

## **Northcoast Preparatory Academy (NPA) Safe Return to In Person Plan-ESSER III**

### **1. LEA Plan:**

NPA has developed this plan to ensure safe in-person instruction and continuity of services using the IFR template.

**2. The LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff, and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the CDC's safety recommendations, including: universal and correct wearing of masks; modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing; handwashing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments; diagnostic and screening testing; efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities; appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and coordination with State and local health officials. Describe how the LEA will maintain, or continue to maintain, health and safety policies and procedures. Include a description of any adopted policies and procedures regarding the CDC's safety recommendations (or available LEA website links to such policies). Include descriptions of appropriate accommodations adopted and coordination efforts conducted with outside State and local health officials. Please include or describe current public health conditions, applicable State and local rules and restrictions, and other contemporaneous information that informs your decision-making process.**

#### 1. Maintaining Health and Safety

*For each mitigation strategy listed below (A–H), NPA will describe how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.*

##### A. Universal and correct wearing of masks:

- All students and staff members will be required to wear a mask indoors. Wearing a mask is defined as an adequate facial covering that extends over the nose and mouth.
- A parent of a student with a medical condition who is requesting their child not to wear a mask must provide a note from the student's physician with a specific reason. The district will review such a request and a decision will be made.

- If a student or staff member forgets their mask, one will be provided to them for the day.
- Visitors entering the school must wear a mask.

B. Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts):

- Students and staff must remain socially-distanced to the greatest extent possible.
- Students and staff will be required to wear a mask in the classrooms.
- Visitors will be allowed but must check in at the front office and will be required to wear a mask.
  - Signage to remind people to maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible is posted at school sites.
  - Respectful isolation of anyone who is symptomatic or has a temperature of 100.4°F or higher. Students with temperatures of 100.4°F or higher will be sent home.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

- Use of hand sanitizer or hand washing for 20 seconds is required.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available at the entrance to each building. There will also be hand sanitizers found in each classroom.
- EPA approved disposable wipes will be available to all staff to clean commonly used surfaces such as keyboards, desks, and remote controls before use.
- The district will ensure adequate supplies to support cleaning and disinfection practices

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

- Routinely clean surfaces using an EPA approved disinfectant of frequently high touched surfaces. While school is in session all common high touch areas will be cleaned as needed during the course of the day. Complete disinfectant surfaces will be conducted by Pit Stop Cleaning company each evening after school is out..
- Hand Sanitizer will be placed in various high traffic areas locations and in every building and room in the school.. There will be a daily morning routine walkthrough to inspect that all antibacterial soap dispensers have product in them and are not empty or malfunctioning.
- Natural ventilation through opening of doors and windows in combination of HVAC systems where feasible will support air flow in all buildings and rooms.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments:

- Investigation: Upon confirmation of a COVID diagnosis, the district will work with a patient to help them recall everyone with whom they have had close contact during the time when they

may have been infectious. For COVID-19, a close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the patient is isolated. NPA will consult the Humboldt County Office of Education flow chart for how to respond to a positive COVID case within the school and how to conduct and communicate contact tracing efforts.

- Quarantine: Contacts will be required to stay home and maintain social distance from others until 7-10 days after their last exposure to the infected patient, in case they also become ill.
- CDC cleaning protocols will be implemented. Any quarantine or school closure will be determined in concert with the Humboldt County Office of Education and Humboldt County Health Department.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing: All individuals entering the building will not be required to have a temperature check or complete a daily health-check form. However, all individuals are required to self-monitor. Any individual with COVID symptoms listed below, should not report to school:

Fever or chills

Cough

Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing

Fatigue

Muscle or body aches

Headache

New loss of taste or smell

Sore throat

Congestion or runny nose

Nausea or vomiting

Diarrhea

- The district provides on-site antigen tests at no cost to students and staff. The tests can be conducted upon request by an employee, a student or their parent. Testing is required for participation in certain school activities.
- If the district becomes aware that an individual has spent time in the building and tests positive for COVID 19, the district will notify the Humboldt County Public Health Department. The positive individual will be isolated until they can safely leave the campus

