

Connecticut LEA Reopening Template

Connecticut State Department of Education • June 29, 2020



This document identifies the critical “REQUIREMENTS” needed for each local educational agency (LEA) or school operator to submit a reopening plan in accordance with the Connecticut School Reopening Plan — *Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut’s Plan to Learn and Grow Together*. In providing the LEA’s response, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan, which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing the unique local approach.

While the submitted plans do not require approval by the Connecticut State Department of Education (CSDE), plans will be retained. Receipt and consideration of the plans will allow the CSDE to share best practices and provide technical support for those LEAs who require it.

LEAs should submit a reopening plan that clearly and specifically addresses the requirements outlined in each section below. The CSDE recommends plans be developed inclusive of, but not limited to school-based administrators, teachers and school staff, health and nursing staff, nutrition services, transportation services, boards of education, local health officials, municipal leaders, parents and other relevant stakeholders.

Additional Details:

Plans should be submitted in font size no greater than 11pt, in PDF format.

Due: July 24, 2020

Submit to: SDE.REOPEN@ct.gov

Include the following completed table at the top of your submitted plan:

Date of Submission:	July 24, 2020
LEA Name:	East Windsor Public Schools
Reopening Plan Point of Contact:	Christine DeBarge, Ed.D, Superintendent
Contact Email:	cdebarge@ewct.org
Contact Phone:	860-623-3346 ext 7404
LEA COVID-19 Health and Safety Compliance Liaison:	Wendy Gage, RN, Health Care Coordinator Christine DeBarge, Ed.D
Liaison Email:	wgage@ewct.org cdebarge@ewct.org

If schools plan to iterate and/or improve their plan as result of newly released guidance and/or changes in their local communities, those should also be submitted to the CSDE at the email listed above.

This document reflects preliminary guidance and considerations as of the date published, and should not be interpreted as mandates, except where there is indication of a requirement. The Connecticut School Reopening Plan — *Adapt, Advance, Achieve: Connecticut’s Plan to Learn and Grow Together* may be updated due to the rapidly changing response to this pandemic emergency and ongoing updates from Centers for Disease

Control and Prevention (CDC) and/or changes to federal and state orders and guidance. The Connecticut State Department of Education will provide any such updates to Superintendents.

DRAFT JULY 22, 2020

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Priorities	School Plan
<p>Fall Reopening Model</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEAs should plan to have all students, in all districts, return to schoolhouses for full-time instruction at the beginning of 2020-2021, so long as public health data continues to support this model. This model will be supported with more intensive mitigation strategies and specific monitoring, containment and class cancellation plans. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – In addition to full-time instruction plans as indicated above, LEAs must be prepared to modify their plans to support a partial reopening or to allow for scaling back at a future date if the public health data changes. • Identify gaps and develop action plans for reopening that specifically address inclusion, equity, and access for all learners with strategies and clearly defined action steps. 	<p>Students will attend school, following the previously adopted EWPS 2020-2021 Calendar. All staff and students will wear masks barring medical exemption with documentation.</p> <p>Gaps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Will need to create work site options within the schools for our 16-22 transition program due to safety concerns with COVID in the community • Engaging families who had challenges engaging in distance learning <p>May need to consider various models of instruction for students temporarily opting to not return to school</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • *
<p>Temporarily Choosing Not to Participate</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plan for parents and students who may temporarily choose not to participate in the return to school. 	<p>Provide distance learning opportunities consistent with guidance provided by CSDE – updated guidance received July 24, 2020. Specific methods of delivering instruction are still being revised with consideration given to staffing issues, technology and number of students who may opt to not attend on a temporary basis.</p>
<p>School Liaison, Communications Plans, and Data Collection</p>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Designate an employee to serve as a COVID-19 Health and Safety Compliance Liaison. This designated person will be responsible for engaging with students, parents, faculty, staff, and administrators to answer questions or concerns about health and safety requirements regarding COVID-19 concerns (e.g., school nurse). • Put systems in place to communicate the most up to date policies and protocols related to the considerations herein, for staff, students, and families. • Make communications plans available in relevant languages of families in the community, as well as accessible to those with visual and/or hearing impairments. • Ensure the development of plans for ongoing two-way communication with the school community (staff, families, and students) about any new policies and/or protocols <i>prior</i> to reopening, any time there is a significant policy change, and upon re-entry if a school closes temporarily during the year. • Develop expectations around frequency of communication, and ensure detailed updates are provided any time critical information regarding policies, protocols, or health data changes. • Put in place a plan for how the community will be notified of any changed policies, need to cancel classes, or other changes or restrictions. • Make plans easily accessible, including but not limited to being visible on the main landing page of the LEA and school websites. • Prioritize gathering information from families prior to reopening. Collect information from families to properly plan for resuming classes in the fall. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – This should align with the forthcoming CSDE District Reopen Survey 	<p>Wendy Gage, RN, BSN, Health Care Coordinator will serve as primary with Christine DeBarge, Ed.D Superintendent as support.</p> <p>At least weekly updates will be sent to parents and staff via School Messenger with email, text and voice. Information will also be added to district website</p> <p>The district has staff or contracted agencies for translation of any required documents.</p> <p>The district will be offering Listening Circles to staff to hear concerns Additional plans for parent feedback are in development including the use of surveys regarding specific aspects of the plan</p> <p>Most communication will be shared by the superintendent's office to staff and community. This will be created in conjunction with building level administrators and may vary based on district or school-based relevance</p> <p>A survey has been completed regarding student attendance in the fall and transportation options.</p>
--	---

