



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.

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.

Beach Haven School District: LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

LEA Name: Beach Haven School District

Date: 2/16/22

Date: *when needed it*

The Beach Haven School District remained completely open for the 2020-2021 School Year.

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

We continue to follow the Governor's Executive Orders, NJDOE Guidelines, CDC and the local department of health's recommendations.

With the execution of Executive Order 251 on August 6, 2021, Governor Murphy is requiring all school occupants to wear masks. If/when EO 251 is rescinded or expires during the 2021-2022 school year the wearing of masks will not be mandatory but will be optional for those students or staff that choose to wear a mask. No student or staff member will be penalized for going beyond the requirements for their own personal use.

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

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year the school district followed the CDC and NJDOH guidance as well as the requirements of the Governor's Executive Orders regarding social distancing. Student were in cohort groups by school building.

For the 2021-2022 school year, the school district will follow any legislative requirements that exist at that time regarding social distancing. Absent any legislative requirements for social distancing the school district will return to the normal school day format in existence prior to March 13, 2020.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Rooms will be continued to be supplied with hand sanitizer, wipes, gloves, tissues, soap, and paper towels. Students will wash their hands on a regular schedule which includes after going to the bathroom, before eating, and after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing. Furthermore, additional handwashing stations were added on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

This cleaning/disinfecting will be done throughout the day on an increased schedule. All disinfectants used will be applied using the manufacturer's instructions and proper dwell time. After school hours, the night custodian will do a thorough cleaning of all areas of the building such as restrooms, door handles/push bars, railings, telephones, desktops, lunch tables and drinking fountains which will consist of cleaning with a peroxide based cleaner then disinfecting with an EPA approved disinfectant to work against the COVID-19 virus. This cleaning will be accomplished with the use of micro-fiber rags, bottle sprayers, pump sprayers and/or electrostatic sprayers. Any surfaces that will have food contact will be wiped down after the disinfectant dwell time has passed. In addition, all classrooms will be restocked with hand sanitizer, wipes, gloves, tissues, soap, and paper towels.

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

The school administrator or designee will share the schedule and contact information for those teachers and students that have been identified. The district will provide the Long Beach Island Department of Health with a list of those students/staff who were in close contact with the positive case. Close contact is defined as within 6 feet for 15 minutes or more in a 24-hour period. The school district will gather information to seek more contacts to prevent a foreseeable risk of harm for other exposed individuals. The Long Beach Island Department of Health will further identify contacts and all close contacts identified should remain home for the 10-day quarantine period and be monitored for symptoms.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing

The Beach Haven School District will continue to direct staff and parents of students toward local health providers for any health screening needs.

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

The Beach Haven School District will continue to monitor the needs during the 2021-2022 school year as needed. As of today, June 11, 2021, only 3 staff members have not been vaccinated.

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

All subgroups will be represented, and appropriate accommodations/modifications will be made to ensure each individual's success.

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)

Funds were allocated to Beach Haven School in response to the impact of COVID-19. The Beach Haven School District has been full-time since September and will focus on learning acceleration while enhancing social and emotional skills.

Our W.I.N. (What I Need) educational program will begin this fall and offer numerous opportunities for district students to enrich and reinforce themselves academically and socially after school or in the evening. The W.I.N. program coincides with the district's mission of "Promising Every Student a Future!"

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)

A survey was shared with all community stakeholders. Two questions were posed using a Google Form. What are we doing well and what changes would you like to see implemented for the 2021-2022 school year. The responses varied with an overwhelming support of no masks for students and staff, alike. Furthermore, information was solicited at our monthly Board of Education Meetings.

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)

Similar to last year's Restart and Recovery Plan meetings, students, staff, and community members will be invited to complete surveys and invited to take part in-person meetings throughout the summer, if needed. All information will be presented that makes it accessible to our bilingual and special needs populations.