



Cherry Hill

PUBLIC SCHOOLS

WE Return to Learn Updates
Dr. Joseph Meloche and Dr. Farrah Mahan
July 13, 2021

WE Return to Learn – District Mission Statement

WE shall provide all children with an education that develops open-minded thinkers with the strong academic and interpersonal skills to thrive **in an ever-changing world** and make it a better place for all.



WE Return to Learn – BOE Strategic Goals

Building upon our strong foundations of academic excellence, inclusion, voice, and cultural proficiency, we will:

Student Wellness

Create frameworks of learning and supports for all students to develop the skills needed for social and emotional wellness.

Purpose & Passion

Develop highly engaging learner-centered experiences within an environment that promotes voice, choice, and passion for learning.

Connecting Beyond Our Classrooms

Provide resources, opportunities, and experiences for our students to connect to the world beyond their classrooms and to become informed and empathetic agents of change in the world.



WE Return to Learn - The Road Forward



Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

Summer Acceleration and Remediation



WE Return to Learn – Planning for Summer 2021 and beyond

- ESSER II Funds - Learning allocation
 - 75% to academic enrichment for students
 - 75% on STEM - related activities and experiences
 - 25% on activities and experiences related to literacy and the arts.
 - 25% to supporting the learning ecosystem for PreK through grade 12 instruction
- ESSER II Funds - Mental Health
 - Minimum of 10% towards professional development for educators
 - Minimum of 80% towards mental health supports and services

WE Return to Learn – Planning for Summer 2021 and beyond

High School	Middle School	Elementary School	Learning Ecosystem *
Credit recovery			Professional development
Intervention and Referral Services Target List	Intervention and Referral Services Target List	Intervention and Referral Services Target List	Parent Education courses
Tutoring - small group and 1:1	Tutoring - small group and 1:1	Tutoring - small group and 1:1	Student Workshops
Transition to High School - target grades 9th and 10th and new students	Transition to Middle School - target grades 6th and 7th and new students	Transition to Elementary School - target Grades K, 1st and new students	
Acceleration Courses	Acceleration Courses	Acceleration Courses	

* Learning ecosystem may be spent on programs focused on building a growth mindset in students, professional learning for educators on accelerated instruction and enhancing effective utilization of formative assessments, and engagement with parents and caregivers through a multi-tiered system of support.

All services and resources will be available for all students including special education, ELs, economically disadvantaged and those in other historically underrepresented population. The services are in addition to ESY and Camp Paine.



WE Return to Learn – Planning for Summer 2021 and beyond

High School	Credit Recovery	Middle School	Elementary School
160 students	116 students	425 students	694 students

- Camp Paine - 168 students
- Extended School Year (ESY) - 600 students
- In addition to the Summer Acceleration and Remediation course offerings, there are Summer Supports which may be found on the district website at this link -
 - <https://www.chclc.org/domain/1421>

WE Return to Learn - The Road Forward



Plan for Safe Return

Areas Covered -

- Updated Continuity of Learning Plan
- What We Know
- The Road Forward

Things to Know -

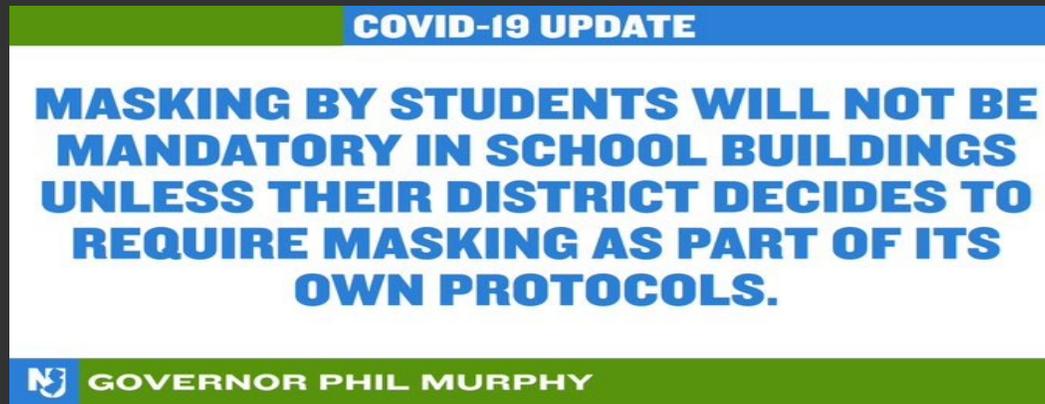
- Cherry Hill School District submitted the Plan for Safe Return to the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) June 24, 2021.
- The District's plan meets the guidelines established by the NJDOE and the Federal Department of Education.
- The Plan for Safe Return may be found on the District's website [here](#).

Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

- A revised Continuity of Learning Plan is being developed for the 2021-2022 academic year
 - The plan will incorporate the work from the 2020-2021 academic year, the lessons learned, and the current recommendations from the NJDOE and NJDOH.
 - The first draft of the plan will be presented to the Board of Education and the community on July 27, 2021.
- The District is committed to the following -
 - Regularly scheduled school days for all students.
 - Breakfast and Lunch being available and scheduled for students.
 - Working in partnership with the New Jersey Department of Education, New Jersey Department of Health, and the Camden County Department of Health to remain informed about the status of community health.
 - Communicating information transparently with the students, families, staff members, and community

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- 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.
- On June 28, 2021, Governor Murphy announced at his press briefing that, “Absent any dramatic change in our situation before the beginning of the school year, masking by students while in their school buildings will NOT be mandatory - unless a school district requires masking as part of its own protocols.”



What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- The CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools was updated July 9, 2021

- retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>

- Key Takeaways

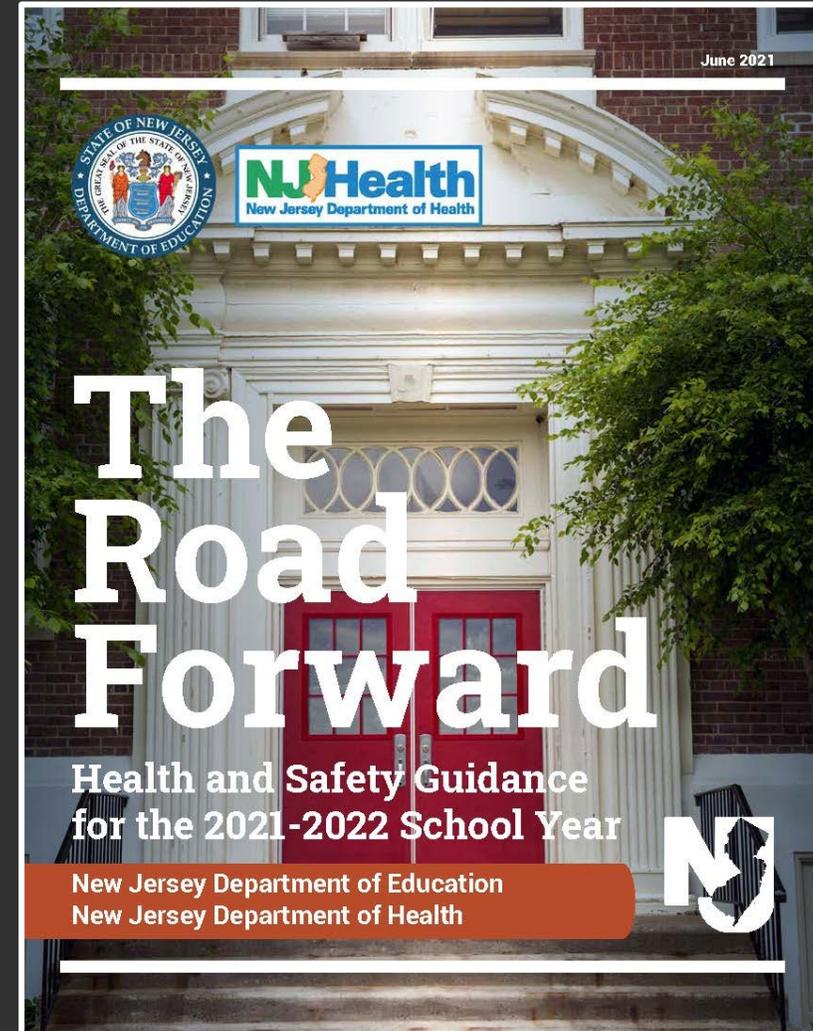
- Students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction in the fall 2021 is a priority.
 - Vaccination is currently the leading public health prevention strategy to end the COVID-19 pandemic. Promoting vaccination can help schools safely return to in-person learning as well as extracurricular activities and sports.
 - Masks should be worn indoors by all individuals (age 2 and older) who are not fully vaccinated. Consistent and correct mask use by people who are not fully vaccinated is especially important indoors and in crowded settings, when physical distancing cannot be maintained.
 - Schools should maintain at least 3 feet of physical distance between students within classrooms, combined with indoor mask wearing by people who are not fully vaccinated, to reduce transmission risk. When it is not possible to maintain a physical distance of at least 3 feet, it is especially important to layer multiple other prevention strategies, such as indoor masking.