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Operations Plan	School Plan
<p>Facilities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize social distancing between student workstations, achieving 6 feet when feasible, when determining the classroom layout. • Where necessary, assess other space that may be repurposed for instruction in the school, in municipal or other community space, or if the school will require additional modular space. • Maximize space between the teacher and students due to the risk of increased droplets from teachers during instruction. • Ensure all signs and messages related to stopping the spread are accessible for students with disabilities and in languages appropriate for the school population. • Identify the training needs of staff related to health and safety protocols; perform such training prior to the first day of classes. • Consider having training days and days to practice new protocols with staff only prior to having students enter the building. • Plan an in-person or online training that includes: social distancing; cleaning protocols; and hygiene practices. Require attendance by all students and staff, and make available to families who are interested. Consider repeating this training during the first months that school reopens, and as needed. • Ensure training is provided to substitutes or others who may enter the school outside of the first day or typical calendar start. 	<p>Desks are placed in classrooms with all students facing forward. Social distancing is maintained as feasible, in line with CSDE guidance, varying based on square footage of individual rooms. Floor space is being cleared of non-essential items to ensure maximized use of social distancing. Desks are being purchased to allow maximized social distancing and all students facing forward, to replace the kidney or small rectangle tables currently in use (approx. 200 desks required). Shared materials are being minimized when able, such as scissors and pencils. Each student will be assigned a laptop from grades K – 12.</p> <p>All district space is being evaluated for possible use in instruction. Cafeterias will be expanded to two spaces, cafeteria and gym, to allow at minimum of 6 ft between students when masks will not be worn. Additional tables may need to be purchased to provide sufficient space. A meal distribution process is being developed by Food Service and building level staff.</p> <p>Health protocols have been developed in writing for all staff. Videos have been provided for safe donning and doffing of PPE. The professional development schedule is being reviewed to ensure all staff access written and video trainings prior to starting school. The three additional days for training will be accessed by the district by moving the first day of school back three days.</p> <p>Student and family video and written safety protocols will be available through School Messenger and social media. Social stories are being created and will be available to all students on our website prior to the start of school. A video tour of each building will be created by building administrators so students have a virtual tour of any new building layouts prior to start of school.</p> <p>All training for staff will be provided to Kelly Services for substitute teachers.</p>

