



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

REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF LOCAL PLAN

- **Policies for Mitigation Strategies:** Plan for incorporating eight different mitigation strategies included in current CDC guidance.
- **Continuity of Services:** Plan to address academic and non-academic services for students and staff.
- **Periodic-Review:** Review at least every 6 months through September 30, 2023 and revise plan as appropriate.
- **Public Input:** Seek public input and incorporate revisions as necessary.

School District: **Northwest Local Schools**

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The Northwest Local School District provided face-to-face instruction, five days a week, to our students during the 2020-2021 academic year. We have maintained our level of rigor and relevance throughout the pandemic. We consistently assess our students and make data driven decisions. Students who are identified as not-on-track or demonstrate learning gaps receive interventions and remediation when necessary.

POLICIES FOR INCORPORATING MITIGATION STRATEGIES

Describe to what extent the following policies have been adapted to incorporate the following CDC Mitigation Strategies and provide a description of any policies being implemented:

- Universal and correct wearing of masks: **We will continue to follow local health department and CDC guidance regarding the wearing of masks for the 2021-22 school year.**
- Physical distancing: **Local health department and CDC guidelines will be followed for the 2021-22 school year.**
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette: **We will continue to follow CDC guidelines for handwashing and social distancing for the 2021-2022 school year.**
- Cleaning and maintaining health facilities: **We will continue to follow guidelines for cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities as recommended.**
- Improving ventilation: **The ventilation upgrades in school buildings were completed during the 2020-21 school year.**
- Contact Tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with state and local departments: **We will continue to follow local health department and CDC guidelines for contract tracing, isolation and quarantine.**
- Diagnostic and screening testing: **We will continue to follow local health department and CDC guidelines.**
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and eligible students: **We will continue to offer vaccinations to eligible students and staff as we have done in the past.**
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies. **We will continue to follow local health department and CDC guidelines for appropriate accommodations and safety practices for students with disabilities.**

PLAN TO ADDRESS CONTINUITY OF ACADEMIC AND NON-ACADEMIC SERVICES

Describe how you will address continuity of services for students and staff, where needed, in the following areas:

1. Academic Services

- Building teams have developed action plans to provide curriculum adjustments to extend student learning. Adjustments will be made, based on data, that identifies group and individual student learning needs. The plans include:
 - a process to identify students who are demonstrating learning gaps
 - a process to monitor and adjust curriculum pacing with careful attention to priority skills and standards
 - a process to use assessment data to provide interventions and remediation as needed
 - the action plans incorporate these data sources at a minimum:
 - Ohio State Assessments:
 - Kindergarten Readiness Assessment
 - Grade 3 Fall English Language Arts
 - Spring '21 Grade 4-8 and End-of-Course Exams
 - Universal Screener/Benchmark
 - MAP Reading Fluency (K-3)
 - MAP Growth Reading Assessment (1st – 10th)
 - MAP Growth Math Assessment (K-10)
 - Curriculum Based Grade level/course assessments:
 - Progress towards IEP and WEP goals
 - Non-Course based measures:
 - Attendance
 - Social-emotional reports
 - Grades
 - Graduation Plans
 - Two professional learning days have been built into the district calendar to accommodate collaborative learning and planning for the upcoming school year.
 - Collaborative professional meeting time will allow for teachers/teacher teams to adjust curriculum coverage and pacing based on student achievement. It is anticipated that this process will continue into the 2022-23 and 2023-24 school year instruction and assessment planning.
 - Students will continue to participate in full-time in-person learning five days per week. Daily access to core instruction will allow students with unfinished learning, significant gaps and/or specific disabilities to receive interventions and remediation.

- Ongoing monitoring of student progress will occur with multi-level data-based decision-making teams (DLT-BLT-TBT) systematically analyzing available data to inform programming changes at the building and district levels. The decision-making structure will analyze data throughout the year to inform adjustments. This process will continue through the 2023-24 school year.

Budget Considerations: General Fund program, Supplemental supports through ESSER (I-III) funds

2. Social-Emotional

- Principals and counselors will continue to monitor the social-emotional well-being of individual students and the student body as a whole. Building-specific protocols alert leaders to intervention needs. Northwest Local is fortunate to have one or more school counselors dedicated to each building. In addition, we have Care Teams and a Family Support Specialist who assists students and their families.
- All four school buildings are implementing Positive Behavior Interventions and Support (PBIS) programs during the 2021-22 school year. Social Emotional Learning lessons will be incorporated into each building's PBIS protocols.
- As social and emotional needs are identified, various processes are already in place to address them:
 - Home visits
 - Wellness checks
 - Small group and individual work with school counselors
 - Recommendation for services with community partners (HOPE Behaviors, Crisis Intervention Team, Stark MARH)

Budget Considerations: General Fund, Title IV, Student Wellness Funds, ESSER (I-III)

3. Mental Health

- Site based counseling services from outside agencies are offered a minimum of 3 times per week. Identified students are referred to administrators or school counselors, who will work with the outside agency to contact parents/guardians to offer assistance through the agency referral process.
- Continue practices that support teacher understanding of warning signs and the process to communicate with counselors and principals.
- Connect practices to connect school counselors with students and families in need, and with community partners as needed.
- Specific district-wide initiatives that address student well-being concerns include:
 - SEL Curriculum (Signs of Suicide, Character Strong, PBIS Protocols)
 - Professional learning in SEL approaches with learning in regard to equity will be provided to all staff members

4. Health

- Continue practices to offer vaccination clinics to eligible students and staff just as we have done in the previous school year.
- Continue practices that follow local health department and CDC guidelines for contact tracing, isolation and quarantine.

5. Food

- Continue practices to offer students and families the opportunities for food distribution in collaboration with local agencies.

- Continue to provide breakfast and lunch to all students through the federal assistance program.

PERIODIC REVIEW

1. Describe how you will conduct a review of your plan at least every six months. **We will conduct a mid-year review of our continuity of service plan and provide the Board of Education with an update at that time. Our goal is to review this plan every six months through September 30, 2023 and revise our plan as needed.**
2. Describe how you will review the plan as appropriate. **Revisions to our plan will be documented at the Board of Education meeting every six months as a follow-up starting in January/February 2022.**

PUBLIC INPUT

1. Describe how you will seek input. **We will seek input from the public by posting the plan on our district website page and provide a link for additional comment and questions.**
2. Describe how you will take public input into account when making decisions. **Revisions to our plan based on public input will be documented at the Board of Educating Meeting during a mid-year review as a follow-up to the continuity of service plan in February 2022.**
3. Review Period: **Revisions to our plan based on public input will be documented at a mid-year Board of Education meeting and then posted on our website including a rationale for why changes were made.**