

Frelinghuysen Township School District



School Restart and Recovery Plan for 2021-2022

Introduction

The FTS Restart and Recovery Plan (2020) was developed in August, 2020 in collaboration with school community stakeholders to be consistent with the requirements in the NJDOE's The Road Back guidance for schools and NJDOH health guidance in order to ensure school(s) in the district reopen safely and are prepared to accommodate students' unique needs. The Restart Plan components have been updated in this document to reflect the newest recommendations in the NJDOE's The Road Forward Guidance published in June, 2021, and latest guidance from the NJDOH, with consideration to the school district's local needs to keep staff and students safe.

Goals of the FTS School Restart Plan

- Provide full day instruction for all students
- Address critical areas of operations to provide a safe and healthy learning environment
- Incorporate social and emotional learning and mental health supports as a key component to increase socialization among children and staff as well as to foster the re-establishment of relationships
- Have the ability to adjust to changing information, updated executive orders and/or area health conditions while maintaining as much consistency as possible in education

Reference Documents

[New Jersey Department of Health and Education Health and Safety Guidance for 2021-2022](#)

All plan components contained herein will be subject to change based on local health conditions, updated guidance and/or recommendations from local health officials, the NJDOH and/or the CDC.

General Health and Safety Guidelines

1.1 Vaccination

- District medical personnel will collect vaccination information, as appropriate
- District medical personnel will share vaccination information with families in collaboration with the local health department

1.2 Communication

New Jersey Department of Health
800-367-6543

Warren County Department of Health
908-475-7960

Frelinghuysen Township School District
908-362-6319

- Communication will be maintained between health officials, the Chief School Administrator and the School Nurse.
- The Chief School Administrator will be responsible for all communications to and between the parties listed above, the community, families and staff.

1.3 Masks

- The district will follow state guidance and mandates regarding masks.
- The district will provide masks to anyone in need.
- Exceptions to wearing a mask:
 - When doing so would inhibit the individual's health, such as when the individual is exposed to extreme heat indoors;
 - When the individual has trouble breathing, is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove a face covering without assistance;
 - When a student's documented medical condition or disability, as reflected in an Individualized Education Program (IEP) or Educational Plan pursuant to Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, precludes use of a face covering;
 - When the individual is under two (2) years of age;
 - When an individual is engaged in an activity that cannot be performed while wearing a mask, such as eating and drinking or playing an instrument that would be obstructed by the face covering;
 - When the individual is engaged in high-intensity aerobic or anaerobic activity;
 - When a student is participating in high-intensity physical activities during a physical education class in a well-ventilated location and able to maintain a physical distance of six feet from all other individuals; or
 - When wearing a face covering creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.

The Road Forward: Health and Safety Guidance for the 2021-2022 School Year

1.4 Maintain Physical Distancing

- All student desks/chairs will be placed 3-6 feet apart, facing the same direction when possible.
- Hallways and common areas will be marked to accommodate social distancing.
- Students will remain in their classrooms with their classmates as frequently as the schedule allows.

1.5 Hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette

- Regular hand washing will be scheduled and required of all students and staff. Students will be instructed in proper hand washing for at least 20 seconds and proper respiratory etiquette.
- Classrooms with sinks will be equipped with hand soap and touchless paper towel dispensers
- Approved hand sanitizer will be available at all times in the classrooms
- Additional hand sanitizing stations will be placed throughout the building.

1.6 Meals

- The Cafeteria will be marked for 6 feet of social distance between students while eating. The school schedule will reflect smaller groups eating at one time.
- The cafeteria will be set up to provide 6 feet of social distance between students eating lunch. Extra tables will be added as necessary.
- Hot lunches will be available.
- Parents who wish to purchase lunches are asked to send in money for several days at time to put a credit on their child's lunch ticket to minimize the exchange of money every day.
- Cafeteria staff must wash their hands immediately after removing gloves and after directly handling used food service items.
- Snacks will be allowed in prek-3rd grade classrooms, with scheduled handwashing taking place prior to eating snacks. SNACKS SHOULD BE ABLE TO BE OPENED AND EATEN WITHOUT ASSISTANCE. Parents are asked to work with their children to ensure their child can independently open, prepare and eat their snacks.
- Water fountains will remain CLOSED until further notice however the bottle filling station will remain open to fill water bottles. Students are encouraged to bring their own bottles of water to school each day.
- STAFF WILL NOT BE ABLE TO PROVIDE SNACKS OR WATER BOTTLES. STUDENTS MUST BRING THEIR OWN SNACKS AND WATER BOTTLES EVERYDAY

1.7 Transportation

Bus Regulations

- All students and the bus driver will be required to wear masks on the bus.
- When possible, windows will be open to circulate airflow.
- Buses will be cleaned and disinfected between each bus route.
- Bus drivers will be screened each day and will be required to wear a face covering.