Daily Operations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the key strategy of establishing stable cohorts within the school population, when feasible. Placing students in cohorts is <i>strongly encouraged</i> for grades K-8, and <i>encouraged where feasible</i> for grades 9–12. • Develop consistent policies to address when clubs, before- and after-school programs, or other voluntary groups may be allowed to use school space. Include ways to safely allow access for before- and after-school and childcare programs. 	<p>Cohorts of students are being created where possible. Elementary will cohort by teacher, possibly two teacher cohorts. This will allow students to be grouped for special education, ELE or other related services within the cohort. Middle school (grades 5-8) will cohort for core academics and to the greatest extent possible for specials subjects. A modified schedule to minimize available specials is being considered to limit courses outside of the cohort, however this is a draft. High school will cohort to the extent possible and maintain accurate student schedules should contact tracing be required. Specials schedules will be created to minimize grade level mixing and online options will be accessed as needed. Physical Education will be held outside when able and will primarily include individual activities with limited exertion. Alternatives to band and chorus are being considered due to spacing required for both middle and high schools and given current guidance by the health district.</p> <p>After school clubs are being assumed as social distancing should be feasible to maintain. Masks will be required. A schedule for clubs will be reviewed to determine if cohorts on buses can be created based on clubs.</p> <p>The Board Policy Review Subcommittee has met regarding building use policy and a summary will be presented to the full BOE at their next scheduled meeting. Building use for groups besides those exclusively staff and student are not being recommended due to space needs, cleaning and disinfecting requirements and CSDE guidelines to limit visitors to the buildings.</p> <p>Sports will be determined pending CIAC guidelines.</p>
Child Nutrition	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools and institutions that participate in the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Afterschool Snack Program, and Special Milk Program (SMP) as applicable, must continue to determine eligibility for and make available free and reduced-price meals and snacks and free milk to all eligible students. • Schools and institutions must comply with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) regulations and policies for school meals and milk including the meal pattern requirements. • Schools and institutions that participate in the NSLP are required to claim meals/milk provided to eligible students using accurate counting and claiming methods. 	<p>Schools will continue to offer meals that meet the Healthy Foods requirements and USDA requirements. A distribution process for breakfast and lunch is being created.</p> <p>Space is being used from gyms or auditoriums to ensure more than 6ft between students when masks will not be worn. Tables will be purchased to ensure adequate space and reasonable meal times for all students.</p>

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Operations Plan, continued	School Plan
<p>Transportation</p> <p>Low Transmission Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to operate at full capacity or close to while maximizing health and safety protocols, as well as considerations outlined in the plan. Require passengers to wear a face mask or cloth face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth during transit, prior to boarding the bus, and must be kept in place until they are completely off the bus. Passengers should load into the bus from the back row to the front (where the first passengers onto the bus sit in the back row) and then unload the bus in a controlled manner upon arrival at the school from front to back by seat. <p>Moderate Transmission Risk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan to operate at significantly reduced capacity while maximizing health and safety protocols, as well as considerations outlined in the plan. Bus passengers should be spaced with family members sitting together and non-family members should be spaced 6 feet apart utilizing alternating diagonal seating. Require passengers to wear a face mask or cloth face covering that completely covers the nose and mouth during transit, prior to boarding the bus, and must be kept in place until they are completely off the bus. Passengers should load into the bus from the back row to the front (where the first passengers onto the bus sit in the back row) and then unload the bus in a controlled manner upon arrival at the school from front to back by seat. 	<p>Transportation will be offered for all students as currently provided. Masks are required and extra masks will be on each bus for students boarding without one.</p> <p>Contracted bus companies are required to provide sanitizing protocols to the district. A draft of such protocols has been received and is being reviewed.</p> <p>Moderate transmission risk will include our hybrid model – draft model at this time includes alternating grade levels attending on alternating weeks thereby reducing the numbers of students on each bus. This model is pending verification from the bus company that students in each group could be transported following moderate risk guidelines.</p>
<p>Health Practices and Protocols</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure that students are educated and engaged in the new expectations related to all public health policies and protocols. As part of this requirement, assess the best approach to communicating the information for the age group, and plan to set aside time at the beginning of the school year, as well as frequent reminders, to review the new policies and protocols. Familiarize all participants of the standard public health practices used to prevent the spread of diseases. These practices include, but are not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> social distancing; frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer; use of face coverings that completely cover the nose and mouth; respiratory and cough etiquette; and enhanced cleaning/disinfection of surfaces. Provide adequate supplies, including soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% ethyl alcohol or 70% isopropyl alcohol (for staff and older students who can safely use hand sanitizer), paper towels, tissues, disinfectant wipes, cloth face coverings (as feasible), and no-touch/foot-pedal trash cans. 	<p>School Plan</p> <p>Student and family video and written safety protocols will be available through School Messenger and social media. Social stories are being created and will be available to all students on our website prior to the start of school. A video tour of each building will be created by building administrators so students have a virtual tour of any new building layouts prior to start of school.</p> <p>Social stories will be available for various age/developmental levels regarding masks and other requirements of reopening of school. The district wide practice of Circles will be used to review and remind students of required protocols and discuss their concerns or questions.</p> <p>Signage is being purchased to post in all school buildings related to health practices and notices that masks are required to enter school buildings have been posted.</p>

