



**BRADLEY BEACH ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

**SAFE RETURN PLAN**

*Updated 6/2024*



STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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

### Introduction and Background

As announced in the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE)'s [April 28, 2021 broadcast](#), in March 2021 President Biden signed the Federal [American Rescue Plan \(ARP\) Act](#), Public Law 117-2, into law. The ARP Act provides an additional \$122 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) to States and school districts to help safely reopen, sustain the safe operation of schools, and address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation's students. As with the previous ESSER funds available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), the purpose of the additional funding is to support local educational agencies (LEAs) in preparing for and responding to the impacts of COVID-19 on educators, students, and families. Additional information on ARP ESSER may be found in the NJDOE's [funding comparison fact sheet](#).

Section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act requires each LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website, no later than 30 days after receiving ARP ESSER funds, a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools (Safe Return Plan). A Safe Return Plan is required of all fund recipients, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction. Section 2001(i)(2) of the ARP Act further requires that the LEA seek public comment on the Safe Return Plan and take those comments into account in finalization of the Safe Return Plan. Under the interim final requirements published in [Volume 86, No. 76 of the Federal Register](#) by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), an LEA must periodically, but no less frequently than every six months through September 30, 2023, review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return Plan.

Pursuant to those requirements, **LEAs must submit to the NJDOE and post on their website their Safe Return Plans by June 24, 2021.** The NJDOE intends to make LEA ARP ESSER Fund applications available in EWEG on May 24, 2021 and LEAs will submit their Safe Return Plans to the NJDOE via EWEG. To assist LEAs with the development of their Safe Return Plans, the NJDOE is providing the following template.

This template incorporates the federally-required components of the Safe Return Plan. The questions in the template below will be included in the LEA ARP ESSER Fund application in EWEG. LEAs will submit responses to the questions within the LEA ARP ESSER Fund application in EWEG by June 24, 2021. The NJDOE hopes that this template will allow LEAs to effectively plan for that submission and to easily post the information to their websites as required by the ARP Act.

LEA Name: Bradley Beach

Updated 6/2024

## 1 - MAINTAINING HEALTH AND SAFETY

### UNIVERSAL AND CORRECT WEARING OF MASKS

All students were provided with the opportunity to receive masks upon their return to school in September 2023 from the school nurse. While students are encouraged to wear their own masks, the district is continuously prepared to provide masks to staff, students, and visitors, if necessary. Students, staff, and visitors are not required, but encouraged to wear masks while in school and throughout the entire school day while they are inside the school building when not feeling well. The district will continue to strictly follow and enforce CDC and the New Jersey Department of Education guidelines regarding the use of masks in schools and make adjustments as recommended in collaboration with stakeholders.

### PHYSICAL DISTANCING (E.G., INCLUDING USE OF COHORTS/PODDING)

Based on the current data, the district is not currently implementing physical distancing protocols. The District will continue to review the most current recommendations from the New Jersey Department of Education and the CDC and make adjustments as needed in collaboration with stakeholders.

### HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE

Multiple hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 70% alcohol) will be available throughout all buildings for staff and students to utilize (classrooms, entrances/exits of buildings, near large common areas, near bathrooms, etc.). Children five or younger will be supervised when using hand sanitizer. Classrooms with existing hand washing stations will be outfitted with soap and paper towels. Students will be required to wash their hands at various times during the day, specifically before and after eating, after recess, after use of any shared equipment/materials, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose, coughing, and/or sneezing. If washing with soap and water is not possible, washing with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be required. All entrances and exits will have hand sanitizing

stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol

#### CLEANING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES, INCLUDING IMPROVING VENTILATION

All custodial/maintenance staff will receive specific training on established cleaning practices. Nightly cleaning procedures will include cleaning of all classroom surfaces and touch points with disinfectant spray bottles and electrostatic sprayers. Hand sanitizer stations will be readily accessible near all entrances, exits and common areas. Disinfecting spray and appropriate cleaning materials will be provided to all staff. All indoor facilities have adequate ventilation and all instructional spaces/offices have heating and air conditioning. Air filters will be cleaned regularly. Bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected using protocols outlined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

#### CONTACT TRACING IN COMBINATION WITH ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE, LOCAL, TERRITORIAL, OR TRIBAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Based on the current CDC guidance, the district is no longer enacting contact tracing protocols. Parents and students are expected to follow the guidance for exposure and positive cases, as per the NJDOH recommendations for isolation and quarantine. This is subject to change based on updated guidance.

