

# LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, Section 2001(i)

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

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LEA Name: Egg Harbor Township Board of Education

Date: 06/07/2021

Date Revised: 03/29/2022

### 1. Maintaining Health and Safety

For each mitigation strategy listed below (A–H), please describe how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

#### A. Universal and correct wearing of masks

*The Egg Harbor Township School District will adhere to current and relevant CDC guidance regarding universal and correct mask wearing as well as relevant and current Executive Orders issued by the State of New Jersey. As of March 7, 2022, the state mandate for mask wearing in schools was lifted, and therefore students that attend Egg Harbor Township schools will not be required to wear masks throughout the buildings, but it remains optional for all students, staff and visitors. However, masks will be required when in the nurse's office. Mask wearing is permitted and recommended for those who have health conditions that would require a mask. In the event mask wearing once again becomes mandatory, Egg Harbor Township Policy 1648 will still outline expectations for the universal and correct wearing of masks (face coverings). In addition, #EHTReady videos, signage, social media reminders and district developed procedures and protocols are readily available to be disseminated to staff, students, parents, and guardians regarding universal and correct wearing of masks/face coverings.*

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

*The Egg Harbor Township School District will adhere to current and relevant CDC guidance regarding physical distancing as well as relevant and current Executive Orders issued by the State of New Jersey. Students that attend Egg Harbor Township schools will be expected to physically distance throughout*

*the buildings during the school day or until different guidance is issued regarding physical distance by the CDC and/or New Jersey Department of Health. Students will remain minimally three feet apart, socially distanced in the classrooms and common areas to the best of their ability. In addition, signage regarding social distancing is displayed throughout each building and on all school grounds.*

#### C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

*The Egg Harbor Township School District will adhere to current and relevant CDC guidance regarding handwashing and respiratory etiquette as well as relevant and current Executive Orders issued by the State of New Jersey. Students that attend Egg Harbor Township schools may utilize the hand sanitizer stations that are in all classrooms and common areas throughout the buildings during the school day. #EHTReady signage regarding handwashing and respiratory etiquette are displayed throughout each building and on school grounds.*

#### D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

*The Egg Harbor Township School District will continue to sanitize, disinfect and clean each facility daily. As needed, the district is upgrading and replacing the HVAC systems throughout the district. All HVAC systems will be maintained and checked throughout the school year to ensure compliance with ventilation standards including the required “fresh air” component that is specified in Federal and State health guidance. Egg Harbor Township Policy 1648 outlines facilities cleaning practices.*

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

*The Egg Harbor Township School District will continue to utilize isolation rooms for symptomatic students or staff who are in attendance and presenting symptoms of COVID-19. Furthermore, students or staff suspected of having COVID-19 will be directed to get tested for COVID-19 and self-quarantine based on current and relevant CDC and/or New Jersey Department of Health guidance. The District will continue to work in partnership and communicate with the Atlantic County Department of Health and our District Physician, regarding self-quarantine periods for identified students, faculty, and staff. Egg Harbor Township Policy 1648 outlines contact tracing and self-reporting procedures. Additionally, the district will continue to track and display Covid-19 data on the dashboard located on the district website, as well as tracking quarantining data for both students and staff.*

#### F. Diagnostic and screening testing

*The Egg Harbor Township School District will continue to utilize the self-screening tool that was provided by the NJDOH that reflects COVID-19 screening requirements for all students, faculty, and staff. The screening requirements and protocols are outlined in Egg Harbor Township Policy 1648 and will continue to follow the most current and relevant guidance regarding self-quarantine provided by the CDC and/or the New Jersey Department of Health.*

*The District's COVID-19 screening and health affirmation tools were distributed to students, faculty, and staff at the beginning of the school year with reminders communicated via email and social media. Furthermore, the Egg Harbor Township School District will partner with the state to offer mandatory testing for unvaccinated staff, as well as voluntary testing for vaccinated staff.*

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

*The Egg Harbor Township School District has continued to work with AtlantiCare to hold vaccination clinics for eligible students, staff and the community.*

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

*The Egg Harbor Township School District outlines accommodations for children with disabilities in Policy 1648. The school district will continue to accommodate students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies, procedures, and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. These accommodations will be determined through consultation with district personnel, the student's healthcare provider, the school nurses, and the district's physician.*

## **2. Ensuring Continuity of Services**

A. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. (1000 character limit)

*The Egg Harbor Township School District will continue to utilize assessment data, including the new State mandated "Start Strong" assessment in Fall 2021, to determine the educational needs of students and the interventions necessary to accelerate learning through Multi-Tiered Systems of Support. The district has, and will continue to institute multiple summer programs to address diverse learners and will continue to track student learning and progress throughout the 2021-2022 and into the 2022-2023 school year. The district is expanding classroom interventions and small group instruction through coaching and support from new Interventionist positions. The district is also partnering with outside organizations to offer mental health counseling and support for students. Social Emotional Supports will continue to be expanded and offered as the Multi-Tiered Systems of Support will offer interventions and services for students both academically and behaviorally to engage students with school and the school community.*

## **3. Public Comment**

A. Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comment into account in the development of its plan. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 60-day revision to the plan. (1000 character limit)

*The Egg Harbor Township School District took public comment through the convening of each building's Pandemic Response Team during the week of June 7, August 11, October 7, December 2021, and February 2022, which is composed of teachers, parents, and community members. These teams have provided insight, feedback and contributions throughout the Pandemic, and will continue to do so every 60 days as we seek input for plan revisions. Furthermore, student leadership groups from the high school were given the opportunity to participate and offer comments.*

B. Describe how the LEA ensured that the plan is in an understandable and uniform format; is to the extent practicable written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, will be orally translated for such a parent; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. (1000 character limit)

*The building Pandemic Team meetings are facilitated by building principals, using a district template presentation and agenda, to ensure that all stakeholders have the opportunity to ask for clarification, point out areas of concern or misunderstandings. The plan will be presented to the Board of Education in public so that those with limited proficiency will be able to hear the plan and by request able to confer 1:1 with administration following the meeting. The Plan will be published in Spanish and access to Google Translate will be accessible for families to translate the plan into their native languages.*