



November 2023

Clearview Regional School Community:

Each district throughout our state is required to communicate the current status of the *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction* plan. In June of 2021, we moved back into a 'normal' environment to start the 2021-22 school year. Since that time, several variables related to COVID have changed and our plans have been updated several times in order to remain compliant with Executive Orders, yet being as flexible as possible for our students and staff. The Governor's previous announcement that school districts have the opportunity to implement a mask-optional policy continues to be implemented. Also, the CDC no longer requires masks on public transportation. These changes have been incorporated into our current *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction* plan and the associated policies. We will continue to update our plan as variables change.

Sincerely,

John Horchak III  
Superintendent



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**Clearview Regional - Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services**

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**LEA Name: Clearview Regional High School District**

**Date of Original Plan: June 18, 2021**

**Date Revised: November 16, 2023**

## **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**

In February, Governor Murphy announced that the requirement to wear masks in New Jersey schools will be lifted effective March 7<sup>th</sup>. Effective March 7<sup>th</sup> of 2021, our district moved to a '*Mask-Optional*' policy. Masks continue to be optional for students, staff, and visitors. This policy will apply during the school day, including events that occur before or after school. The CDC no longer requires masks on public transportation; therefore, the mask-optional policy will continue to extend to school buses.

Districts are not permitted to ban masks. Students and staff who prefer to wear masks may do so. The Governor specifically asked districts to “be firm about not tolerating bullying and demeaning of children who choose to mask up”. We ask for community support in communicating to their children the importance of respecting students and staff who may decide to continue wearing masks for personal and confidential reasons.

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

In an effort to be fully transparent, in an environment with a substantial number of students and staff in our school buildings (over 1,400 in the High School, over 700 in the Middle School), the ability to effectively maintain 'social distance' is substantially limited considering the movement in the buildings throughout the day.

### **C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**

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; and maintain signage and messages in and around school buildings. The schools will maintain an ample supply of hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) for students and staff that will be available in classrooms, at entrances and exits of buildings, near lunchrooms and toilets, and for classrooms that have existing handwashing stations – the stations will have soap, water, and alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol). Students are required to wash hands at regular intervals during the school day and always before eating, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose, coughing, and/or sneezing. All protocols will be applicable during any extra-curricular activities.

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

We will continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise. Locker room use may be minimized to mitigate risk and prohibit students and staff from confined spaces with limited ventilation and/or areas with large amounts of high contact surfaces.

#### **During the School Day:**

##### Main and designated student entrances

- All designated entrance door handles will be cleaned throughout the day
- Main entrance door handles will be cleaned throughout the day

##### Hallway doors and railings

- Stairwell door handles will be cleaned throughout the day
- Stairwell railings will be cleaned throughout the day

##### Bathrooms

- Bathrooms will need to be shut down periodically during the day (between periods), All fixtures and surfaces will be cleaned -Hand or electrostatically sprayed

##### Drinking fountains

- Periodically throughout the school day a custodian will clean and sanitize the drinking fountains

### Classrooms

- Spot cleaning desks, chairs, door handles, light switches, telephones and all other high touch surfaces

### Offices

- Spot cleaning all high touch surfaces

### **Daily/Nightly:**

#### Classroom Cleaning

- All surfaces will be cleaned nightly
- Trash cans will be emptied

#### Offices

- All surfaces will be cleaned and wiped dry with Renown # 6 neutral disinfectant or # 0 peroxide cleaner
- Trash cans will be emptied
- All carpets will be vacuumed (HEPA filtered)

#### Hallway doors and railings

- Stairwell door handles will be cleaned nightly
- Stairwell railings wiped will be cleaned nightly

We will improve airflow to the extent possible to increase circulation of outdoor air. We will increase the delivery of clean air, and dilute potential contaminants. This will be achieved through several strategies:

- Bring in as much outdoor air as possible;
- If safe to do so, open windows and doors;  
(Windows or doors that present a safety or health risk will not be opened)
- Exhaust fans will be used in restrooms and kitchens;
- When possible, we will utilize outdoors for classes or lunches; and /or
- Bus windows will be opened when possible.

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

Contact tracing is a strategy used to determine the source of an infection and how it is spreading. Finding people who are close contacts of a person who has tested positive for COVID-19, and therefore at higher risk of becoming infected themselves, can help prevent further spread of the virus.

If the district is notified that a student tested positive for COVID-19 and we are able to identify close contacts with a high level of certainty, we will notify the parent/guardian about the close contact status. All quarantines for identified close contacts are voluntary at the discretion of the parents.

#### **F. Diagnostic and screening testing**

Screening:

Parents are advised to keep their student at home and the parent should notify the school that their child will be absent. We will continue to provide flexibility in regards to student attendance requirements.

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

Our district employed an aggressive approach to the pursuit of getting staff members and students vaccinated. The district secured vaccines for two at-risk groups (staff with health conditions and staff over 65) early in the vaccine process. The district also worked in concert with the county mega-site to get the balance of the staff vaccinated. The district hosted a student vaccination day in conjunction with the local hospital. Over the past two years, the district provided the community with information regarding local vaccination sites and availability.

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

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for individuals that the CDC identifies as having a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, including individuals with disabilities or serious underlying medical conditions.

## **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.**

SEL supports will be provided to students/staff (including: self-care, ongoing PD for staff, weekly/monthly check-ins, revised health curriculum, and ongoing school counseling and behavioral supports services).

### 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.**

The district communicated its plans in writing through the district mass communication system. We received feedback from parents in the form of emails, phone calls, at MS PTO meetings, and during the public session portion of the Board meeting. We also communicated our plans with the staff. The *'Safe Return Plan'* was posted to the district's website.

**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.**

This plan is communicated in the normal sections (*District News or Quick Links*) of all three of the district's website pages (District, Middle School, High School). It is in standard format, with the same level of language that is utilized in all district communication throughout the year. All questions and concerns will be addressed either orally (calls or face to face meetings) or in writing (email) if there are any questions. If necessary, we will utilize the district's resources (504 Coordinator, Interpreters, etc.) to address questions.