#### EFFORTS TO PROVIDE VACCINATIONS TO EDUCATORS, OTHER STAFF, AND STUDENTS, IF ELIGIBLE

We recommend that all parents discuss vaccinations with their doctor. We will promote local vaccine clinics, including those at nearby school districts and other health providers, including but not limited to: The Visiting Nurses of New Jersey; The Monmouth County Department of Health; The Monmouth County Department of Education

#### APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES

In our effort to ensure the general well-being, health and safety of all students, the following protocols will be implemented. Maintain clear lines of communication between families and school staff, especially Nurses, Counselors and Leadership Team members. This will be done via phone, email, surveys and meetings (in person and virtual) as necessary. Seek information from families regarding their child's specific medical needs. Encourage all families to keep

their children home when appropriate; promote the practice of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette; require the use of face coverings; post signs and messages in and around school buildings. Reasonable accommodations will be provided based on a child's IEP, 504 Plan or individual medical needs in order to maximize student learning in a safe manner. Encourage frequent communication between building based medical professionals and high risk students.

## ENSURING CONTINUITY OF SERVICES

The Social and Emotional Learning of students and staff is essential to re-engaging students, supporting adults and rebuilding relationships. SEL will be embedded in our school day through Morning Meeting and our positive behavior initiative SOLE. We will continue to ensure families have an adequate food supply by providing breakfast and lunch on a daily basis. The District has established many community partnerships with mental health providers and school based collaborators. Academic Supports: All PreK-8 students will have access to a variety of academic programming which is funded via CARES, ESSER I & II and ARP. Students will continue to receive academic support during the school day via small group instruction, Literacy Intervention, English as Second Language services, and Special Education services.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comments into account in the development of its plan. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 6-month revision to the plan.

The draft of our Safe Return plan was shared with the following stakeholders: All District Staff, the BOE Personnel and Policy Committee, and is placed on the BOE agenda for public comment on agenda items.. All comments received will be synthesized and reviewed by our Leadership Team prior to any changes being made. As this is a fluid document, changes may occur as new guidance is received from the NJDOE and CDC. The updated Safe Return Plan presentation will be posted on the district website.

## DESCRIBE HOW THE LEA ENSURED THAT THE PLAN IS IN AN UNDERSTANDABLE AND UNIFORM FORMAT;

Upon request, the District will provide a written or oral translation of the proposed plan options. BBES maintains an

extensive list of staff members, who are available to assist with translation. The district will also ensure that an alternative format will be provided to a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA through the Information Technology Department of the district.

**BRIEFLY DESCRIBE ANY GUIDANCE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE OPPORTUNITIES THE LEA WILL MAKE AVAILABLE TO ITS SCHOOLS.**

During the 23-24 school year, the district has provided professional development for staff and schools in the areas of Social Emotional Learning and Morning Meeting to continue to assist our students and our staff in their transition back to in-person instruction. PD also focused on Math and Literacy standards based instruction to address learning loss. There were two professional development days scheduled in the fall to support teachers and staff, advance their pedagogy and enhance their professional practice.

## **1 - MAINTAINING HEALTH AND SAFETY**

### **A. UNIVERSAL AND CORRECT WEARING OF MASKS**

- When social distancing is difficult or impossible, face coverings will be required for students, and face coverings are always required for visitors and staff unless it will inhibit the individual's health.
- Students, staff and visitors will be provided face coverings in the event they do not have one on hand.
  - Staff will continuously monitor and educate students on proper face covering usage. This includes covering their nose as well as replacing face coverings daily.

### **B. PHYSICAL DISTANCING (E.G., INCLUDING USE OF COHORTS/PODDING)**

- Student desks will be spaced 6 feet apart, if this is not possible:
  - Implement social distancing modifications to the greatest extent practicable, including the possible use of physical barriers between desks and turning desks to face the same direction or having students sit on only one side of the table, spaced apart
- All desks will be in rows and facing the same direction
- All small group instruction rooms will require a mask or Plexiglas shield if social distancing is not an option.
- Avoid close group learning activities
- Keeping students in Cohort Model
- Allow minimal mixing between cohorts

### **C. HANDWASHING AND RESPIRATORY ETIQUETTE**

- Multiple hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 70% alcohol) will be available throughout all buildings for staff and students to utilize (classrooms, entrances/exits of buildings, near large common areas, near bathrooms, etc.). Children five or younger will be supervised when using hand sanitizer.
- Classrooms with existing hand washing stations will be outfitted with soap and paper towels.
  - Students will be required to wash their hands at various times during the day, specifically before and after eating, after recess, after use of any shared equipment/materials, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose, coughing, and/or sneezing. If washing with soap and water is not possible, washing with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer will be required.
- All entrances and exits will have hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol

#### **D. CLEANING AND MAINTAINING HEALTHY FACILITIES, INCLUDING IMPROVING VENTILATION**

- All custodial/maintenance staff will receive specific training on established cleaning practices.
- After arrivals, all entrance touchpoint surfaces will be sanitized using disinfectant spray. All touch points and surfaces will be wiped with disinfectant throughout the day. Surfaces will be cleaned prior to being disinfected. EPA approved disinfectants will be used with appropriate tools.
- Nightly cleaning procedures will include cleaning of all classroom surfaces and touch points with disinfectant spray bottles and electrostatic sprayers.
- Hand sanitizer stations will be readily accessible near all entrances, exits and common areas. Disinfecting spray and appropriate cleaning materials will be provided to all staff.
- All indoor facilities have adequate ventilation and all instructional spaces/offices have heating and air conditioning. Air filters will be cleaned regularly. Windows will be opened for ventilation.
- Bathrooms will be cleaned and disinfected every 30 minutes using protocols outlined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- Drinking fountains will be cleaned and sanitized but the district will encourage staff and students to bring their own water to minimize use and touching of water fountains.