Cleaning, Disinfection and Airflow

2.1 Limit use of shared supplies and equipment

- Students will receive their own educational supplies that will not be shared with other students.
- Shared items will be disinfected.
- Students will wash hands before and after sharing, when sharing supplies is necessary.
- Students will wash and/or sanitize hands before going outside on the playground and using gym equipment.
- Gym equipment will be sanitized between classes.

2.2 Cleaning and Disinfection

The school will continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise.

- Desks will be disinfected each night and all classrooms will be deep cleaned several times a week
- Bathrooms will be cleaned as often as possible during the day, with appropriate approved sanitizing products and equipment.
- Water fountains will be closed, with only access to bottle filling stations available.
- Door knobs and other common surfaces will be cleaned throughout the day, with minimal touching of doorknobs and other common surfaces encouraged. Other surfaces may include light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops, etc.
- Staff will have access to appropriate disinfectant to use as necessary.
- Common areas will be frequently disinfected.
- Specific daily cleaning protocols will continue to be followed with additional disinfection every night in classrooms and common areas.

2.3 Improving Airflow

- Windows will be open as often as possible.
- All indoor facilities will have adequate ventilation, including operational heating and ventilation systems where appropriate. Re-circulated air must have a fresh air component, windows will be opened, if practical, if air conditioning is not provided, and filter(s) for A/C units must be maintained and changed according to manufacturer recommendations.
- All air circulation and ventilation systems will be checked to ensure proper functioning. Classrooms are equipped with air purification systems.
- Air ventilation filters in classrooms will be changed frequently on a rotating schedule.

Screening, Exclusion and Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff

PARENTS ARE ENCOURAGED TO KEEP SICK CHILDREN HOME. THE CDC'S CURRENT LIST OF COVID-19 SYMPTOMS WILL BE USED TO DETERMINE IF STUDENTS OR STAFF WILL BE SENT HOME. PLEASE USE THE DAILY HEALTH SCREENING TOOL.

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As per the CDC, symptoms may appear 2-14 days after exposure to the virus. People with these symptoms may have COVID-19:

Fever or chills
Cough
Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
Fatigue
Muscle or body aches
Headache
New loss of taste or smell
Sore throat
Congestion or runny nose
Nausea or vomiting
Diarrhea

See:

Appendix A: FTS Health Screening Tool

Screening Students and Employees

- All students and employees should self-screen any symptoms according to the FTS Health Screening Tool.
- Any staff or student presenting with any symptoms of illness will be immediately referred to the school nurse.
- Questions regarding symptoms will be asked as necessary, taking into account developmental abilities to answer questions.
- Students and staff who have been exposed to Covid-19 should follow all CDC/NJDOH quarantine guidance.
- Students and staff who are traveling should consult the New Jersey Travel Advisory for guidance on interstate travel.
- Employees and/or families are advised to report any potential exposure to Covid-19
- If the school becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in the building tests positive for COVID-19, district officials will immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality.
- If someone is confirmed or suspected to be positive for Covid 19, students and staff may be subject to quarantines as recommended by local health officials.
- Reasonable accommodations will be made for any student or employee with appropriate medical documentation demonstrating one of the high risk categories as determined by the CDC.

3.1 Parental Screening

- See the FTS Health Screening Tool and/or consult with the school nurse regarding any symptoms.

3.2 Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff

- Any student or employee who has an elevated temperature and/or shows other symptoms of Covid-19 will be respectfully quarantined until such time as to return home. Re-admittance to school will be dependent on test results and/or doctor recommendation.

