

## LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

LEA Name: Long Beach Island School District

Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 06/14/2021

Date Revised (mm/dd/yyyy):

### 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

##### Protocol for High Risk Staff Members and Students

1. Communication has been established and ongoing with local and state authorities including the Ocean County Health Department.
2. Protecting and supporting staff and students who are at higher risk for severe illness, such as providing options for telework and virtual learning
3. Following CDC's Guidance for Schools and Childcare Programs
4. Promoting behaviors that reduce spread:
  - a. Stay home when appropriate
  - b. Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
  - c. Face coverings
  - d. Signs and messages

Reasonable accommodations will be provided for individuals that the Centers for Disease Control identifies as having a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, including older adults (aged 65 years and older) and individuals with disabilities or serious underlying medical conditions, which may include:

1. Chronic lung disease or asthma (moderate to severe)
2. Serious heart conditions

3. Immunocompromised individuals
4. Severe obesity (body mass index, or BMI, of 40 or higher)
5. Diabetes
6. Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis
7. Liver disease
8. Medically fragile students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)
9. Students with complex disabilities with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs)
10. Students who require accommodations under a Plan in accordance with the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504 Plan).

**Face Masks:** Face masks are required for students and staff, and face shields are not a substitute. The current exceptions include: under 2 years old, specific health issues or IEPs that would be adversely affected.

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

Social Distancing in Instructional and Non-Instructional Rooms

**Spacing Within Classrooms**

1. LBI School
  - a. Classrooms will have 6' spacing where possible. If not possible, masks and/or physical barriers will be employed
  - b. Utilized barriers will be sanitized in between students and classes, as required
  - c. Science lab tables will have barriers (see b)
  - d. Art classroom will have barriers on tables (see b)
  - e. Tech Lab can use (every other computer) for spacing and disinfect between classes
2. EJ School
  - a. 2nd grade has adequate room for 6' spacing
  - b. 1st grade has adequate room for 6' spacing
  - c. Utilizing and sanitizing barriers, if needed
  - d. Kindergarten will have barriers installed and sanitized on tables that are unable to physically distance to 6 feet.
  - e. PK-3 (half-day), and PK 4 (full-day) will have barriers installed and sanitized on tables that are unable to physically distance to 6 feet.

- f. World Language classroom will have barriers installed and sanitized between students' use.
- g. Media Center tables will have barriers installed and sanitized between students' Use.
- h. Art Room tables will have barriers installed and sanitized between student's use.
- i. Music Room has adequate room for 6 foot spacing.

ALL barriers used MUST be cleaned in between classes and time worked into the schedule to permit cleaning.

ALL shared objects will be cleaned between use when possible.

ALL HVAC units will be maintained and have filters replaced as needed. Windows will be open when weather permits.

Classrooms will have arrows on the floor creating one way flow in/out of each room. LBI School can use both classroom doors to assist in flow requirements.

#### **Recess/Physical Education**

##### **EJ School:**

1. Four separate recess periods will allow each cohort to remain separate and maintain a minimum of 6' distancing.
2. Utilize cones and/or separate outdoor space for each cohort
3. Students and staff will wash hands before and after recess
4. Use of shared equipment will be limited
5. Equipment will be cleaned after each use

##### **LBI School:**

1. Four separate recess periods will allow each cohort to remain separate and maintain a minimum of 6' distancing.
2. Utilize cones and/or separate outdoor space for each cohort
3. Students and staff will wash hands before and after recess
4. Use of shared equipment will be limited
5. Equipment will be cleaned after each use

## **Student Transportation and Social Distancing on School Buses**

To comply with suggested CDC guidelines the Long Beach Island School District will provide protective barriers around the bus drivers along with masks and shields for the drivers. Additionally, every bus may be staffed with one additional employee (who will also be provided with a mask & shield) to ensure social distancing compliance while the students are on the bus.

Prior to the start of school a mandatory survey will be sent to parents asking if they plan on utilizing the district's transportation. If they indicate they will not, they will be asked to sign a "waiver" opting out of our transportation services. If they choose to utilize our transportation services they will need to abide by:

### **Morning Bus Stop Requirements**

1. Prior to the start of each school day, a parent or guardian must complete the AT HOME screening process for entry into the school. This will consist of a temperature check and symptom check with a selected screening application to be determined.
2. Parents / guardians will need to accompany their child to the morning bus stop and ensure social distancing while waiting for the bus to arrive.

### **Bus Ride Guidance**

1. Students must wear masks on the bus.
2. Students will load from back to front.
3. Students must adhere to social distancing requirements to the extent possible.