Bathrooms are being equipped with touchless faucets and paper towel dispensers for both staff and students. Bathrooms are limited for students to allow limiting the number of students in bathrooms at one time and to ensure all used facilities are cleaned as recommended in guidelines. A cleaning schedule is being created by Director of Buildings and Grounds and additional staff is being hired to provide cleaning of high touch surfaces.

Hand sanitizer will be provided at every entrance, every instructional space, cafeteria and offices and required for use. CDC approved, classroom safe cleaners are in every classroom.

More than 10,000 disposable masks in both adult and pediatric sizes have been ordered. In addition, face shields, gowns and N95 masks have been ordered for staff in close proximity to students unable to wear masks, custodians as appropriate based on duties and our school nurses or any staff in proximity to students reporting illness.

Trash cans have no covers and are emptied daily or more frequently as needed. Signs are posted reminding students about hand washing and cough etiquette. The elementary nurse will provide training on those in person for elementary students.

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Health Practices and Protocols, continued	School Plan
Reporting Illnesses and Addressing Vulnerable Populations	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Instruct students and staff to inform the school if they are sick with COVID-19 related symptoms, particularly if they had a known contact with someone diagnosed with COVID-19 and have also had contact with the school population. • Develop consistent protocols for information reporting, and a point person to appropriately receive and safeguard this information, such as the school nurse, district nursing supervisor, or principal. • Educate staff and families about when to stay home. Schools should properly communicate the content of this or any updated guidance. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Instruct staff and students (or their parents and guardians) to perform a self-assessment prior to leaving for school to identify fever and other possible COVID-19 symptoms. Communicate this expectation and provide parents with reminders about the symptoms consistent with COVID-19 that require keeping their students at home. • Establish and communicate school-wide sick protocols, including signs and symptoms of COVID-19, and temperature thresholds requiring students or staff to stay home. 	<p>To provide written documentation to families at the start of school and in each monthly newsletter regarding new expectations. Board Policy subcommittee has agreed that re-entry planning will supersede current BOE policy and student handbooks will be updated to reflect guidelines for ill students. Attendance will not be incentivized, however continued participation in the education program for students who are well or temporarily opting to remain home will be reinforced.</p> <p>Staff handbook will be updated to include directives for illness and administrators will provide updates at the start of the year.</p> <p>Protocols are already in place for reporting of illness to school nurses then to Health Care Coordinator with follow up as needed.</p> <p>School wide protocols for identifying illness, nurse office protocol, use of the “sick rooms” and students and staff staying home or being sent home are in process.</p> <p>Health district staff has reviewed our protocols and continue to review as guidance is updated.</p>
Social Distancing	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assist staff and students to maintain maximum social distancing between individuals to reduce the transmission of the virus per the public health guidelines at that time. 	<p>Signage is being reviewed for throughout buildings. Colored duct tape or water soluble paint will be used to mark floors as needed.</p>
Use of Face Coverings, Masks, and Face Shields	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt policies requiring use of face coverings for all students and staff when they are inside the school building, with certain exceptions listed below. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – For anyone who has trouble breathing, or anyone who is unconscious, incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the mask without assistance, face coverings and masks should not be required, per CDC guidance. – For anyone who has a medical reason making it unsafe to wear a face covering, masks should not be required. • Be prepared to provide a mask to any student or staff member who does not have one. 	<p>Board Policy subcommittee has met to review policy regarding masks. Protocol will be developed regarding masks. Medical documentation will be required to any student or staff stating they are unable to wear appropriate face coverings.</p> <p>The district has purchased more than 10,000 pediatric and adult disposable face masks.</p>
Health Monitoring Plan	School Plan
Planning and Distribution of Information	

