

Brielle Elementary School
605 Union Lane
Brielle, NJ 08730



Public Health-Related School Closure Plan
March 2020

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Plan Introduction

The purpose of this plan to implement a home-instruction, remote learning model so that school days missed for a pandemic crisis can be counted towards the required days of instruction for the calendar year. Brielle Elementary School encompasses Grades PK - 8 in attendance. This plan is based upon establishing guidelines for ten instructional hours a week for all students in order to fulfill the necessary requirements for the home instruction administrative code. The Brielle Elementary School district has reviewed Policy #2412 - Home Instruction Due to Health Condition and will follow language of the policy and regulation in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:16-10.1. The district has also reviewed and been guided by Policy #8451 - Control of Communicable Disease.

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Background Information

On March 3, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Education prepared a special broadcast to disseminate information regarding the potential impact that the current outbreak of 2019 Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) may have on school communities. The primary focus of this and subsequent communication from the NJDOE has emphasized preparedness and planning. On March 5, 2020, a NJDOE broadcast advised that “schools may be asked to close preemptively or reactively, therefore schools should be making plans for what to do if there are recommendations for closing schools or cancelling events.” (NJDOE Special Broadcast, March 5, 2020).

The New Jersey Department of Health identifies school closure as a potential strategy to limit transmission within a community. Any prolonged school closure must be initiated via a written directive from the Department of Health in consultation with district Superintendents and the Monmouth County Executive Superintendent. According to the March 5, 2020 special broadcast, any day in which students impacted by a public health-related school closure have access to home instruction services aligned with the guidance in the memo will count as a day in which the board of education has provided public school facilities toward its compliance with the 180-day requirement in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

Per the memo: “all boards of education should develop a school health-related closure preparedness plan to provide home instruction in the event of such a closure. The planned services should include equitable access to instruction for all students. Each preparedness plan should also address the provision of appropriate special education and related services for students with disabilities and the provision of school nutrition benefits or services for eligible students. The preparedness plans should be submitted to the Executive County Superintendent. The NJDOE also encourages boards of education to adopt enhanced school cleanliness and disinfection protocols, including disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and objects” (NJDOE Special Broadcast, March 5, 2020).

Equitable Access to Instruction for All Students

Brielle Elementary School is committed to ensuring equitable access to instruction for all students in the event of a school closure due to COVID-19 or any other communicable disease.

A technology/internet accessibility survey was sent out to the school community. Any student who does not have access to technology in grades K-8 will be provided a device from the district to help ensure access. Grades PK-2 will have a paper/pencil and active-learning approach focused on developmentally-appropriate learning targets.

Teachers are being asked to bring home all their textbooks, teaching supplies, etc. on a daily basis in case school is required to close. This will enable them to plan daily for the days ahead of the closure.

All Staff Members:

All staff will be required to work at their home computers or district issued technology from 9 am to 1 pm. During this time, they will respond to emails, monitoring online learning i.e. google classroom assignments, online student learning platforms, as well as respond to students and/or families asking for instructional assistance with their assignments or other educational supports relevant to specific positions (administrative assistants, team members, nurse, etc.)

Teachers of all subjects:

Teachers will prepare lessons based on the following student schedule breakdown; if necessary, the same schedule will be provided for each week that school is closed in order to count these days as instructional days.

Weekly Student Schedule K – 3

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins
Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins
Media Center 20 mins	Social Studies 20 mins	Science 20 mins	Social Studies 20 mins	STEM 20 mins
Physical Education 20 mins	Music 20 mins	Arts 20 mins	Spanish 20 mins	Technology 20 mins

Weekly Student Schedule 4-8

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins	Reading/Writing 40 mins
Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins	Math 40 mins
Social Studies 20 mins	Science 20 mins	Social Studies 20 mins	Science 20 mins	Physical Education 20 mins
Physical Education 20 mins	Spanish 20 mins	Technology 20 mins	Spanish 20 mins	4 th Grade: Art 20 mins. 5 th Grade: Art 20 mins. 6 th Grade: Music 20 mins 7 th Grade: STEM 20 mins 8 th Grade: Science Lab 20 mins

Lessons will be put in Google Classroom, School Website pages (teacher pages), or via Remind App. Students will submit their completed work the same way it was sent to them. Teachers will then grade assignments and input grades in Genesis, Student Information System.

Band members will reach out to Mr. Prol for assignments.

Academic Team will reach out to Ms. Cardamone for academic learning assignments.

Teachers of Preschool:

Preschool plans should be written with a parent audience in mind, and consist of developmentally-appropriate play-based activities for parents to engage their children. Please consider and link the High Scope KDIs. Online activities and screen time should be minimized, and we must be mindful about recommending activities that require specialized materials or objects. Materials should be sent home in families' home language - please contact administration for translation support.

Suggested activities to plan:

- Purposeful outdoor play with recommended language for parents to reinforce concepts (above, around, through, etc.)
- Reading activities with example questions families can use to discuss books

Special Education, English Language Learners and Related Services:

Planned services for equitable access to instruction also address the provision of appropriate special education, ESL, and related services for students with disabilities. The following protocol will be followed in the event of a school closure:

- Special education teachers in grades PreK-8 will provide appropriate accommodations and modifications in emergency instructional plans. As needed, special education teachers may need to make separate upload and/or provision of modified materials for individual students. ● Services included in IEPs and 504s will be provided ex post facto for the exact number of hours required weekly; OT, Speech and PT and any other therapies required by law will be honored upon return to the school district.
- CST members and counselors will be online and available to support parents of students with disabilities in the event of an emergency school closure. Weekly contact with parents is recommended. ● If a student is in crisis, their parents/guardians should notify Perform Care (1-877-652-7624) and insist on a home visit to assist with the student in need of mental health assistance.

CST Members & Counselors:

CST Members and Counselors will be on call via their computers to answer any mental health concerns as well as to keep internet communication open for students in need of special education services. A log will be submitted outlining work that was completed from home.

Nurse:

The nurse will check in on families with students who have serious illnesses that require daily follow ups. The nurse will also remain available via email during the hours of 9-1 to provide assistance and support as needed. A log will be submitted outlining work that was completed from home.

Extracurricular Activities and Field Trips:

All extracurricular activities and field-trips will be canceled on any date on which the district is closed for a public health-related school closure. At this time and until further notice, all activities shall proceed as scheduled.

Provision of School Nutrition Benefits:

20 students or 3% of the school population receives free/reduced lunches. At the present time, the school district is working closely with the food service provider, Café Teria, to make food distribution available at noon each weekday. Pick-up will be at the side entrance to the All Purpose Room.

Guidance from the NJ Department of Education (3/10/2020):

The New Jersey Department of Agriculture has submitted a waiver request to the United States Department of Agriculture to permit school districts to serve meals to eligible students during school closures due to the Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19). Upon approval of this waiver, and upon receipt of a district-level application for program operation, the Brielle school district will submit a waiver application to NJDA's Division of Food and Nutrition.

Enhanced School Cleanliness and Disinfection Protocol

Beginning the week of 3/2/2020, in addition to the district's routine cleaning protocol, the custodial staff was directed to begin a frequent disinfection treatment in high-traffic and high-touch areas (desks, doorknobs, stair railings, sinks, tables, keyboards, water fountains, lunch tables, dispensers, etc.).

In the event of a school closure, custodial crew will work to properly deep clean and sanitize all environments within the school building. Cleaning protocols will be outlined by district administration based on recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control and local Department of Health officials.