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Applicant: 13 1400 **Application Sections**
 ESSEX FELLS - American Rescue Plan Consolidated ▼
 Essex American
Application: Rescue Plan - **Project**
Cycle: ESSER - 00- **Period:** 3/11/2021 -
 Original 9/30/2024
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Safe Return Plan	Safe Return Plan Update	Safe Return Plan Assurance
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SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION

(1) IN GENERAL - A local educational agency receiving funds under this section shall develop and make publicly available on the local educational agency’s website, not later than 30 days after receiving the allocation of funds described in paragraph (d) (1), a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

2) COMMENT PERIOD.—Before making the plan described in paragraph (1) publicly available, the local educational agency shall seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

Support for Schools: Describe how the LEA will support its schools in safely returning to in-person instruction and sustaining safe operation.

How the LEA will support its schools implementing, to the greatest extent practicable, prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC") for the reopening and operation of school facilities to effectively maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff;

1) Universal and correct wearing of masks
 ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The Essex Fells School District will be following mask guidelines from the NJDOE and NJDOH with additional guidance from local Health officials and school physician and until further guidance is given, the EFSD will plan on having masks worn in September.
 If the decision was left up to the individual districts, the EFSD Safe Return Committee agreed to make masking optional for parents to decide.
 As of September 1, 2021 Update- The EFSD in compliance with Executive Order 251 will require all students, staff, and visitors to wear a mask while indoors.

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

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The EFSD will maintain 6 foot distancing when possible however, in an effort to have all students return to typical classroom configurations, 3 foot distancing will be utilized.

Students will return to switching classrooms for Specials and moving about the hallways in the 2021-2022 school year. Outdoor programming and lunch will continue to be implemented when possible.

3) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Increased hand washing and sanitizing will remain a procedure in the EFSD to maintain healthy learning environment with a focus on before/after snack and lunch.

Usage of hepa filter machines and open windows will remain part of the daily classroom routines.

Desk shields and individual face shields will be provided to each student/teacher to utilize if necessary.

Only bottle filling stations will be available for water consumption until fountain restrictions are lifted from the NJDOE and NJDOH.

4) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Increased cleaning of shared surfaces during school hours will remain in place for the 2021-2022 school year.

Monitoring and routine changing/cleaning of univalent filters and air conditioner filters as needed.

All rooms outfitted with sodium hypochlorite spray and hand sanitizers.

Foot sanitizing mats utilized at each main entry point.

Electrostatic fogging procedures will remain in place during each evening custodial shift and in the event a student is removed from a classroom due to a positive case.

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

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

An isolation booth has been constructed in the Health Office for the nurse to continue utilizing on as as needed basis.

Any positive cases reported to the EFSD Nurse/Superintendent is immediately reported to the Local Health Department and School Physician for assistance with contact tracing.

Any positive cases shared with the district are reported to the staff and community through the NJDOH approved letter sent electronically as well as through the Weekly School Bulletin.

The EFSD will follow all quarantine protocols according to State guidelines in relation to both exposure and travel.

As of September 1, 2021 the Safe Return Committee in conjunction with the Local Health Official is allowing for travel in the NJ, NY, PA, CT, DE area without testing and outside of the area must quarantine for 10 days or test on day 3-5 wit negative result for immediate return.

6) Diagnostic and screening testing

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

When students/staff are absent for 2 or more days, a negative COVID test and alternative diagnosis from a physician will be requested to return to school.

7) Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The EFSD has a positive relationship with the school physician and local hospital in obtaining appointments to received the COVID vaccine.

Leave time is granted to any EFSD employee to obtain the vaccine

As of October 18, 2021 Executive Order 253 will be implemented requiring all district employees and volunteers to be vaccinated or undergo weekly COVID testing.

8) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies

([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

Any students in need of additional health/safety accommodations are serviced through a Nursing Plan in the Health Office, an I&RS/504 plan through the Intervention Team, or an IEP thought he Child Study Team.

All students in the EFSD remained in-person for 5 full-days including lunch for the entire 2020-2021 school year. Student growth and development was regularly assessed in relation to academic, as well as social-emotional impact of facility

distancing, physical boundaries, limited interactions, and reduced small group work. Necessary supports have been allocated for the 2021-2022.

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Date Plan Updated <input type="text" value="09/01/2021"/>		
Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)		
The EFSD has maintained in-person services for academics, SEL, and other related services for the entirety of the 2020-2021 school year and will continue to do so for the 2021-2022 school year. All students will attend 5 full days with lunch in-person with distancing and masking indoors until those mandates are lifted.		
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. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)		
The Essex Fells Safe Return Committee comprised of 21 District and Community Stakeholders have met to review recent updates including Executive Orders 251 and 253 to include in the EFS reopening plan for 2021-2022. The Safe Return Plan was reviewed at the September 1, 2021 Board of Education Meeting and the modifications were discussed in public.		
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. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)		
The Essex Fells School District posts exact documents to the district website for the public to view. Regular updates are provided through the district Alert System including e-mail, phone, text, and app modalities. Weekly school bulletins will be sent electronically from September-June which will also include any pertinent updates regarding health and safety protocols.		
Briefly describe any guidance, professional learning, and technical assistance opportunities the LEA will make available to its schools. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)		
The district Registered Nurse provided in-person training to all teachers and staff members on September 1, 2021 during in-service training. Written resources were also provided.		
Provide current link to the district's website where the plan is posted.		
<input type="text" value="www.efsk-6.org"/>		

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Safe Return Plan Assurance

By checking this box and saving the page, the applicant hereby certifies that he/she will assure that the information contained in the Safe Return to School plans will be updated within the system every 6 months during this grant project period.

Assurances Full Agreed to By:

Michelle V Gadaleta

Assurances Fully Agreed on: 6/23/2021