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**Applicant:** 29 3820 OCEAN TOWNSHIP - Ocean

ARP Safe Return Plan ▾

**Application:** ARP Safe Return Plan - 00-

**Project Period:** 9/1/2021 -

**Cycle:** Original Application

8/31/2022

### SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

(1) IN GENERAL - A local educational agency receiving funds under this section shall develop and make publicly available on the local educational agency’s website, not later than 30 days after receiving the allocation of funds described in paragraph (d) (1), a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

2) COMMENT PERIOD.—Before making the plan described in paragraph (1) publicly available, the local educational agency shall seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

Support for Schools: Describe how the LEA will support its schools in safely returning to in-person instruction and sustaining safe operation. This description must include:

*For each mitigation strategy listed below, 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.*

#### LEA Response Table

1) Universal and correct wearing of masks  
([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The OTSD will:

- 1. Comply with the Centers for Disease Control, State, & local guidelines.
- 2. Provide reasonable accommodations for staff & students at higher risk for severe illness.
- 3. Promote the use of face coverings in accordance with CDC, State, & local health guidelines.
  - a. The district will supply masks for all students & staff as needed. There will be additional face coverings if staff or students forget or lose their masks. Staff members will be provided with face shields as well. Additional PPE items will be available to any staff or student on an as needed basis.
  - b. If required, visitors refusing to wear a face covering, for non-medical reasons, will be offered a face covering, if they refuse to wear the face covering, they may be denied entry into the school/district facilities.
- 4. Videos for students & staff will be distributed in September, with best practices for use, care, & storage of face coverings

2) Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)  
([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Desks/ tables will be separated in all instructional rooms including classrooms and common areas in accordance with guidelines from State and local health authorities, as well as the NJDOE. Use of shared objects will be limited when possible

and when this is not possible, the items will be cleaned between uses. If required, social distancing will be ensured during lunch in order to ensure that students may remove their face coverings safely.

### 3) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Rooms will be supplied with hand sanitizer, wipes, gloves, tissues, soap & paper towels. Students will wash hands on a regular schedule which includes after going to the bathroom, before eating, & after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing. The district will utilize signage to promote proper handwashing techniques. All building entrances & exits will be equipped with hand sanitizer stations. Hand washing will take place prior to and after lunch and bathroom use. All classrooms will utilize the same procedures to teach proper handwashing. A poster will be hung in every classroom to reinforce a CDC approved handwashing procedure. If washing hands with soap and water is not possible, washing with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be used.

Students and staff will be provided with videos explaining to: cover the nose/mouth when coughing or sneezing, use tissues to contain respiratory secretions, dispose of tissues, & perform hand hygiene after contact.

### 4) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Disinfecting daily with COVID-19 EPA disinfectants in classrooms, bathrooms, hallways, entrance & exit doors, high touch points, etc.

Routine cleaning & disinfecting of surfaces & objects that are frequently touched: desks, tables, door handles, light switches, etc.

Air Scrubbers utilized throughout buildings.

HVAC filter upgrades to Merv 10 filters.

Cleaning schedule-Start of the day & once all students & staff are in building, the touch points will be cleaned & disinfected with an EPA disinfectant by manual spray or with our electrostatic sprayer.

General cleaning; bathrooms will be disinfected throughout the school day, classrooms will be disinfected during the day when students go to lunch, & nightly; all non-porous surfaces & common touch points will be sanitized & disinfected regularly. Cleaning/disinfecting will be done throughout the day on an increased schedule along with enhanced cleaning procedures. Night staff will do a thorough cleaning of all areas of the building.

### 5) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The OTSD will work closely with the OCHD to assist in contact tracing of students & staff that have been identified as a positive COVID-19 case. The school principal will share the schedule and contact information for those teachers & students that have been identified as a positive case with the superintendent & school nurses. The district will then provide the OCHD with a list of those student(s)/staff who were in close contact with the positive case. The school district will gather information to seek more contacts to prevent a foreseeable risk of harm for other exposed individuals.

CDC cleaning protocols require that areas of school where a COVID-19 positive student or staff member traveled will be closed, cleaned, & completely disinfected.

The district will ensure adequate information and training is provided to the staff.

### 6) Diagnostic and screening testing ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Parents will sign a waiver stating that they will check their child(ren) for COVID-19 symptoms daily-and if their child is exhibiting any of the symptoms, they will keep their child home. Parents will also sign that they will notify the district if anyone in their household tests positive for COVID-19. All staff members have been notified to report all Covid symptoms to nurse/administration. At this time, all unvaccinated staff members are tested weekly. Staff will observe students daily for symptoms of COVID-19. If one or more symptoms is observed, staff will send the student to the nurse for assessment. Nurses will assess the student & make a determination based on the CDC guidelines. Students who are believed to be ill will be isolated from others until picked up. Re-admittance of staff & students will be consistent with the CDC and OCHD guidelines.

### 7) Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The Ocean Township School District recognizes the need for a healthy staff & student population in order to provide a quality education. The District will provide support to staff, students and families, including the most up to date information regarding the availability of Covid-19 vaccines. We will work closely with the CDC, OCHD and NJDOE to provide the most current information to our broader community.

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

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Since the closure in March 2020, the district has provided services to students with disabilities virtually, including related services and Extended School Year to the greatest extent possible. In person evaluations resumed in July 2020. A procedure has been put into place to ensure staff & student safety during these evaluations.

The Child Study Team (CST) will hold meetings for students who are medically fragile to determine, in consultation with the child's family & doctor, the safety of the student returning to in person instruction. Additionally, the CST will have discussions with all stakeholders to determine what goals were not met during remote instruction and they will work with the IEP team to develop a plan moving forward. Any extenuating circumstances and/or needs of students with disabilities will be considered on a case by case basis. Students with 504 plans will receive the necessary accommodations in both the classroom & common area settings.