#### **E. CONTACT TRACING IN COMBINATION WITH ISOLATION AND QUARANTINE, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE STATE, LOCAL, TERRITORIAL, OR TRIBAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS**



- Designated district staff will be in direct contact with the local health department regarding confirmed cases, isolation and quarantine timelines.
- Parents/Guardians will serve as the primary daily screening mechanism for COVID 19 symptoms. Students or staff exhibiting symptoms should remain home. Students will be screened on arrival by staff for a fever of 100° F or greater with a district provided non-contact forehead thermometer
- Health checks will be conducted in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations. Screening protocols will include accommodations needed for students/staff with medical conditions or disabilities.
- Staff and Students displaying COVID-19 symptoms will be sent home. Each school will have a designated isolation space where those with COVID-19 symptoms will be safely and respectfully isolated.
- All symptomatic students and staff will be advised to seek medical care. Those reporting positive results for COVID-19 or having close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19 will follow NJDOH and CDC isolation and quarantine guidelines as applicable.

#### **F. DIAGNOSTIC AND SCREENING TESTING**

- Checking for symptoms each morning by caregivers is critical and will serve as the primary screening mechanism. Students are expected to stay home if they exhibit symptoms of COVID-19. We will provide a checklist of symptoms and other guides to families.
- Students will be screened on arrival by staff for a fever of 100° F or greater with a district provided non-contact forehead thermometer.
- Designated entrances and/or designated entrance times for students will be established based on grade level.

#### **G. EFFORTS TO PROVIDE VACCINATIONS TO EDUCATORS, OTHER STAFF, AND STUDENTS, IF ELIGIBLE**

- Earlier this year, we collaborated with the Visiting Nurses Association of New Jersey. As part of our recruitment efforts, staff were emailed surveys and provided resources on the benefits of the vaccine. As a result of these efforts, over 60% of our staff are currently fully vaccinated.
- We will promote local vaccine clinics, including those at nearby school districts and other health providers, including but not limited to:
  - The Visiting Nurses of New Jersey
  - The Monmouth County Department of Health

- The Monmouth County Department of Education
- Robert Wood Johnson Community Hospital
- The Jersey Shore Medical Center
- Center State Medical Center

**H. APPROPRIATE ACCOMMODATIONS FOR CHILDREN WITH DISABILITIES WITH RESPECT TO THE HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICIES**

- In our effort to ensure the general well-being, health and safety of all students, the following protocols will be implemented.
  - Maintain clear lines of communication between families and school staff, especially Nurses, Counselors and Leadership Team members. This will be done via phone, email, surveys and meetings (in person and virtual) as necessary.
  - Seek information from families regarding their child’s specific medical needs. ○ Encourage all families to keep their children home when appropriate; promote the practice of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette; require the use of face coverings; post signs and messages in and around school buildings.
  - Reasonable accommodations will be provided based on a child’s IEP, 504 Plan or individual medical needs in order to maximize student learning in a safe manner.
  - Encourage frequent communication between building based medical professionals and high risk students.

**2 - ENSURING CONTINUITY OF SERVICES**

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:

- The Social and Emotional Learning of students and staff is essential to re-engaging students, supporting adults and rebuilding relationships. SEL will be embedded in our school day through Morning Meeting and our positive behavior initiative SOLE. We will continue to ensure families have an adequate food supply by providing breakfast and lunch on a daily basis. The District has established many community partnerships with mental health providers and school based collaborators.
- Academic Supports: All PreK-8 students will have access to a variety of before/after school and summer enrichment programming which is funded via CARES, ESSER I & II and ARP. Students will continue to receive academic support during the school day via small group instruction, Literacy Intervention, English as Second Language services, and Special Education services. Students will also have access to their own Chromebook without cost and be provided free WiFi, if

needed. Students will be supported by Counselors, Related Services and outside providers as needs arise.

### **3 - PUBLIC COMMENT**

Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comments into account in the development of its plan. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 6-month revision to the plan.

- The draft of our Safe Return plan was shared with the following stakeholders: All District Staff, the Personnel and Policy Committee, Parents/Guardians and Community Members. The draft was shared in both English and Spanish on our website and during a public Board of Education meeting.
- All comments received were synthesized and reviewed by our Leadership Team prior to any changes being made. As this is a fluid document, changes may occur as new guidance is received from the NJDOE and CDC.

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:

- Our Safe Return Plan will be shared in both English and Spanish, on our website, and during a public Board of Education meeting.
- In the event a stakeholder has questions or is in need of assistance reading the document, such support will be provided.
- The district will also ensure that an alternative format will be provided to a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA through the Information Technology Department of the district.