### **Arrival at School**

1. Upon arrival at school students will exit the bus front to back one at a time and line up on the designated marks on the walkway
2. Before entering the building there will be portable hand sanitizer machines for students to utilize.
3. Students will enter the building using a designated door and move directly to the hallway outside their classroom where they will line up on designated marks on the floor.

Once back to the transportation depot the buses will be disinfected utilizing a spray on product approved by the CDC.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette: Students should remain home when sick

#### Procedures for Hand Sanitizing/Washing

##### Entrance - Beginning of Day Custodians

1. Portable disinfectant stands at (LBI School)
  - a. 20th Street main entrance
  - b. 19th Street parent drop-off/pick-up door
  - c. Grade 5-6 hallway
  - d. Grade 3-4 hallway
2. Portable disinfectant stands at (EJ School)
  - a. Bus/ramp entrance
  - b. Hallway parent drop-off/pick-up door
  - c. Staff/employee door

##### Once School Begins- Disinfectant Stands Relocated

1. LBI School
  - a. (1) Boy's room, (1) Girl's room door Grade 5-6 hallway
  - b. (1) In front of boy's room and girl's room doors Science wing
2. EJ School
  - a. (1) Boy's room, (1) Girl's room

##### Lunch/Recess

1. LBI School
  - a. (2) at gym hallway doors
  - b. (1) gym playground door
  - c. (1) 5-6 hall exit door
2. EJ School
  - a. (2) at gym hallway doors
  - b. (1) ramp entrance

Hand Sanitizing: 60 % alcohol products will be in use.

Additionally at LBI School, handwashing in both sets of gang bathrooms should be encouraged as appropriate. EJ can utilize the sinks and bathrooms in each classroom.

**HAND WASHING IS REQUIRED AND TIME MUST BE WORKED INTO THE SCHEDULE TO ALLOW FOR THIS TO OCCUR. HAND SANITIZING DOES NOT REPLACE HAND WASHING.**

Recess and Lunch supervisors will provide time for students to wash hands after recess. Teachers will provide time to wash before lunch.

- Wash hands for at least 20 sec before and after eating and using restroom
- Covering coughs and sneezes and properly disposing of tissues
- Practice physical distancing
- Limit close contact with people who are sick, and DO NOT share food, drink, or utensils

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

ALL HVAC units will be maintained and have filters replaced as needed. Windows will be open when weather permits. Students & Staff will be isolated in a room equipped with an air scrubber when found to be symptomatic.

**Facility Cleaning/Sanitizing**

1. Custodians will use spray misting equipment with disinfectant solution throughout the day at:
  - a. Door knobs/handles
  - b. Water fountains
  - c. Gang bathrooms (hourly)
  - d. Sink handles (LBI School)
  - e. Cafeteria tables/chairs (between usage)

**Frequent Room Cleaning When Classrooms are Unoccupied**

1. Empty trash cans when rooms are unoccupied
2. Disinfect desks/tables if room is empty for longer than 15 minutes
3. Tech Lab spray mist keyboards between classes

### **End of Day Cleaning/Sanitizing**

1. Custodians will continue to clean rooms as prescribed
  - a. Remove all trash/litter
  - b. Clean desks and chairs with ES72
  - c. Floors will be dry swept every day
  - d. Floors will be wet mopped every other day or as needed
  - e. All desks/tables, chairs, door handles, sinks, light switches, telephones shall be spray misted with disinfectant at the end of the day.

### **Students' Personal Belongings:**

1. Students shall place coats/jackets on the back of their assigned homeroom seats.
2. Backpacks/books shall be placed alongside their homeroom desk.
3. Coat racks in the classrooms shall not be utilized.

The school district must continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise.

Buses will be disinfected utilizing a spray on product approved by the CDC when they return to the transportation depot.

- E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments:

The LBICSD school health offices work closely with the LBI Health Department. The school health offices will monitor symptoms and illness of our school community. The LBI Health Department will be responsible for positive COVID-19 cases, case investigations, and contact tracing.