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible:

- District will collaborate with the Humboldt County Health Department and local health care facilities and disseminate vaccination information to all educators, staff and students.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies: The following guidelines will be in place:

- The CDC recommends that masks be worn at all times by all people in school facilities, including students. For the narrow subset of students with disabilities who, because of their medical condition, cannot wear a mask or cannot safely wear a mask, the school must determine based on a student's individual circumstances whether that student is able to attend school safely if other prevention strategies can be followed, in accordance with CDC, CDE CDPH guidance.
- People with certain underlying medical conditions and certain disabilities can and should wear masks. Discuss with your healthcare provider the benefits and potential risks of wearing a mask.
- A parent of a student with a medical condition who is requesting their child not to wear a mask must provide a note from the student's physician with a specific reason. The district will review such a request and a determination will be made.

**3. The LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services in case isolation, quarantine, or future school closures are required, including how the LEA will meet the needs of students with disabilities and English learners.**

- Our goal is to continue to provide in-person learning to all students, addressing their academic, social, emotional, and mental health via the many programs in place within our schools. We will return to a regular school year schedule that follows our normal curriculum and assessments.

- Prolonged periods of remote or virtual learning can have negative effects on educational progress for students, potentially slowing or reversing academic gains. Additionally, students from low-resourced communities, English learners, and students with disabilities might disproportionately experience learning loss due to limited access to remote learning technology and fewer learning support symptoms and services outside of schools. Safe, in-person schooling can also offset the negative social, emotional and mental health impacts of prolonged virtual learning. NPA has a comprehensive plan which includes on-site and virtual interventions and services for students.

- If COVID cases rise significantly and we are required to close a school, every effort will be made to provide these services virtually, all special education services will be provided according to students' IEPs, and families will be provided with access to free meals.
- Additional Chromebooks have been purchased in order to ensure equitable access for students.
- Water stations will be reopened. However, students and staff may bring water bottles to school. Refilling stations will be available throughout the day.
- Food service will be reopened with various safety protocols in place to ensure safety.
- Professional Development will be provided so that staff is comfortable teaching in a variety of formats that could be required during the school year. Our IT coordinator is available to help navigate through any problems that should arise.

**4. The LEA sought public comments in the development of its plan and took those comments into account in the development of its plan. Describe the LEA's policy or practice that provided the public with an opportunity to provide comments and feedback and the collection process. Describe how any feedback was incorporated into the development of the plan.**

- The plan will be provided on the district website and continued public comment will be made available through intermittent surveys and NPA board meetings
- The district will provide the translated plan to non-English speaking families via Google Translate or through other interpreter services as requested.
- NPA is committed to providing students and staff with a safe, in-person learning environment. The strategies outlined within this plan will be implemented to mitigate the risk of COVID-19 spread within our schools. These strategies will be revised periodically (at least every 6 months) based upon COVID cases within our schools and community and any new research/evidence that becomes available.

**In addition, the LEA provides the following assurances:**

- The LEA has made (in the case of statutorily compliant plans) or will make (in the case of new plans) its plan publicly available no later than 30 days after receiving its ARP ESSER allocation.
- The LEA sought public comment in the development of its plan and took those public comments into account in the development of its plan.
- The LEA will periodically review and, as appropriate revise its plan, at least every six months.
- The LEA will seek public comment in determining whether to revise its plan and, if it determines revisions are necessary, on the revisions it makes to the plan.
- If the LEA revises its plan, it will ensure its revised plan addresses each of the aspects of safety currently recommended by the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), or if the CDC has revised its guidance, the updated safety recommendations at the time the LEA is revising its plan.

- The LEA has created its plan in an understandable and uniform format.
- The LEA's plan is, to the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand, or if not practicable, orally translated.
- The LEA will, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provide the plan in an alternative format accessible to that parent. The following person or persons is/are the appropriate contact person for any questions or concerns about the aforementioned plan.

**Please list name(s), title(s), address, county, and contact information for the person or persons responsible for developing, submitting, and amending the LEA plan.**

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