- Include in the LEA reopening plan written protocols for monitoring of symptoms that could be related to COVID-19, with the goal of decreasing the risk of spreading or contracting the virus and maintaining oversight related to the pandemic while complying with relevant privacy and health laws.

Protocols are already in place for reporting of illness to school nurses then to Health Care Coordinator with follow up as needed.

School wide protocols for identifying illness, nurse office protocol, use of the "sick rooms" and students and staff staying home or being sent home are in process. The draft protocols have been reviewed by DPH but final protocols are pending additional guidance from the state per DPH.

DRAFT JULY 22, 2020

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Containment Plan	School Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Connecticut Department of Public Health will be providing a tiered system to assist leaders and define the decision-making approach should partial or full class-cancellation become necessary. Anticipate this will be available at the time decisions will need to be made related to containment and possible school class cancellations.</i> • Include in the LEA reopening plan written protocols for containment and immediate response if an individual has signs or symptoms of COVID-19, there is a known exposure, or a member of the school community has a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19. The purpose of containment plans are to decrease the risks of spreading COVID-19, and shall include the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Immediate coordination with the local health department, including being ready to comply with requests for information from the local health department to assist with contact tracing. – Identification of a response team within the school and LEA with specific responsibilities. – Consideration of what signs and symptoms exhibited by students or staff would require their immediate dismissal from school; for what period of time; and conditions for their re-admittance to school. • Identify an “isolation room” (besides the health office) to accommodate students who exhibit symptoms consistent with COVID-19 until a parent or guardian arrives. • Create a consistent policy for dismissal of students or staff who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 and must be dismissed from school. 	<p>If a student or staff member is present at school with or reports symptoms of COVID-19, the School Nurse will fill out the reporting form provided by the North Central District Health Department and fax the form to the Health District. The affected classroom or office will be evacuated to a backup space to allow for appropriate cleaning and disinfection to take place. Decisions regarding self-quarantine of close contacts for 14 days and possible classroom or school closure will be made in consultation with the North Central District Health Department and based on recommendations from the CT Department of Public Health at that time.</p> <p>Each school building have an isolation room identified and protocols for use of those rooms are being finalized and reviewed by Health District. Staff is being hired or reassigned to supervise the isolation rooms</p> <p>Dismissal of students or staff who are ill would be consistent with protocols already in place</p>
Cancellation of Classes, Remote Learning, and Reopening Plans	School Plan
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Connecticut Department of Public Health will be developing specific community and school-based indicators to assist leaders and define the appropriate decision-making approach.</i> • Develop a plan for school class cancellations and reopening to be implemented in the event that the superintendent, their designee, or state government suspends or cancels in-school classes for some or all participants. • Notify and consult with the CSDE immediately if the LEA is contemplating class cancellations. • Include a communication plan and clear policies for faculty and staff regarding individual roles and responsibilities in the event of a shutdown occurring during the school year. • Prioritize ongoing educational opportunities when drafting the plan for shutdown. Materials for continuity of learning must be made available to allow for school sessions to continue remotely. 	<p>School cancellation will be done in conjunction with the Health District or other government agency, such as the Office of the Governor.</p> <p>We would implement our distance learning plan that was in place for the March – June 2020 closure. Modifications to the distance learning plan are being considered based on parent feedback from the survey.</p> <p>The superintendent or designee will contact CSDE if contemplating closure.</p>

