



Clayton Public School District

2021-2022 School Year



Introduction

- *As announced by Governor Murphy in June 2021, school districts must plan to provide full-day, full-time, in-person instruction and operations for the 2021-2022 school year. Remote learning option is not available for the 2021-2022 school year. The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) and New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) worked collaboratively to develop guidance, titled "The Road Forward," to assist school districts in developing a plan for the 2021-2022 school year. The NJDOE guidance provided includes a wide range of strategies that school districts should consider implementing to reduce risks to students and staff from COVID-19 while still allowing for full-time in-person learning. Our district is committed to the resumption of a normal school year. We will continue to monitor the COVID-19 activity data and will be guided by recommendations from the NJDOE and the Gloucester County Health Department (GCHD) to ensure that we maintain a safe and healthy school community. This document was developed as guidance that will assist our students, staff, and parents in preparing for the return to full-time schooling in the fall. This framework is a "living document," and we want to communicate clearly that we may need to change the plan quickly based on the needs of students, staff, and health conditions*

Communication

- *Our district is committed to maintaining close communication with staff, students, parents, and community members. These efforts will keep everyone informed and up to date on current COVID-19 transmission, prevention, and control measures the district has in place. As we have done in the past, the district will post the COVID-19 Activity Tracker on the district website. The building principals and school nurses will follow notification protocols established by the GCHD when providing notification of a possible close contact within their school building. It is very important to remember that the building principals and school nurses must maintain confidentiality when dealing with student health information; therefore, close contact notifications will be general in nature.*

Emergency Remote Learning Plan

- In April 2020, Governor Murphy issued an executive order that became P.L.2020, c.27. This law provides for the continuity of instruction in the event of a public-health related district closure so that LEAs can utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. School Districts must annually submit its proposed program for virtual or remote instruction to the Commissioner of Education. A School District can only implement a remote learning plan if a district closure lasts more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure. A day of virtual or remote instruction, if instituted under a plan approved by the Commissioner of Education, is considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance for the purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements, awarding of course credit, and such other matters as determined by the Commissioner of Education.

A. Facilities

- Bipolar Ionization units have been purchased for our HVAC systems for the all of our Gymnasiums, Cafeterias, Media Centers, Auditoriums, and Nurse's Offices.
- All recirculated air will have a fresh air component. If practical, windows will be opened. All filter(s) for A/C units will continue to be maintained and changed according to manufacturer recommendations.
- Several older HVAC systems have been replaced with newer units. We will continue to upgrade older units throughout the 2021-2022 school year.
- Every classroom is equipped with handwashing and/or sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol).
- All school entrances and common areas have sanitizing stations.
- Daily cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces and objects that are frequently touched. (e.g. doorknobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops).
- Fogging disinfecting machines have been purchased to disinfect high traffic and common areas.
- Social distancing signs and reminders to frequently practice personal hygiene will be placed in all district buildings.
- New water fountains with bottle filling stations in all school buildings.

B. Operations

- Schools in the district will allow for social distancing within the classroom to the maximum extent practicable. This will be achieved by ensuring students are seated in assigned seats, at least three feet apart.
- The district will require the use of individual desk dividers in classrooms where social distancing may be difficult to monitor.
- **Face coverings will be required for students and staff.** Parents/Guardians must provide their own face covering for each of their children. Visitors to school buildings will be restricted. All visitors will be required to wear a face covering.
- Transportation- A face covering must be worn by all students upon entering the bus. Students will be social distanced on the bus where possible.
- Each school in the district will provide physical guides, such as tape on floors and signs on walls, to remind staff and students to remain socially distanced.
- All staff and students are required to self report their temperature and any Covid-19 symptoms on in-person school days.
- Students and/or staff must remain fever free for at least 24 hours before returning to school.
- Staff will visually check students for symptoms of illness upon arrival.
- Students will have designated areas when entering and exiting the buildings.

B. Operations (continued)

- Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 will be safely isolated from others. Students will remain in isolation with continued supervision until picked up by an authorized adult.
- 10 minute mask breaks will be scheduled throughout the school day. Students must remain socially distant (3 feet) during the breaks.
- The HS/MS will operate on a staggered bell schedule to reduce hallway congestion.
- Use of shared classroom objects will be limited when possible and cleaned between use.
- Students will be assigned lockers. Access to lockers and locker rooms will be limited to mitigate health risks. The Principals have developed a staggered locker schedule to reduce time at lockers
- Clayton Public School District will resume full breakfast/lunch service in the cafeteria the 2021-22 school year. The building principals will organize student seating in the cafeterias with social distancing to the maximum extent possible. Students will be discouraged from sharing food or snacks and the cafeteria tables will be cleaned and disinfected in between each lunch period. Individual classrooms may also be used to serve breakfast/lunch.
- If a student or a group of students are required to quarantine, we are prepared to offer remote instruction to those students who are excluded due to quarantine commensurate with in-person instruction to the extent possible.

C. Health and Wellness

- Staff and students are encouraged to wash and/or sanitize hands for at least twenty seconds at regular intervals during the school day.
- Staff and students must wash and/or sanitize hands upon entry to the classroom, after using the bathroom, from recess time, blowing their nose, coughing, and/or sneezing.
- Every district school bus will be cleaned and disinfected before and after each bus route.
- Face coverings will be required for all staff and students.
- Clayton School District has purchased air and surface purifiers to sanitize classrooms, offices, and other areas as needed.
- Every classroom and office will also have sanitizer wipes available for wiping down desks, computers, and any other shared objects.
- The District will collaborate with the New Jersey Department of Health to rapidly and appropriately respond to any outbreaks in the community or school and to implement all necessary health and safety protocols and contact tracing.
- Contact tracing will be enacted only when we have a confirmed case of Covid-19. People who had close contact will be informed.
- The Pandemic Response Team will meet regularly to analyze the available health data and recommend additional mitigations if necessary.
- Students will receive social and emotional support through a multi-tiered system. We will leverage our counseling resources to ensure a smooth transition back to school.

C. Health and Wellness

- Vaccinated Staff and Students do not have to quarantine if they are in close contact with a confirmed positive. Must test 3-5 days after contact.
- Unvaccinated Staff must quarantine if they are in close contact with a confirmed positive.
- CDC Exception: In the K-12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student (laboratory-confirmed or a clinically compatible illness) if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time. This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

D. District Summer Project Update

- New HS/MS Aux. Gym Floor
- Resurfaced HS/MS Track.
- Herma Simmons new basketball courts and playground equipment.
- Remodeled ES Media Center
- Cleaned out and resurfaced the bus corral.
- All district buildings equipped with state of the art lockdown security system.
- New return air system for the Kindergarten wing.
- New Hot water heater for ES
- New AC unit for the Student Connection Center and the technology offices.
- Bi-polar Ionization units placed in HVAC systems in Media Centers, Cafeteria, Gymnasium and Auditoriums.
- Individual Bi-polar Ionization units purchased for all Nurse's offices.

District Summer Projects



Replaced Aux.
HS/MS Gym Floor



Resurfaced HS/MS
Track



New School Security
System

District Summer Projects



New ES Basketball
Courts



Repaved Bus Depot



Remodeled ES Media
Center

Our District's Focus for upcoming school year

We all must be...

- Focused on providing an inclusive school environment.
- Focused on the Social and Emotional well being of our students.
- Focused on using the data available to us to close the Covid-19 Learning Gap.



The Road Forward

The road forward will require patience and flexibility from all of us. As a community, if we continue to remain vigilant in following CDC recommendations and procedures, we can be back to normalcy sooner for our children.

Stay Clipper Strong!

