
Lawnside School District

“Looking Forward To Success” Remote Learning Plan

July 13, 2023



Introduction

In April 2020, Governor Murphy issued an executive order that became P.L. 2020, c.27. This law provides for the continuity of instruction in the event of a public-health related district closure so the Local Education Agencies (LEAs) can utilize virtual or remote instruction to satisfy the 180-day requirement pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. In order to provide transparency and ensure that New Jersey students continue to receive high quality, standards-based instruction, each school district, charter school, renaissance school project and Approved Private School for Students with Disabilities (APSSDs) must annually submit its proposed program for virtual or remote instruction (Plan) to the New Jersey Commissioner of Education. This plan would be implemented during an LEA closure lasting more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure. A chief school administrator or lead person must consult with the board of education or board of trustees, if practicable, prior to implementing the LEA’s plan of virtual or remote instruction. A day of virtual or remote instruction, if instituted under a plan approved by the New Jersey Commissioner of Education, is considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance for the purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements, awarding of course credit, and other such matters as determined by the New Jersey Commissioner of Education. (NJDOE)

District Mission Statement

The mission of the Lawnside School District is to educate our students, through mastery of the New Jersey Student Learning Standards(NJSLS), to become independent thinkers and problem solvers so they will be empowered to meet the challenges of and achieve success in tomorrow's emerging world community. The educational community will provide a safe, nurturing environment in which individual and civic responsibility is fostered and diversity is respected.

Contact Information:**Lawnside School District (2560) Camden County (07)****Dr. Ronn Johnson, Chief School Administrator****856-546-4850 Ext. 2200 or 2202****ronnjohnson@lawnside.k12.nj.us**

In all stages and phases of pandemic response and recovery, the Lawnside School District will comply with federal, state, and local guidelines. The Lawnside School District will provide reasonable accommodations for staff and students at higher risk for severe illness.

Equitable Access and Opportunity to Instruction

In planning curriculum, instruction, and assessment in the case of a health-related school closure, the districts will focus on ensuring equitable access and opportunities to instruct all students, maximize student growth and learning, and address the digital divide, such as internet access and access to devices.

District Proposal

Every student in grades PreK-8 including those with special needs have been given a device to support the continuity of instruction. Surveys conducted previously determined if students' households had internet capability. The District has and will continue to provide families with internet access if necessary. During a health-related school closure as in the past, all instruction will be web based. Teachers will be required to deliver a rigorous level of instruction including but not limited to differentiation, accelerated learning and social and emotional development. Additionally, consistent and timely feedback will be required and communicated to both students and parents.

In addition to teacher produced assessments, the District will continue to utilize web-based platforms such as Link It Benchmarks to assess students. The data/information provided will be used to analyze student growth and drive daily instruction. Depending on the length of the health-related closure, weekly/monthly virtual PLCs will be conducted with staff to focus on achievement of district goals and facilitated by members of the administrative team. Teachers should minimally conduct biweekly contact with parents to discuss academic progress. Weekly academic monitoring with students, parents, and administration will be essential in ensuring students are progressing.

Additionally, continued re-assessment will identify growth and/or the need for intervention services. The District has a documented Intervention and Referral Services Team that will meet virtually if the need arises with parents/guardians to develop needed interventions for a student. The data gathered will guide the tiered interventions to be implemented to support students as well as document supports provided prior to a possible referral to the Child Study Team for evaluation.

Addressing Special Education Needs

Districts must continue to meet their obligations to students with disabilities to the greatest extent possible. Specific strategies and considerations for students with disabilities must be critical points of discussion during health-related school closures. The school district will continue to focus on the implementation of each student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP) in accordance with the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA).

District Proposal

The District's Child Study Team members (ie case managers) will provide direct oversight regarding the implementations of IEP's during a health-related school closure. The case managers will be required to document the level of services provided, including but not limited to providing the documented accommodations and modifications outlined in the IEP. Weekly student progress logs will be sent home to parents to inform them of the level of academic progress and instructional support provided during the week. In cases where evaluations need completion or IEP's need amending, the case manager assigned (based on grade levels) will schedule/conduct the meeting inviting all required parties via a web-based platform (ie Zoom, Teams, or Meets).