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Cancellation of Classes, Remote Learning, and Reopening Plans, continued	School Plan
<p>Future Planning for Remote Blended Learning</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be prepared to provide remote blended learning opportunities immediately upon cancellation of in-school classes. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Consider implementing a plan to gather feedback from families, students, teachers, and leaders on experience with remote learning. Incorporate any feedback into a revised remote learning plan and incorporate into hybrid learning model. • Develop a plan for extended absences and communicate it with parents or guardians in the event of a second extended closure. 	<p>The East Windsor schools has a written protocol for distance learning that was implemented March – June 2020, within two school days of closure. Modifications are being considered based on parent feedback.</p>
Academics	School Plan
<p>Special Education</p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare with the understanding that there has been no waiver of requirements under the IDEA for provision of a free and appropriate public education (FAPE) in the least restrictive environment (LRE). During COVID-19 school closures, schools were required to provide FAPE consistent with the need to protect the health and safety of students, as well as those individuals providing education, specialized instruction, and related services to these students. Schools may not have been able to provide all services in the same manner that they are typically provided. Federal disability law allows for flexibility in determining how to meet the individualized needs of students receiving special education services. • Treat students eligible for special education and other special populations as general education students first. Guidance and policies related to school reopening plans apply to all students, including students with special needs who qualify for individual education programs under the IDEA and accommodation plans for eligible students under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act. If students with disabilities are unable to access the reopening plan as designed, facilitate individualized and alternative means of re-entry based upon student need, present levels of functioning, developmental levels, and student/parent input. Consider blended learning schedules if needed. • Do not make programming decisions based on a student’s disability category. However, the nature and/or severity of a student’s disability may require unique considerations. Protocols should consider the student’s developmental level and skills. • Address mask and face covering use for the population of special education students, including cases where masks may need to be removed to provide appropriate services, and the approach to implementing any other possible mitigating strategy, including but not limited to maximum social distancing. 	<p>Special education services will be provided for students attending school full time in alignment with IEPs.</p> <p>PPTs will be held to review service delivery and placement for any student for students unable to access the re-opening plan as designed. Individual PPT decisions will be made based on student performance and needs, along with any relevant health issues.</p> <p>The district assumes all students will wear face coverings to school. If they are unable, a PPT will be held to discuss appropriate accommodations and placement for students on an individual basis.</p> <p>The district has ordered clear face masks for staff providing services where clear face masks would be indicated. Additional PPE has also been ordered to provide extra protection for staff working with high need populations, such as face shields, surgical face masks and gowns as needed.</p> <p>Various models of scheduling students with special needs are still being reviewed for the hybrid model.</p>

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Academics, continued	School Plan
<p>English Learners (ELs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understand that like all other students, ELs are entitled to FAPE. The Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title IV, the Equal Educational Opportunities Act (1974) and the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (1965) provide guidance on the services to which ELs are entitled. ELs must have access to the general education curriculum as well as to a supplemental language instruction education program. During school closures due to COVID-19, ELs continue to be entitled to receive their supplemental EL instructional program in addition to their general education program of mainstream, grade-level and content-area instruction. Such language instructional education programs may consist of a range of services, including bilingual education, English as a Second Language (ESL), Sheltered Instruction and others. When returning to school buildings, language instruction education programs must continue Comply with the requirement that eligible students in bilingual mandated districts are offered bilingual education programs. During COVID-19, school districts that are mandated to provide bilingual education remain required to offer a bilingual program to eligible students who have opted into the program. While program implementation may be altered during COVID-19 as compared to traditional in-building schooling, students in bilingual programs are still entitled to receive native language support as part of their school’s designated bilingual program model. As with other language instruction education programs, when returning to traditional schooling, bilingual programs must continue. Communicate with parents and guardians that have limited proficiency in English in a language they understand as required by Title III of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. As during traditional schooling, communications during school closures due to COVID-19 may be provided through translation and/or interpretation. Provide ELs who are also identified as students with disabilities supports for their EL needs, as well as supports for their disabilities. During COVID-19, these dually identified students must continue to receive these supports. As in times with traditional schooling, dually identified students should have their language needs represented in their annual meetings about their IEP. 	<p>All EL instruction will be developed by certified EL teachers working in collaboration with general education teachers to support students.</p> <p>students will meet 1:1 or in small groups with EL teachers while following all health department and school guidelines</p> <p>All communication and guidance with parents/guardians will come via phone, the school’s website, school messenger, and/or social media. Additionally, teachers will continue to communicate through school portals, Microsoft Teams, or Seesaw educational platform depending on student age and parent preference.</p> <p>Students who require specialized instruction or currently have an Individualized Education Plan in addition to EL services will continue to have appropriately modified work.</p> <p>Special education teachers who work with students mostly in the general education classes will continue to modify the materials appropriately, and be available as a consultation to parents as their IEP requires.</p>