Contact tracing is a strategy used to determine the source of an infection and how it is spreading. A close contact is defined as someone who was within 6 feet of someone with suspected or known COVID-19 for 15 min or more during a 24 hour period. We work very closely in determining our close contacts and work along with the LBI health Department. Once our close contacts are determined all are notified and quarantined based on current recommendations. A letter is sent home to all district staff and students advising them of the situation.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing;

Screening Procedures for Students and Staff, Protocols for Symptomatic Students and Staff and Protocols for Face Coverings

**Screening Policy for the LBICSD Students, Employees, Vendors and Visitors**

1. A daily health questionnaire congruent with our "When to Keep Your Child Home" SOP will be sent out via email to all staff and students which will be monitored daily by the health office and follow-up will be initiated as necessary. This procedure will follow current CDC guidelines and will be based on the current LBI Health Department (LBIHD) community spread values. This will be reviewed 14 days prior opening.
2. Parents and staff will perform temperature checks AT HOME. A value of  $\geq 100$  or one or more symptoms not otherwise explained will require the student/staff to stay home based on current CDC guidance.
3. Staff will continue, as they have always done, to send students to the health office if they appear ill.
4. Vendors and Visitors will be required to wear a face mask, affirm that they are free of CoVID 19 symptoms and have not traveled to a quarantine area within the last 14 days prior to their visit to the school. Temperature may be required.

**Procedures for symptomatic individuals**

1. Students & Staff will be isolated in a room equipped with an air scrubber when found to be symptomatic.
2. In the event that the school is notified of a positive CoVID-19 test, all Contact Tracing will be performed by the LBIHD with the full cooperation of the Student Health Offices.

**Needed Protocols**

1. The nurses will be provided a traveling "wellness" cart to reduce the combining of ill students with injured & well student visits.
2. Routine Screenings will be suspended until a time that supports closer student contact.
3. In the past, continuous symptom monitoring was not performed by the Student Health Office, when staff or students were sent home ill. Continuous monitoring of symptoms is performed by contact tracers, parents and the health care provider. It will become necessary, as it has always been, to review documentation from a Health Care Provider that the individual is cleared to return to school in concert with quarantine guidelines. Without documentation from a health care provider, admittance to school may be denied based on the current CDC and LBIHD guidelines to return and end quarantine period.
4. All of the protocols will be provided and accessible on the district's website.



### **Face Masks**

1. Face masks are required for students and staff, and face shields are not a substitute. The current exceptions include: under 2 years old, specific health issues or IEPs that would be adversely affected.

- G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible; Confer with local health departments for availability of vaccines and sites. Provide information to all LBI Staff. Provide updated information on vaccine guidelines for students regarding age requirements and availability.

Working with our local Long Beach Island Health Department, vaccination clinics were made available to all staff wishing to receive a vaccination.

- H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies: The school district recognizes special populations will require unique considerations to ensure the continuity of learning as well as the health and safety of students and staff within the least restrictive environment.

### **in-person instruction**

The Long Beach Island School District was fortunate to be able to provide full-day, full-week, in-person instruction for the entire 2020-2021 school year, therefore, those students with special needs and IEPs who attended school in-person were able to receive all required and related services.

### **Options for Families who chose remote learning: Equitable Access**

As a proactive measure, in the event Long Beach Island Schools need to close to prevent communicable disease transmission, a hard copy and virtual letter, and survey has been disseminated to families to determine the technological needs of our students in order to provide options in the event of a long term school closure. The information provided was seen only by Long Beach Island School District School Administration and was not shared. If parents indicated that their child did not have access to a dedicated device or WiFi at home, Administration contacted them to clarify their student's technology needs and better plan access for all students. We will leverage the learning platforms and tools that we have available to deliver the most appropriate content under the potential circumstances we may face. Options have included borrowing a Chromebook or iPad or picking up a hard copy packet of work that is mirroring the on-line assignments.

Accommodations provided for assignments by the special education teacher based on students' Individualized Educational Plan. Related services will share general strategies to implement at home and will be available via email or Google Meet to assist parents.

#### Assisting the Special Needs Population

Special needs populations present particular challenges to emergency and crisis planners. Planning considerations should address the needs of students and staff with hearing, mobility, sight or other physical or health impairments. Other groups that may need special considerations include non-English speaking students and students within specific age ranges that have specific requirements.

#### Students with Disabilities

The At-Home Learning Plan for students with IEPs followed their Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) for students with disabilities to the greatest extent possible utilizing individualized learning packets, Virtual Classroom Sessions, Virtual Individual/Small Group Sessions, and individualized online materials. The virtual platforms utilized are Zoom and Google Meet.

To ensure the IEP was being implemented appropriately, the teachers followed the guidelines that the IEP provides, specifically looking at accommodations and modifications. The teachers were then able to create individualized materials (hard copy and online) for the students to use. Through completion of the assignments, the teachers are able to track the progress of each student and determine the effectiveness of the modifications.

