

# Hawthorne Public Schools

## Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service

January 2022 update

### **Universal and correct wearing of masks:**

The district will continue to comply with recommendations from the New Jersey Department of Health and New Jersey Department of Education when recommending mask wearing in school during the school day. Masks are required during the school day by all members of the school community. Additionally, masks are required at all district events held at the school beyond the school day.

### **Physical Distancing**

For the remainder of the 2021-2022 School Year, the Hawthorne Public School will continue with combined cohorts (full student population) in all school buildings. Students will be separated in classroom spaces based on the New Jersey Department of Health guidelines and the COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix. Additionally, social/physical distancing practices will be considered areas around building entry and exit, hallway and common space use, and other gathering spaces, based on the COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix.

### **Handwashing and Respiratory etiquette**

The Hawthorne Public Schools will continue to teach and reinforce hand hygiene to students at all levels. The district will supply hand sanitizer in classrooms and hallway spaces, monitor younger students washing hands before and after eating (lunch and snack), and reinforce proper respiratory etiquette. Signs will remain in common areas reminding students and staff of such practices including, but not limited to handwashing, covering cough and sneezing, and disposing properly of tissues and other personal hygiene trash.

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

The district will continue to utilize the sprayers and EPA approved disinfectants to clean common spaces daily, including but not limited to: student desks and chairs, teacher desks, common tables, handrails and door knobs, bathrooms (throughout the day). We will continue to only use the "bottle filler" water fountains and keep others covered and closed. The district will continue to provide PPE as necessary to staff and students.

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

Contact tracing will continue to take place by our school nurses and administrative teams. The district will utilize the local health nurse to collaborate on needed scenarios. Additionally, all quarantine and isolation guidelines will be in accordance with the New Jersey Department of Education K-12 school guidance at the time of school reopening. The district will continue to monitor the guidance provided by the New Jersey Department of Health and New Jersey Department of Education and make necessary adjustments to these practices.

## **Diagnostic and screening testing**

The district will comply with recommendations from the New Jersey Department of Health and New Jersey Department of Education when recommending diagnostic testing to district families. Parents/Caregivers will be responsible for screening their children for COVID-19 symptoms on a daily basis using the District's screening protocol, which was shared previously and will continue to be shared with all families.

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

We have set up several opportunities for our teachers, students, and staff members to facilitate their vaccination process. This includes but is not limited to partnering with Atlantic Health System to prioritize our staff when they become eligible, providing release time for staff members to obtain their vaccination. We continue to provide information on vaccination sites to all vaccines to eligible students.

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

The special education programs in the district will continue to follow all NJDOH and NJ DOE guidance to include: mask wearing, hygiene, and social distancing based on the COVID-19 Regional Risk Matrix. In the Special Class Programs such as the LLD Severe, LLD Moderate, Emotional Regulation Impairment, and Preschool Disabilities the staff will continue to do the following: Staff will continue to wear gloves and face coverings for toilet training During crisis intervention, staff will continue to use blocking procedures and verbal de-escalation techniques 18 - 21 transition program staff and students will continue to practice safe hygiene while preparing meals and while out in the community for CBI and SLE.

## **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.**

Academic needs include: Increased staff, curriculum revisions and pacing guides to help close learning gaps without a loss to current grade level goals. Before and after school programs to support struggling learners and reinforce skills. Summer school (credit recovery) and skill enhancement for

K-12 students. SEL needs include partnership with Fiedelvey Consulting to focus ACEs (Adverse Childhood Experiences) and the Universal Mental Health Comprehensive Screener. Addition of crisis counselors. Lincoln, Jefferson, Roosevelt, and Washington schools will employ three lunch periods each day. During each lunch two grade levels will be serviced. One will have the first half for recess while the other has lunch. The groups will switch for the second half of the period. Some schools will eat in classrooms, others will be distanced in the cafeteria. HHS will utilize one unit lunch for students to eat at various locations. Lunches will be grab and go district wide for ease of distribution

**Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan and how it took those public comments into account in the development of its plan. (480 of 1000 maximum characters used)**

The district continues to provide updates on the allocation and spending of the ARP ESSER funds. In the October 19 and November 15 BOE meetings, detailed reports were shared on how the final allocations were being spent prior to the November submission. The district sought public comment via questions at the board meeting or through submission of questions and feedback through the following email address: [HawthorneBOE@hawthorne.k12.nj.us](mailto:HawthorneBOE@hawthorne.k12.nj.us) No public comments were received.

**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.**

The plan which was posted on the website has the ability to be translated to multiple languages including but not limited to: Spanish, Cantonese, French, German, Korean, Russian. Additionally, the overview from the presentation was also posted on the website and has the ability to be translated.