

Laurel Springs School District

Safe Return Plan - 2023-2024

1. Maintaining Health and Safety

a. Universal and correct wearing of masks:

- As per CDC and CCDOH recommendations, all staff, students and visitors have the option to wear a facemask. *However, guidelines for wearing face masks can be and may change as per NJ DOE, CDC and or the CCDOH.*
- BOE Policy 1648 and our Re-Start & Recovery Plan; Following a Pandemic will be followed with respect to mask requirements.

b. Physical Distancing:

- Encouraging personal space in classrooms and cafeteria spaces.
- Seating charts for classrooms and cafeterias are maintained to properly space students as well as identify potential close contacts *when and where practicable.*

c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

- All classrooms are equipped with hand sanitizing stations.
- Signage is provided to demonstrate correct methods of handwashing and respiratory etiquette (ie. sneezing, coughing, etc.)
- All students and staff are required to wash hands prior to eating/serving food. Staff wash hands immediately after removing gloves.

d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

- A procedures manual with checklists is established for scheduled cleaning and disinfecting protocols for classrooms, lavatories, cafeterias, gymnasium, common areas and water fountains.
- Bathroom occupancy is limited through hall monitors and classroom assignments.
- Electrostatic sprayers were purchased for the district to facilitate cleaning in situations where needed. Hydrogen peroxide-based sanitizing and cleaning solutions are used as recommended by CDC guidelines.
- Flat surfaces and high contact areas are wiped down and sanitized daily.

e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine:

- Students who are sick are encouraged to stay home.
- Students may not return to school until fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medications.

f. Diagnostic and screening testing:

- Behaviors that promote reducing the spread of viruses will be reinforced such as staying at home when appropriate, hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette, face coverings when sick and signage.
- All CDC and CCDOH recommendations will be implemented related to diagnostic and screening testing, if necessary.

g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and students:

- The Laurel Springs School District faculty and staff are over 95% vaccinated.
- For age eligible students (age 5-12), Laurel Springs School provided a vaccine clinic for the community on November 29th and December 21st, 2021.
- Our school nurse is available to provide resources in reference to obtain vaccines.

h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies:

- Students have been identified who may require accommodations through a review of student health plans and 504s as well as parent input.

2. Ensuring Continuity of Services

Grades PreK-6

- Academic supports include differentiated, small group instruction.
- Universal screening is conducted to determine specific skill-based interventions to meet the needs of each student. (MAP)
- Reading interventions are provided by supplemental reading teachers individually or in small groups. (RTI)
- After school tutoring for students in grades 1-6.
- Teachers will be able to provide differentiated assignments to students so that all students have the opportunity to demonstrate academic growth utilizing content rich materials through Big Ideas, Pearson's Ready Gen, HMH Into Reading, and Orton Gillingham Phonics Approach to Learning
- Afterschool and extended school year programs are provided to students in need of additional interventions.
- Afterschool clubs are available for students in grades 1-6.
- Social and behavioral supports are provided through classroom lessons, presentations, and school wide curriculum. SEL supports are also provided through the framework of the Choose Love Program. Positive behavior and social interactions are promoted by the Laurel Springs School Dragon Program for Positive Behavior Management and student success.

District-wide Services

- Guidance counselors will provide counseling services for all students PreK-6.
- School nurses monitor student health needs and maintain vaccination records as per state requirements.
- Staff will implement trauma-informed instructional practices.
- Mental health professional development will be provided to all staff.

3. Public Comment

a. Public comment input

- Stakeholder input was collected at school wide Advisory Committee meetings consisting of administrators, teachers, counselors, parents and community members.
- Public comment was taken at the Board of Education meeting on June 21, 2023.
- A public presentation will be provided at the BOE meeting held in September 2023.

b. Understandable and uniform format:

- Safe Return Plan will be posted on the District website in English and Spanish.
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability will be provided an alternate format specific to their disability.