



# HOBOKEN BOARD OF EDUCATION

OFFICE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

524 Park Avenue ❖ Hoboken, NJ 07030 ❖ 201.356.3600 ❖ Fax: 201.356.3641

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## SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

### 1) **Universal and correct wearing of masks**

The Hoboken Public School District requires all staff, students and visitors to any of our buildings wear face coverings, unless doing so inhibits the individual's health. A Google Form is available for all staff and students who need to document individual health conditions that would prohibit the wearing of face coverings. When moving throughout the building during the school day, all staff and students will wear face coverings, unless doing so inhibits the individual's health. It is highly likely that face coverings may be a challenge for young children or those individuals with disabilities. Requirements associated with wearing face coverings outside will be guided by state and local mandates. It is recommended that staff and students wear personal masks that they feel most comfortable with. However, the Hoboken Public School District will provide masks to staff and students who are not wearing one upon approaching their school each day.

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

HPSD follows the 6-foot social distancing guidelines in all cases in which shields are not available. Masks are required. Reminder signage is posted throughout all schools, including perimeter areas. In cases in which shields are installed, such as in classrooms & lunchrooms, as well as auxiliary learning spaces, 3-foot social distancing is required. [http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public\\_relations/september\\_reopening\\_plan](http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public_relations/september_reopening_plan)

### 3) **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**

The HPSD reopening plan includes sessions by school nurses not only to educate but to reinforce COVID-19 preventative measures, including the importance of handwashing and respiratory etiquette. Child friendly signage is posted in all visible areas which promote hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette. Hand washing schedules have been developed and are used in all schools. PPE and supplies, such as tissues and wipes, hand sanitizing stations, and hand washing stations are in stock, installed and used.

[http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public\\_relations/september\\_reopening\\_plan](http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public_relations/september_reopening_plan)

### 4) **Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation**

A cleaning schedule is set for all district buildings. All supplies and electrostatic sprayers are used every 10-20 minutes on all doorknobs, banisters, railings and faucets. Additional custodians were hired, along with the use of an outside cleaning crew. All classrooms and offices were equipped with HEPA units and all ventilation systems and air conditioners/ air handlers were professionally cleaned at the start of the school year.

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

HPSD has a thorough protocol for contact tracing in place and works hand-in-hand with the local health department. HPSP requires 10-day isolation for positive cases and 14-day quarantine for close contacts. Full details are in our detailed plans [http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public\\_relations/september\\_reopening\\_plan](http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public_relations/september_reopening_plan).

Notification protocols result in communicating any positive case to close contacts, classrooms and the school community.

### **6) Diagnostic and screening testing**

HPSD works with the City of Hoboken & Riverside Medical Group to test staff and students for COVID-19. Riverside provides all Rapid and PCR testing for both groups. Upon return after extended breaks, the HPSP ran COVID-19 screening for all those returning to onsite learning & teaching. HPSP also works with 15-minute Response. All schools have adequate supply of Rapid Antigen Tests onsite for anyone exhibiting symptoms or who come in close contact with a positive case. [http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public\\_relations/september\\_reopening\\_plan](http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public_relations/september_reopening_plan)

### **7) Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible**

HPSD works with the City of Hoboken & Riverside to offer vaccination clinics to all staff and eligible students. We hosted 9 vaccination clinics to date. Some onsite and some offsite. To date, 86% of our total staff is vaccinated. We are nearing the 70% vaccination mark for all eligible students.

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### **8) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies**

HPSD's CST reviews needs of children with disabilities with parents. A nurse participates in meetings to assist with identifying health risks and provides recommendations to decrease risks. Assessment of masks, distancing, and ability to follow directions to maintain safety guidelines is conducted. Determination of measures to address toileting, handwashing, feeding, expelling of bodily fluids, and other close contact is held. Teachers review work samples/assessments completed prior and during remote learning. They review participation during remote learning and any summer programming that includes but not limited to ESY. CST reviews missed sessions if the student didn't achieve goals and objectives outlined the IEP. If a student makes progress, no additional sessions are delivered. CST follows guidance by NJDOE. During times when in-person evaluations are not permissible, decisions are determined based on current work samples, input, and progress reported.

### **9) Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social emotional mental health and other needs which may include student health and food services.**

The HPSD utilizes an ILP period each day that continuously assesses student progress and provides either support or extensions. Small group academies, 1:1 tutoring and summer and afterschool programs are in place to ensure that students' academic needs are met. SBYS, ESS, CST and Guidance Counselors are available daily and via extended hours to provide individual, small group and family counseling. Health offices in all schools are completely staffed by certified school nurses and we have an MOA with Riverside Medical Group for testing of all kinds and evaluations. Our Food Service provided breakfast, lunch dinner and weekend and vacation meals to all families. Summer meals will be provided as well.

### **10) Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan and how it took those public comment into account in the development of its plan.**

The HPSD set up 5 committees to develop the Safe Return to School Plan. Parents and community members were surveyed on a multitude of topics and all data was analyzed and used by the committees. Parents, staff, administrators, health department staff, OEM and Board of Education Members were represented on all committees.



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

The HPSD developed a user-friendly plan that was reviewed by parents before being published to ensure it was written in a way that was most understandable. The format of the plan, as well as the content, was reviewed at back to school night and orientation meetings. A video was also developed to explain the plan in plain language. The plan is able to be translated in up to 20 languages on our website. The video was created with a closed caption for the deaf and an audio file was created for the blind.

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

The district has and will continue to offer professional learning and technical assistance in the following areas: Google for Educators (All Levels), Orton Gillingham, Flexible Grouping, Data Driven Instruction, and Remote Learning Strategies. Technical Assistance was provided in the health arena for Contact Tracing, CDC Guidelines, safety and cleaning protocols, and breathe for change. Technical Assistance in the arena for operations was provided to all clerks for forms and daily COVID Reports.

**13) Provide current link to the district's website where the plan is posted.**

[http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public\\_relations/september\\_reopening\\_plan](http://www.hoboken.k12.nj.us/public_relations/september_reopening_plan)