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- If a staff member or student presents with symptoms of Covid-19, they will be immediately escorted to private isolation in the health office in a discreet, separated room.
- If the school district becomes aware that a student or staff member tests positive for Covid-19 or is symptomatic, it will be reported to local health officials for contact tracing.
- As per health department guidance, school may be closed for 24-48 hours to allow time for health officials to determine next steps.
- Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. School officials will follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.

3.3 Exclusion

- Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 will be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.
- If the school becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in the building tests positive for COVID-19, district officials will immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality.
- Quarantine times will depend upon the individual situation and are subject to change based on the most recent CDC/NJDOH guidance regarding quarantines for school aged children.
- Students who test positive for Covid-19, are awaiting test results or are quarantined for exposure to Covid-19 will be provided with synchronous and/or asynchronous instruction during the time of quarantine. Please note that synchronous or asynchronous instruction is not an option for any other circumstances.

Contact Tracing

- If the school district becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a district facility tests positive for COVID-19, officials must immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality.
- The school nurse will be responsible for contact tracing and isolating positive cases of Covid-19.
- Methods to assist in contact tracing including records of groups/cohorts, assigned staff, and daily attendance will be communicated with local health officials.
- Confirmed positive cases of Covid-19 will be reported to the Warren County Health Department who will assist with contract tracing as necessary.
- The CSA will coordinate communication with the Warren County Health Department regarding contact tracing within the school community.
- School may be temporarily closed while health conditions and contract tracing is being determined. The CSA and Health Officials will collaborate to determine when it is safe to re-open after exposure.

Testing

5.1 Diagnostic Testing

- Diagnostic testing will not be done in district but may be required for re-entry to school after illness, dependent upon symptoms. Please consult the school nurse.

5.2 Screening Testing

- Screening testing will not be done in district.
- Parents and staff will self-screen and report any symptoms to the school nurse. Any symptoms will be assessed by the school nurse.
- Visitors will not be permitted into the building.
- Parents picking children up or dropping them off are asked to call ahead. Parents will be asked to sign children in/out in the vestibule and children will be brought to them or picked up by a staff member.
- Any items being dropped off can be left in the vestibule.
- Any essential, critical infrastructure workers will be screened prior to be allowed in the building and will be required to wear a mask when children are present.

Field Trips, Extra-curricular Activities and Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours

Extracurricular Activities and Use of Facilities Outside of School Hours

THIS WILL BE UPDATED WHEN CLEAR GUIDANCE IS AVAILABLE AND WILL BE DEPENDENT UPON LOCAL HEALTH CONDITIONS.

- Requests for facility use will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- External field trips will not be allowed until further notice.
- Extracurricular activities will be assessed on a case by case basis.
- Large group events will be subject to current health conditions.
- Any group using the building will be required to follow the guidelines contained in this document along with any other health and safety regulations that may be developed.

APPENDIX A

FTS Health Screening Tool

Help us keep our school healthy!

Please review the following questions each day before sending your child to school.

Section 1: Symptoms

Any of the symptoms below could indicate a COVID-19 infection in children and may put your child at risk for spreading illness to others. Please note that this list does not include all possible symptoms and children with COVID-19 may experience any, all, or none of these symptoms. Please check your child daily for these symptoms:

If TWO OR MORE of the fields in Column A are checked off OR AT LEAST ONE field in column B is checked off, please keep your child home and notify the school for further instructions.	
Column A	Column B
<input type="checkbox"/> Fever (measured or subjective) <input type="checkbox"/> Chills <input type="checkbox"/> Rigors (shivers) <input type="checkbox"/> Myalgia (muscle aches) <input type="checkbox"/> Headache <input type="checkbox"/> Sore Throat <input type="checkbox"/> Nausea or Vomiting <input type="checkbox"/> Diarrhea <input type="checkbox"/> Fatigue <input type="checkbox"/> Congestion or runny nose	<input type="checkbox"/> Cough <input type="checkbox"/> Shortness of Breath <input type="checkbox"/> Difficulty Breathing <input type="checkbox"/> New loss of smell <input type="checkbox"/> New loss of taste

Section 2: Close Contact/Potential Exposure

If ANY of the fields in Section 2 are checked off, contact your school for exclusion recommendations. Contact your child's healthcare provider or your local health department for further guidance.

Please verify if in the last 14days:

- Your child has had close contact (within 6 feet of an infected person for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour period) with a person with COVID-19
- Someone in your household is diagnosed with or being tested for COVID-19