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- CDC Guidance for COVID-19 Prevention in K-12 Schools - updated July 9, 2021
 - retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html>
- Key Takeaways - *continued*
 - Screening testing, ventilation, handwashing and respiratory etiquette, staying home when sick and getting tested, contact tracing in combination with quarantine and isolation, and cleaning and disinfection are also important layers of prevention to keep schools safe.
 - Students, teachers, and staff should stay home when they have signs of any infectious illness and be referred to their healthcare provider for testing and care.
 - Many schools serve children under the age of 12 who are not eligible for vaccination at this time. Therefore, this guidance emphasizes implementing layered prevention strategies (e.g., using multiple prevention strategies together consistently) to protect people who are not fully vaccinated, including students, teachers, staff, and other members of their households.
 - COVID-19 prevention strategies remain critical to protect people, including students, teachers, and staff, who are not fully vaccinated, especially in areas of moderate-to-high community transmission levels.
 - Localities should monitor community transmission, vaccination coverage, screening testing, and occurrence of outbreaks to guide decisions on the level of layered prevention strategies (e.g., physical distancing, screening testing).

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- On June 28, 2021, the NJDOE and the New Jersey Department of Health (NJDOH) released “The Road Forward”
 - The 15 page document may be found [here](#).



What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward”**

- The health and safety guidance provided by the NJDOE and the NJDOH, is separated into five sections
 - 1. General Health and Safety Guidelines
 - 2. Cleaning, Disinfection, and Airflow
 - 3. Screening, Exclusion, and Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff
 - 4. Contact Tracing
 - 5. Testing

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward - General Health and Safety Guidelines”**
 - The General Health and Safety Guidelines are separated into seven sub-sections:
 - 1.1 Vaccination
 - 1.2 Communication
 - 1.3 Masks
 - 1.4 Maintain Physical Distancing and Cohorting
 - 1.5 Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette
 - 1.6 Meals
 - 1.7 Transportation

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward - General Health and Safety Guidelines”**
 - 1.1 Vaccination
 - The District will have a mix of fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, and unvaccinated individuals when school reopens on September 9, 2021.
 - The District is encouraging everyone who is eligible to get vaccinated and to be fully vaccinated prior to returning to school.
 - When is someone fully vaccinated?
 - 2 weeks after receiving their final dose of the vaccine
 - 1.2 Communication
 - The District will maintain regular contact with the Camden County Department of Health to share resources on COVID-19 as well as information on transmission, prevention, and control measures related to the illness.
 - The District will continue to maintain a COVID Dashboard and will share information with families and the community as it is available.

