

## PLAN FOR SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN

### REQUIRED ELEMENTS OF A LOCAL PLAN

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

DEADLINE: June 24, 2021

DIRECTIONS: Post the plan to the school or district website and then email that link (URL) to: [continuityplan@education.ohio.gov](mailto:continuityplan@education.ohio.gov)

RESOURCES:

[ODE American Rescue Plan: Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plans](#)

[CDC Operational Strategy for K-12 Schools through Phased Prevention](#)

**School District: Richmond Heights Local Schools**

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*The Richmond Heights Local Schools will return to in-person schooling for all students in August 2021. We recognize that we still have vulnerable scholars and staff who have health concerns that may require that they be given alternative educational options. We will accommodate these needs via the IEP, 504 or principal and parent engagement process.*

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## **POLICIES FOR INCORPORATING MITIGATION STRATEGIES**

Describe to what extent the following policies have been adopted to incorporate the following [CDC Mitigation Strategies](#) and provide a description of any policies being implemented:

- Universal and correct wearing of masks
- Physical distancing
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining health facilities, including improving ventilation
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state and local health departments
- Diagnostic and screening testing
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff and eligible students
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

- Universal and correct wearing of masks: The district is currently mandating mask wearing for all personnel and students through at least August 1, 2021.
- Physical distancing: We are social distancing with masks at 3 feet. Masks are mandated in every building.
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette: COVID resources are provided by the district via signs, website and social media to encourage hand washing and coughing and sneezing into one's elbow.
- Cleaning and maintaining health facilities, including improving ventilation: High touch surfaces are sanitized throughout the day, and each physical plant is deep cleaned every evening. Hepa filtration units were installed. All facilities are sprayed daily with the electrostatic misting sanitization machine.
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state and local health departments: The district coordinates with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health for all contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine measures.
- Diagnostic and screening testing: Parents were all provided with the district's COVID screening tool to complete daily prior to sending students into the district. The district's Health Administrator screens for those that may begin to exhibit symptoms during the day and protocol is established with the use of our C.A.R.E. Room. Parents and Guardians are required to retrieve any scholar that is deemed to be ill and given protocol documents and follow up support from our district Health Administrator.
- All educators and support staff were given the opportunity to be vaccinated by the ESC of Cuyahoga County. We regularly promote vaccination efforts by local health partners.
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies: Accommodations are made for students with disabilities including masking exemptions, and any other accommodations that are reasonable they may need.

## 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
2. Social-Emotional
3. Mental Health
4. Health
5. Food

1. Academic Services: The district will offer a comprehensive summer experience to address learning gaps. This program will allow students in grades pre k through 12 to have access to high quality math and literacy instruction. Further, the district will leverage a new district assessment system, NWEA/ MAP to identify learning gaps, and address students' academic gaps and needs during the 2021-22 school year. Differentiated core Tier I instruction will enable students to access curriculum on their level of learning with the goal of having all students at or above grade level by the conclusion of the 2021-22 school year. The reclamation of lost learning time has been included in the fall daily schedule by increasing class period time. Intervention time will be a part of the academic day and provided to each student daily. For the 2021-22 school year, we have added an Academic Readiness Coordinator to assist principals in meeting the unique needs of families and students who have been especially impacted by the pandemic. The Academic Readiness Coordinator will work with students and families on developing educational and career pathways.

2. Social-Emotional: To address social emotional learning the incorporation and exposure of social programs such as sports camps, art camp, dance camp, social justice and problem based learning has been established as a part of the weekly school schedule, where ever student will have the power of choice for what electives and extracurricular activities they will participate in. The district plans to employ a social worker all while strengthening its relationship with community and school based therapy organizations to address the social emotional well-being of students. Our Partnership with Applewood co-located in our buildings allows us to help in the implementation of the building PBIS initiative and assist teachers and administrators in supporting at-risk or vulnerable students and their families. Professional development to teach all staff on how to identify and work with students that have been a victim of childhood trauma. All stakeholders will be working to provide a safe and positive school climate.

3. Mental Health: The pandemic has provided some unique circumstances for our families. The district partners with outside agencies to provide mental health services to students and families. These services are accessible to all students and families. We will extend our PBIS process to address these, and other unique circumstances associated with the pandemic. The district has also built the capacity of our Wraparound Coordinator to work in developing behavioral supports and providing resources to teachers and administrators.

4. Health: The district provides a comprehensive health curriculum within schools. Additionally, the district provides health services in all school buildings. The district has deployed mitigation strategies including hand sanitizer and disinfection solution in every classroom, COVID Screening Parent Tool, Hepa filtration units and will invest in an updated HVAC systems in the Elementary School Building. Per Cuyahoga County Department of Health and CDC guidelines, the district is currently mandating masks for all personnel and students in school buildings, and 3 feet of social distance for all those that are masked. Water fountains are turned off; students bring water bottles or are given water if needed. Distillata water stations are placed throughout the buildings to allow teachers, students, staff access when needed. Contact tracing and quarantine is coordinated through the Cuyahoga County Department of Health in collaboration with our district Health Administrator. The district will contract for extra Health Monitoring Support and provide education to all stakeholders on the practices of being safe and healthy during a pandemic.

5. Food: Breakfast and lunch is provided free of charge for all students. During remote learning, breakfast and lunch is available for pick-up and or delivery for all students. The district has partnered with organizations to provide food baskets for students to take home and hosts a monthly food pantry with the Cleveland Food Bank.

### **PERIODIC REVIEW**

1. Describe how you will conduct a review of your plan at least every 6 months.
2. Describe how you will revise the plan as appropriate.

The Richmond Heights Local School District will continue its efforts to include our constituents in providing input into our operational plans including our Restart / Readiness Extended Learning Plan, Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan for ARP ESSER. The parent compact process for our school-wide Title I program, State of the Schools Community Forums, Districtwide Robo-calls, community mailers, parent newsletters, social media and our web site are used to encourage and make accessible parent engagement and create a two-way conversation about our operations and planning. Surveys also are used to collect feedback and measure program impact and design.

The above steps provide our constituents a variety of ways to provide input and seek assistance.

Richmond Heights is an Ohio Improvement Process District. With the weekly and monthly TBT/BLT/DLT meetings the plan will be revised and reviewed at least every 6 months.

## PUBLIC INPUT

1. Describe how you will seek public input.
2. Describe how you will take public input into account when making revisions.
3. *Review Period:* What revisions were made and why?

The purpose: The Richmond Heights Local School Districts community engagement process is to bring our constituents together using a variety of outreach efforts to talk about or provide feedback on our school community and ways to improve.

Goals: The Richmond Heights Local School District is to engage the whole community in a discussion about the direction of its schools and ways to provide innovative programming to our students and families. To use our engagement tools to develop sound policies to govern our schools and in the face of economic pressure and make decisions that will impact our school and program offerings. Our goal is to ensure this conversation is an ongoing one that will strengthen the relationship between our schools and community. Our engagement process is a part of our district's participation in the Ohio Improvement Process (OIP). Ohio is committed to the implementation of a unified state system of support directly focused on improving the academic achievement of all students and student groups