



# Brielle Elementary School

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

Name: Brielle Elementary School

Date Revised (06/24/2021):

### 1. Maintaining Health and Safety

#### A. Universal and correct wearing of masks -

Masks will be optional on school property as the school will follow the guidelines provided by the New Jersey Governor.

- In class students/staff will have the option to wear a face covering. If a student/staff is moving about the classroom or school they will be required to wear a face covering.
- Face coverings will still be provided by the District or can be brought from home
- If worn, covering should cover the nose and mouth completely, should not be overly tight or restrictive, and should feel comfortable to wear
- Parents should practice having their child wear a mask prior to the first day of school
- Accommodations for students who are unable to wear a face covering will be addressed according to that student's need and in accordance with district procedures, applicable laws and regulations.
- If a visitor refuses to wear a face covering for non-medical reasons, the visitor's entry to the school/district facility may be denied.

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

The District will follow safety guidelines provided by the Department of Education, Health Department and CDC.

- Classrooms are equipped to maintain physical distance to enforce safety guidelines. During the 2020-21 SY, the district purchased plastic partitions and all desks faced the same way to maintain physical distance.
- The District will continue to implement social distancing procedures unless guidance from the state changes. Students in grades Prek-3 will be in self-contained classes (with same students all day). Students in grades 4-8 will change classes and move from class to class throughout the day.
- The district will continue to follow guidelines and keep desks safely distance dependent upon the guidance provided by the DOE. When students are outside, physical distancing is enforced for students to remain socially distanced from each other.
- The hallways will be visually marked and signage will be used to encourage one-way traffic flow for the maintenance of social distancing.
- The District will utilize student cohorts as an effective strategy to limit exposure and comingling between classes.

### **C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette**

Classes will continue to send one student to the bathroom at a time.

- Students will be required to wash hands frequently throughout the day
- Hand sanitizer will be available in every classroom and in designated areas throughout the building.
- In the lower grades, lessons on proper hand washing will be taught to all students.
- We will ensure the availability of appropriate supplies to support healthy hygiene behaviors (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer, paper towels, disinfectant wipes, tissues, etc.) and strategically place supplies in areas where they may be frequently used.
- Reinforce handwashing during key times including but not limited to: arrival and dismissal; before, during, and after preparing or eating food; after using the bathroom; after blowing one's nose, coughing, or sneezing; after touching objects with bare hands that have been handled by other people.
- Signs will be posted throughout the building reminding students what to do when they sneeze or cough.

### **D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation**

Air Quality/Ventilation

- The buildings HVAC systems will use MERV-11 filters or windows will be open at all times while the building is occupied.
- All regular maintenance will be performed with additional filter checks and replacement as needed.

Cleaning

- All cleaning will be conducted in accordance with the CDC's guidelines.
- All areas will be generally cleaned before disinfection.
- Hard surfaces and touch points will be disinfected throughout the day and in the evenings with an EPA approved disinfectant for SARS-Cov-2.
- Rooms with a confirmed exposure or positive case will be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected and a hydroxyl generator will be placed in that room overnight before the room can be reoccupied.

Materials

- The use of shared items/equipment/resources will not be permitted unless cleaned between each use.
- All students will use a district issued Chromebook so they should not need to share electronic devices.

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

- The District will follow safety guidelines provided by the Department of Education, Health Department and CDC.
- Positive cases will self-isolate and stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed after resolution of fever without fever reducing medications and there has been improvement in symptoms.
- Persons who test positive for COVID-19 but are asymptomatic will stay home for 10 days from the date of the positive test.
- Appropriate school staff will perform contact tracing to determine close contacts of any positive cases. Close contacts are individuals who are within the recommended distance from someone with COVID-19 for more than 15 minutes within a 24 hour period. (School Nurse and Vice Principal hold COVID-19 Contact Tracing Certificates.)
- Close contacts will be notified of their exposure by appropriate school personnel. They will be instructed to quarantine in accordance with guidelines set forth by the NJDOH - for either 10 or 14 days, depending on the current COVID-19 Activity Level for the region.
- The Monmouth County Health Department will be notified of all positive cases and close contacts, including all demographic information for those individuals. Positive cases are also reported to the NJDOE.