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward - General Health and Safety Guidelines”**
 - 1.3 Masks
 - The document states that the guidance will be updated following the release of updated CDC guidance.
 - The CDC released updated guidance on Friday, July 9, 2021, which may be found highlighted in slides above.
 - Masks do not preclude individuals from being identified as a “close contact”.
 - Proper use of masks will be reviewed with staff and students.
 - 1.4 Maintain Physical Distancing and Cohorting
 - Consider maintaining three feet of distance between students in classroom settings to the extent possible
 - not all classroom settings in Cherry Hill will be able to maintain three feet of distance
 - Consider the organization of seating arrangements in classrooms
 - Consider physical distancing outside of classrooms

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward - General Health and Safety Guidelines”**
 - 1.5 Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette
 - Teach and reinforce proper handwashing - with soap and water or hand sanitizer
 - hand sanitizer will be available in all classrooms & offices and at entrances
 - Teach and reinforce covering coughs and sneezes
 - 1.6 Meals
 - Utilize layered mitigation strategies in dining areas
 - specific plans for breakfast & lunch at school will be shared at the August 10, 2021 Board of Education Meeting
 - 1.7 Transportation
 - Masks must be worn by all passengers on all buses, regardless of vaccination status - this is a federal requirement
 - Seats will be assigned, windows will be opened, buses will be cleaned regularly

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward - Cleaning, Disinfection, and Airflow”**
 - 2.1 Limit Use of Shared Supplies and Equipment
 - Ensure adequate supplies are available and limit sharing of materials
 - *Some materials/equipment will be shared in classrooms and on the playground*
 - 2.2 Cleaning and Disinfection
 - Cleaning and Disinfecting will occur at least daily in high touch areas
 - *We will continue to follow the enhanced cleaning & disinfecting protocols that were implemented for the 2020-2021 academic year.*
 - 2.3 Improving Airflow
 - Bring in as much outdoor air as possible.
 - Open windows and doors, as available.
 - Utilize opportunities to be outside for activities, classes, and meals
 - *Air purifiers are being installed in all instructional areas and offices.*
 - *Air purifiers were purchased with federal grant funds.*



What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- “The Road Forward - Screening, Exclusion, and Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff”
 - 3.1 Parental Screening
 - Parents will be encouraged to monitor children for signs of illness every day.
 - Students will be required to complete a daily screening before leaving for school. The current screening tool may be found [here](#).
 - 3.2 Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff
 - Procedures must be in place to identify and respond to a student/staff member who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms
 - A room will be designated for symptomatic individuals.
 - Nursing offices will be reviewed for space.
 - 3.3 Exclusion
 - 3.3.1 Definition of COVID-19 Compatible Symptoms
 - *See the District's screening tool for symptoms.*
 - 3.3.2 When Illness Occurs in the School Setting
 - Ill individual will be separated from others.
 - Contact tracing questions will be used to determine possible exposure.
 - Department of Health will be contacted.

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- “The Road Forward - Screening, Exclusion, and Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff”
 - 3.3 Exclusion
 - 3.3.3 Exclusion
 - Ill individuals with COVID-19 compatible symptoms who have not been tested or individuals who tested positive for COVID-19 will stay home until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset and at least 24 hours have passed without a fever/fever medication.
 - COVID-19 Exclusion Criteria for Close Contacts
 - NJDOH has provided specific guidelines for the length of exclusion (quarantine time) for close contacts. More information may be found [here](#).
 - Close contacts who are fully vaccinated and have no COVID-like symptoms do not need to quarantine
 - Remote Instruction/180-Day Requirement
 - If a student, group of students, a class, or multiple classes must be excluded due to exposure/positive COVID-19 tests, the district should be prepared to offer virtual/remote instruction to those students while the remainder of the school/students are in person.

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward - Contact Tracing”**
 - Contact tracing is used to determine the source of an infection and how it is spreading. Finding people who are close contacts of someone who tested positive for COVID-19 can help prevent further spread of the virus.
 - A close contact is defined as someone within 6 feet of a suspected/known person with COVID-19 for 15 or more minutes during a 24-hour time period.
 - The District will work with the Camden Camden County Department of Health in to identify close contacts in the school setting.