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Family and Student Engagement	School Plan
Family Support and Communication	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Comply with all state and federal family engagement requirements (e.g., School Governance Councils and Title I requirements) during the COVID-19 pandemic. Prepare to provide families with clear and ongoing communication about what to expect, during and prior to reopening. This includes, but is not limited to, guidance on the school protocols related to health and safety guidelines. Continue to engage with families and students as the reopening moves forward to ensure they are informed and have the ability to provide feedback. Make reopen plans available on the LEA website, accessible, and clearly identify the school liaison. 	<p>School Governance and other school groups can conduct business remotely if needed, or will be welcome to hold meetings on school grounds but outside of school buildings.</p> <p>Communication strategies have been previously outlined.</p>
Social-Emotional Learning (SEL) and Mental Health	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop a detailed plan to reengage all students, staff and families. Particularly identify strategies to identify and engage populations and specific students that have been disengaged. Prepare staff to identify issues related to abuse and neglect in the context of the pandemic and comply with all mandated reporting requirements. 	<p>Staff surveys have already gone out to obtain initial feedback about return to school.</p> <p>Staff Restorative Circles have been conducted in two schools and is scheduled in the third.</p> <p>Virtual staff meetings will be offered prior to school.</p> <p>Staff have been invited to volunteer for reopening subcommittee work</p> <p>Family engagement strategies have been previously outlined</p> <p>Five district wide social workers are in contact with all staff and high need/high risk families, both previously identified or newly identified by staff. Training will be provided as groups or 1:1 based on staff questions or needs. Social workers are involved with all cases where staff questions abuse of neglect to assist staff and families.</p>
After-school Programming	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Programs receiving funding from the CSDE through the State After School, Extended School Hours (ESH) and 21st Century Community Learning Centers (21CCLC) programs, consult with the CSDE for individual grant-specific guidance. Follow the requirements outlined in this document, as applicable, including but not limited to requiring the use of face coverings that cover the nose and mouth, and maximizing social distancing. 	<p>Plans regarding after school programming have been previously outlined. FRC will continue to provide child care in a school building and will follow all guidelines set by CSDE, OEC and other applicable agencies and with guidance from the health district.</p>
Career And Technical Education	School Plan

- Develop a plan for cleaning and disinfecting shared equipment in the shop or lab, before and after each use.

Staff from the Career and Tech Ed program are included on re-opening subcommittee and a plan is being created for EWS courses.

DRAFT JULY 22, 2020

Clearly and specifically detail how you will address each critical “REQUIREMENT” listed below in your plan. While crafting your responses, it is imperative to work through the Connecticut School Reopening Plan which elaborates on certain requirements with additional considerations and also includes “GUIDANCE” to consider while developing a unique local approach.

Staffing and Personnel	School Plan
<p>Certification and Personnel Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare with school human resources and board counsel to comply with legal and regulatory requirements related to personnel, including but not limited to the EEOC guidance related to the ADA and the COVID-19 pandemic. • Assess how to engage a full roster of staff, including potential substitute plan, and whether stipends or changes in substitute pay is required to support the needs of the school. 	<p>Board counsel has already begun to develop protocols in conjunction with HR and the Superintendent.</p> <p>Kelly subs has been contacted regarding possible coverage and other scenarios are being considered, including hiring of permanent substitutes who would be available in each building daily.</p>
<p>Professional Development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prioritize mandatory training for staff, before the beginning of the school year, that covers signs and symptoms of COVID-19, Standard Public Health protocols, Hygiene Practices, PPE, Reporting Illnesses, and supporting SEL. Plan ongoing trainings as changes occur in recommendations and public health data. 	<p>Staff training plans have been previously outlined.</p>