### **F. Diagnostic and screening testing**

- Brielle Elementary School students and staff will not be required to have their temperature checked or complete a daily health-check form. However, all individuals are required to self-monitor.
- Visitors will be required to complete a daily health-check form. This form will be used to determine access to the building and to contract trace.
- Any individual with a COVID symptom listed below, should not come to school:
  - Fever (greater than or equal to 100.4 F)
  - Cough or shortness of breath
  - Sore throat
  - Chills
  - Muscle aches or rigors
  - Headache
  - New loss of taste or smell
  - Abdominal pain, nausea, vomiting or diarrhea
  - Have been a close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes) with a person confirmed to have COVID.
  - Someone in your household is diagnosed with COVID
- All staff will be trained in COVID-19 symptom identification to be able to effectively monitor students throughout the school day
- Any student exhibiting symptoms will be directed to an established isolation area until they can be picked up from school and must present a doctor's note before returning to school
- If your child is showing signs or symptoms of COVID-19, please keep them home. It is important to keep children home when they are sick

- A health questionnaire screening of all staff will be conducted daily for all staff prior to entry to the building

### **G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible**

During the 2020-21 SY, the District worked with outside health agencies to provide staff with the opportunities to get vaccinated. The District will continue to work with outside health agencies for the 2021-22 SY to provide information to the school community about vaccinations.

### **H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies**

It will be the expectation that all students with disabilities follow all of the above stated health and safety policies, unless the child has a documented reason in which these policies cannot be followed. In these cases, the child's case manager will coordinate efforts with the classroom teacher(s), school nurse, administration and parents to develop a plan which works towards compliance with the expected health and safety procedures.

## **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)**

For the 20-2021 SY, the District provided in person and remote instruction for all students. The District will continue to provide a full day of in person learning for all students. Students will have their regular scheduled academic instructional periods as well as Art, Music, Physical Education, Technology and World Language. Students will continue to be provided with a 1:1 computer and will be able to take their devices home daily in order to complete school work.

Additionally, the District will be hiring coaches to address learning loss with students to provide opportunities to target individualized instruction for all students. The Administration and coaches will analyze assessments of students and work with teachers to target areas of weakness and structure interventions to improve student learning.

The District will be hiring a Mental Health Coordinator to provide opportunities to develop a preventative SEL program in which a mental health coordinator/counselor will conduct SEL lessons in grades K-8 and provide group and individual counseling following a multi-tiered system of support. Additionally, the mental health coordinator/counselor will develop and provide necessary staff development and family information sessions.

Our food service provider will continue to provide lunches to all students that order lunch.

### 3. Public Comment

**A. 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. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 60-day revision to the plan. (1000 character limit)**

The Brielle Elementary School District reached out for public comment with regard to its 2021 Safe Return Plan.

- A feedback survey was developed to collect public comment on any and all elements of the plan.
- The survey was shared with all guardians through the district messaging system.
- Input from the public will be taken into consideration by the district and, if warranted, changes will be made in the plan.
- As this is a fluid document, changes may occur as new guidance is received from the NJDOE and CDC.

To date, the public comments consisted of the following: Many comments were agreeable to the plan, although many comments did not agree with students having to wear masks next year, parents want the district to write letters to the governor requesting no masks, many thanked the district for their efforts this year.

**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 district will provide a translated version of this document into Spanish. A district staff member will be available to answer any question and/or explain all components of the plan to our Spanish speaking parents.

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Note that on May 17, 2021, Governor Murphy [announced](#) that upon the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year, portions of Executive Order 175 allowing remote learning will be rescinded, meaning that schools will be required to provide full-day, in-person instruction, as they were prior to the COVID-19 Public Health Emergency. The NJDOE and New Jersey Department of Health will share additional information regarding State requirements or guidance for health and safety protocols for the 2021-2022 school year as it becomes available.