communicable Disease Service	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/">https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/</a>

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

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

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

Section	Title	Link
Food Service and Distribution	Benefits of School Lunch	<a href="https://frac.org/programs/national-school-lunch-program/benefits-school-lunch">https://frac.org/programs/national-school-lunch-program/benefits-school-lunch</a>
Quality Child Care	Child Care Resource and Referral Agencies	<a href="https://www.childcarenj.gov/Parents/Child-Care-Resource-and-Referral-Agencies.aspx">https://www.childcarenj.gov/Parents/Child-Care-Resource-and-Referral-Agencies.aspx</a>
	Division of Early Childhood Education	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/ece/hs/agencies.htm">https://www.nj.gov/education/ece/hs/agencies.htm</a>
<b>Leadership and Planning</b>		
Section	Title	Link
Scheduling	New Jersey Specific Guidance for Schools and Districts	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/sped/guidance.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/sped/guidance.shtml</a>
Staffing	Mentoring Guidance for COVID-19 Closures	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/mentguidance.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/mentguidance.shtml</a>
	Educator Evaluation During Extended School Closure as a Result of COVID-19	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/eevaluation.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/eevaluation.shtml</a>
	Performance Assessment Requirement for Certification COVID-19 Guidance	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/edtpaguidance.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/edtpaguidance.shtml</a>
	Educator Preparation Programs and Certification	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/eppcert.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/eppcert.shtml</a>
Athletics	Executive Order No. 149	<a href="http://d31hzhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20200530/7d/e6/d1/5c/09c3dc4d1d17c4391a7ec1cb/EO-149.pdf">http://d31hzhk6di2h5.cloudfront.net/20200530/7d/e6/d1/5c/09c3dc4d1d17c4391a7ec1cb/EO-149.pdf</a>
	NJSIAA COVID-19 Updates	<a href="https://www.njsiaa.org/njsiaa-covid-19-updates">https://www.njsiaa.org/njsiaa-covid-19-updates</a>
	NJSIAA provides return-to-play guidelines – Phase 1	<a href="https://www.njsiaa.org/events-news-media/news/njsiaa-provides-return-play-guidelines-phase-1">https://www.njsiaa.org/events-news-media/news/njsiaa-provides-return-play-guidelines-phase-1</a>
	Guidance for Opening up High School Athletics and Activities	<a href="https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812287/2020-nfhs-guidance-for-opening-up-high-school-athletics-and-activities-nfhs-smac-may-15_2020-final.pdf">https://www.nfhs.org/media/3812287/2020-nfhs-guidance-for-opening-up-high-school-athletics-and-activities-nfhs-smac-may-15_2020-final.pdf</a>
<b>Policy and Funding</b>		
Section	Title	Link
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund	CARES Act Education Stabilization Fund	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/boardops/caresact.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/boardops/caresact.shtml</a>
	NJDOE EWEG	<a href="https://njdoe.mtbgms.org/NJDOEGMSWeb/logon.aspx">https://njdoe.mtbgms.org/NJDOEGMSWeb/logon.aspx</a>
FEMA – Public Assistance	Request for Public Assistance (RPA) Process	<a href="https://njemgrants.org/site/rpasubmission.cfm">https://njemgrants.org/site/rpasubmission.cfm</a>

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

Section	Title	Link
Purchasing	New Jersey School Directory	<a href="https://homeroom5.doe.state.nj.us/directory/district.php?districtname=educational+services+commission">https://homeroom5.doe.state.nj.us/directory/district.php?districtname=educational+services+commission</a>
	NJSTART	<a href="https://www.njstart.gov/bsol/">https://www.njstart.gov/bsol/</a>
	Division of Local Government Services	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/">https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/</a>
	Local Finance Notice – Coronavirus Response: Emergency Procurement and Use of Storm Recovery Reserves	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/20/2020-06.pdf">https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/20/2020-06.pdf</a>
	Local Finance Notice – COVID-19 – Supplemental Emergency Procurement Guidance	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/20/2020-10.pdf">https://www.nj.gov/dca/divisions/dlgs/lfns/20/2020-10.pdf</a>
Costs and Contracting	E-rate	<a href="https://www.usac.org/e-rate/">https://www.usac.org/e-rate/</a>
	Technology for Education and Career (NJSBA TEC)	<a href="https://www.njsba.org/services/school-technology/">https://www.njsba.org/services/school-technology/</a>
<b>Continuity of Learning</b>		
Section	Title	Link
Ensuring the Delivery of Special Education and Related Services to Students with Disabilities	IDEA	<a href="https://sites.ed.gov/idea/">https://sites.ed.gov/idea/</a>
	Guidance on the Delivery of Extended School Year (ESY) Services to Students with Disabilities – June 2020	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/boardops/extendedschoolyear.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/boardops/extendedschoolyear.shtml</a>
Technology and Connectivity	Joint Statement of Education and Civil Rights Organizations Concerning Equitable Education during the COVID-19 Pandemic School Closures and Beyond	<a href="https://www.naacpldf.org/wp-content/uploads/Joint-Statement-of-National-Education-and-Civil-Rights-Leaders-on-COVID-19-School-Closure-Updated-FINAL-as-of-5.15.2020.pdf">https://www.naacpldf.org/wp-content/uploads/Joint-Statement-of-National-Education-and-Civil-Rights-Leaders-on-COVID-19-School-Closure-Updated-FINAL-as-of-5.15.2020.pdf</a>
Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment	Learning Acceleration Guide	<a href="https://tntp.org/assets/set-resources/TNTP_Learning_Acceleration_Guide_Final.pdf">https://tntp.org/assets/set-resources/TNTP_Learning_Acceleration_Guide_Final.pdf</a>
	Mathematics: Focus by Grade Level	<a href="https://achievethecore.org/category/774/mathematics-focus-by-grade-level">https://achievethecore.org/category/774/mathematics-focus-by-grade-level</a>
	Teacher Resources for Remote Instruction	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/teacherresources.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/teacherresources.shtml</a>
	NJDOE Virtual Professional Learning	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/virtualproflearning.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/education/covid19/teacherresources/virtualproflearning.shtml</a>

# RESTART & RECOVERY PLAN

<b>Section</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Link</b>
Professional Learning	Distance Learning Resource Center	<a href="https://education-reimagined.org/distance-learning-resource-center/">https://education-reimagined.org/distance-learning-resource-center/</a>
Career and Technical Education (CTE)	Communicable Disease Service	<a href="https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_schools.shtml">https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/topics/covid2019_schools.shtml</a>
	Considerations for Schools	<a href="https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html">https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/schools.html</a>