What we know, as of July 13, 2021

- **“The Road Forward - Testing”**
 - School-based healthcare professionals (school nurses) may perform SARS-CoV-2 antigen testing in school-based health centers if they are trained in specimen collection, conducting the test per manufacturer’s instructions, and after obtaining a Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments (CLIA) certificate of waiver.
 - 5.1 Diagnostic Testing
 - NJDOH recommends that schools work with their local health departments to identify rapid viral testing options in the community.
 - 5.2 Screening Testing
 - Some schools may elect to use screening testing as a strategy to identify cases and prevent secondary transmission.
 - This would include screening testing of asymptomatic individuals without known exposure.
 - Cherry Hill is not currently doing any COVID-19 testing.

Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

Preparing for the Reopening of Schools on
September 9, 2021

“Yay for Full Day!”



Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

- **A Focus on Students' and Staff Social & Emotional Wellness and Mental Health**
 - Transitioning back to full time, in person instruction on September 9, 2021
 - Inservice days prior to school reopening will include preparation to meet the social and emotional challenges of the transition for students and staff.
 - Focused training throughout the year by Thrive Alliance for counseling staff.
- **Curriculum & Instruction**
 - Preparing for the academic needs of the students, based on last year's experience and this year's expectations
- **Planning the Instructional Day**
 - Including breakfast and lunch times
 - Classroom setup & movement within the building
- **Remote Accessibility and Technology**
 - The district will continue to ensure that the digital divide is closed and all students and staff have access to the technology necessary to be successful including:
 - All students have access to devices & internet connectivity they can take home.
 - Technology support and troubleshooting via online platform, remote access calls, email, and video conference

Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

- **Masks**

- Masks must be worn on school buses at all times
- Of the 145 responses that the District received through the Google form regarding the Safe Return Plan, the majority of them addressed the wearing of masks.
- It is too early to make a definitive statement about mask wearing inside the school buildings
- **Considerations -**
 - Required masking for all staff and students
 - Optional masking for COVID-19 vaccinated staff and students
 - Optional masking for all staff and students

Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

A formal committee is in the process of being formed, to include:

- PreK/Elementary Level
- Middle Level
- High School Level
- Support Services
 - Guidance, Health & Wellness, IEP/504
- Certificated staff
 - Teachers/Counselors/Nurses/CST Members/Therapists/Administrators
- Non-certificated/support staff
- Board of Education Members
- Parents

Building based Pandemic Response Teams will reconvene in August 2021.
Students will continue to participate in the Pandemic Response Teams.



Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

The District is encouraging all who are eligible, to be fully vaccinated prior to the first day of school.

The District will again host vaccination clinics for all staff and students who would like to be vaccinated.

- First Vaccines:
 - Barton Elementary School APR
 - July 28, 2021, 4-6pm (J&J for over 18, Pfizer for 12-17)
 - Beck Middle School Cafeteria
 - July 29, 2021, 4-6pm (J&J for over 18, Pfizer for 12-17)
- Second Vaccines:
 - Barton Elementary School APR
 - August 18, 2021 4-6pm (Pfizer only)
 - Beck Middle School Cafeteria, August 19, 2021, 4-6pm (Pfizer only)

Additional details about registering for the vaccination clinics will be sent directly to families.



Plan for Safe Return to **WE** Return to Learn - 2021-2022

Formal presentations are scheduled for the Board of Education Meetings on:

- July 13, 2021
- July 27, 2021 - Draft of the updated Continuity of Learning/WE Return to Learn Plan
- August 10, 2021
- August 24, 2021
- September 14, 2021

The Safe Return Plan is posted on the school district website, [here](#), which is ADA compliant and accessible. The translation feature of the page allows for the information to be translated into many different languages. If there is a specific language need beyond what is currently available, translation services will be provided upon request.





Questions
Feedback
Discussion