The case manager followed up with families throughout the process via email, phone, and virtual meeting platforms. During each follow-up the case manager discusses and notes any parental concerns to their child receiving services through the IEP to the greatest extent possible. If there are concerns, the case manager follows up with the teacher and parent to ensure the IEP is being met. Again, this includes phone calls, emails, and virtual meeting platforms.

The district has been conducting virtual IEP meetings through Secure Video adhering to the timelines as dictated by IDEA to the best extent possible. In regards to evaluations and reevaluations, the guidance from the state was to do our best. With that, we have been conducting any evaluations that we can conduct remotely. These include socials, parent and teacher checklist completion, other parental input, review of previous data. Per the state guidance, we have notified the parents that we will conduct our in-person evaluations when we are back in school and able to perform those assessments. We have been in communication with the parents throughout the process and have noted those conversations. If there are students that the district and parents felt did not warrant re-evaluation testing, those students were waived until their next triennial date.

Related Services were provided through the use of individualized packets provided by the therapists and virtual consultation. After April 1, 2020, the district began the process of providing teletherapy services.

For the students that require Extended School Year (ESY) services the district historically sends those students to the Stafford School District. At this time, ESY services are being planned for in-person sessions. However, if we are prohibited from providing in-person ESY services, the district will look to either coordinate with Stafford in a virtual program or conduct a virtual program ourselves. This would include related services, as needed.

For any students that were placed in an Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities (APSSD) the district communicated with the school to discuss their educational plan in accordance with that student's IEP. The APSSD conducted virtual sessions for educational and related services purposes. They supplemented their virtual instruction with online materials and packets of work. The district maintained frequent contact with the parents of the APSSD to determine that the IEP was being followed.

## 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. (1000 character limit)

Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports: Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and School Culture and Climate

**SEL will be critical in re-engaging students, supporting adults, rebuilding relationships, and creating a foundation for academic learning.**

- Currently being utilized and updated

Orientation for all new families and students has been provided in the past. This year, an orientation will be offered for ALL students and their families prior to returning to school in order to review procedures, precautions and measures to be taken to ensure physical safety as well as the social and emotional well-being of our students and their families. Communication has been started earlier than ever with families, in order to provide any information, changes or updates that would impact their decision to send their children to school and to decrease as much anxiety or concern as possible. This communication will continue throughout the year as the District proactively seeks to update the webpage, send emails and phone calls when necessary.

### **Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)**

MTSS is a systematic approach to prevention, intervention, and enrichment in grades Pre-K through twelve for academics and behavior that offers educators and families a mechanism to identify individual students who need extra support.

- Currently being utilized.

BSIP and I&RS referrals; RTI when required. Leveled math and science instruction for 5th and 6th grade students. Referral and access to after school homework help program with transportation provided to ensure equal access. (pending BOE approval).

### **Wraparound Supports**

Wraparound services differ from traditional school-based services in their comprehensive approach to addressing the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of students with interventions both inside and outside of the school environment.

- Currently being utilized.

A list of community resources is available to our students and their families as needed. School Counselor participates and attends monthly meetings of CIACC which represents all agencies, services, resources and interventions that are available to residents of Ocean County. The Resources allows our district to have a relationship and contact with those agencies who may be able to help our students and their families outside of school. Information on resources and contacts are available on the webpage of the School Counselor as well as the main page. Printed materials are available in common public areas such as the vestibules of the main offices and are always available upon request to be sent home.

### **Food Service and Distribution**

School meals are critical to student health and well-being, especially for low-income students. The NJDOE considers it a moral imperative to ensure the seamless and continuous feeding of students during all phases of school reopening.

- Currently being utilized.

### **Quality Child Care**

Child care will be needed as schools reopen, particularly in instances where modified school schedules may increase the likelihood that families who otherwise would not utilize child care will now require it.

- Currently being utilized

**3. Public Comment**

- A. 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 60-day revision to the plan. (1000 character limit)
- The Long Beach Island School District's "Restart and Recovery Plan" was completed prior to the start of the 2020-2021 school year by forming a Restart Committee and Pandemic Response Team which included the following members: Long Beach Island Health Department Staff, Long Beach Island School District Administration, Board Members, Teachers, Staff, and Parents. The plan was presented to the public at the August 2020 Board of Education Meeting. The plan is posted on the district website. No revisions were made to the plan since its approval.
- 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. (1000 character limit)
- The Long Beach Island School District's "Restart and Recovery Plan" was formulated with the assistance of the template provided by the district's policy consultants and policy provider, Strauss Esmay Associates, LLP and input from members of the Restart Committee and Pandemic Response Team.