Addressing English Language Learners

Districts must meet the needs of English as a Second Language and/or bilingual students in accordance to State and Federal requirements.

District Proposal

Currently the Lawnside School District does not have any students that meet the criteria of ESL or bilingual as determined by the Home Language survey conducted during initial registration. If students are registered needing services, the district will contract with the appropriate service provider.

Attendance Plan

The District will continue to require and monitor daily attendance during a health-related school closure in accordance to the Lawnside School District Attendance Policy

District Proposal

During a health-related school closure, student attendance will be maintained in accordance with district policy as attendance will be taken during each period. If a special circumstance arises (ie student may have to stay in an alternate placement other than the home during the day) assignment/project completion will be used as an alternative for attendance purposes with approval from the Superintendent. Targeted outreach will be conducted for students not meeting the attendance requirements by the classroom/subject teachers as a first point of contact, followed-up by the Assistant Principal (ie I&RS Chairperson) as a secondary point of contact if attendance/participation does not improve. Decisions regarding promotion, retention, and graduation will be addressed on a case by case basis.

Safe Delivery Of Meals Plan

School meals are critical to student health and well-being, especially for low-income students. Therefore, the continuation of a daily meal distribution program is essential to students and families within the Lawnside School District.

The school district has collaborated with our food service provider, NurtiServe and the NJ Department of Agriculture and is a participant in the Community Eligibility Program (CEP) which enables all students to eat breakfast/lunch for free. Additionally, the District will collaborate with our food service provider, NutriServe to provide meals in the safest way possible. Depending on the length of the health-related school closure, up to 7 days worth of meals will be distributed on a weekly basis at an agreed upon time based on delivery and food prep scheduling. Food Service Staff has been trained by the provider to maintain the required health standards with increased protocols.

Facilities Plan

School Districts are required to outline how buildings will be maintained during extended periods of closure due to health-related reasons.

District Proposal

The Lawnside School District will continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department. School district's schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfecting, has contributed to the low numbers of exposure and eliminated extended school closure due to an outbreak. Additionally, the Lawnside School District has ensured the indoor facilities have adequate ventilation by retrofitting all of the Geo-thermal HVAC units with ionization devices used in health care facilities and nursing homes. The filters for each unit will be changed regularly.

Other Considerations

The Lawnside School District will work collaboratively to address specific issues such as community programming, after school/extra curricular activities, and child care based on guidance from health officials and board input. The district is considered a walking district, however additional collaboration will be conducted with any contractor that transports special needs and high school students.

Essential Employees

The LEA will ensure essential employees are identified and a list is provided to the county office at the time of the LEA's transition to remote or virtual instruction. Considerations regarding the social and emotional well-being of staff will be considered.

District Proposal

Depending on the guidance from federal, state, and local health officials, the following staff members are considered essential employees and required to report to work as determined by the Superintendent.:

Dr. Ronn Johnson- Superintendent (ronnjohnson@lawnside.k12.nj.us)
Karen Willis- Business Administrator (kwillis@lawnside.k12.nj.us)
Mark Gordon- Assistant Business Administrator (mgordon@lawnside.k12.nj.us)
Tomika Wilson- Assistant Board Secretary (twilson@lawnsidse.k12.nj.us)
Alyssa Miller- Director, Curriculum & Instruction (amiller@lawnside.k12.nj.us)
Dr. Carmen Henderson- Director, Special Services (chenderson@lawnside.k12.nj.us)
Niphon Kirk- Assistant Principal (nkirk@lawnside.k12.nj.us)
ShaNell Wilson- Technology Coordinator (swilson@lawnsidse.k12.nj.us)
Jackie Holmes - Food Service Director (lps@nsfm.com)

Board Approval: *August 10, 2023

District Website: www.lawnside.k12.nj.us

Please keep in mind that as the situation remains fluid, all plans and proposals are subject to change.