



Bay-Waveland School District

200 North Second Street
Bay St. Louis, MS 39520
Phone (228) 467-6621

Dr. Sandra Reed
Superintendent

October 6, 2021

TO: Board Members

FROM: Sandra Reed, Superintendent *SR*

RE: Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan (Updated)

Please find attached the BWSD Updated Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Learning. Some of the federal guidelines for spending ESSER funds now require a board approved copy of the plan. Thank you for your consideration.

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BAY-WAVELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT

200 North Second Street

Bay St. Louis, MS 39520

Phone (228) 467-6621

Dr. Sandra Reed, Superintendent

Updated October 5, 2021

Dear Bay-Waveland School District Community,

As a requirement of the American Rescue Plan: Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP/ ESSER III) Fund, school districts receiving funds must develop a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The ARP requires school districts to develop and make publicly available on the district's website by May 28th, 2021, a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. Per the law, the district must also seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan. We have gathered your comments and suggestions through the survey link posted on the district's website and social media platforms. We greatly appreciate the community for taking their time to provide suggestions and feedback in order to make the 2021-2022 school year a safe, healthy, and academically rewarding experience for all students, faculty, and staff.

As you know the Bay-Waveland School District has already successfully returned to full in-person instruction for the second semester of the 2020-2021 school year. As we continue to navigate the unknown, please find below the Bay-Waveland School District's tentative plan for the continuation of in-person instruction and our plan for the continuity of educational services throughout the 2021-2022 school year. This plan is current as of today; however, this plan is tentative and we will make appropriate adjustments as additional information, guidelines, and recommendations become available. Per guidelines, this plan will be updated at least every six months through September 30, 2023. The Bay-Waveland School District will continue to seek public input on the plan and any revisions.

The following guiding questions from the Mississippi Department of Education on the development of a safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services plan have been answered by the Bay-Waveland School District for the 2021-2022 school year.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMMING

- 1. How will the district ensure continuity of services for academic needs of students? What is the school district's contingency plan for scheduling instructional delivery to students should the district or school(s) have to close due to an outbreak (i.e., COVID-19, influenza)?**

- a. The Bay Saint Louis - Waveland School District strives to provide rigorous and equitable academic instruction for every student during this time of increased uncertainty. In a conscious **APPROVED** effort to meet this goal, the district has increased its technology resources to ensure the continuity of academic services through the use of digital educational platforms in the event of

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student quarantine, partial or full closure, or any other situation where students will be away from the school building for a duration of time. This allocation of resources will ensure both teachers and students have the necessary support and technology to deliver and receive exceptional academic instruction. The inclusion of Promethean Panels and associated components within every classroom will enable teachers to successfully implement seamless classroom instruction to non-traditional students. Throughout the district, the use of synchronous instruction has proven to be more effective and have a larger impact on student academic outcomes than the use of asynchronous instruction. Components of teacher synchronous instruction include live video streams of teachers, two-way communication with students, the ability to share the Promethean Panel screen for easier student accessibility, and the capability for real-time annotation on the screen. District teachers have received additional professional development on the utilization of these Panels for distance learning along with Google Educator Level One training to help facilitate implementation of digital learning, if necessary.

2. What is the school district's plan for safely scheduling face-to-face instructional delivery students when school opens?

- a. During the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year, the district recognized the value and importance of in-person learning. The absence of in-person educational options has a negative impact on student learning, therefore, it is vital that the district safely remains open to achieve the benefits of in-person learning. In order to provide a safe and healthy educational environment, the district has implemented key mitigation strategies that are essential to ensure the safe delivery of in-person instruction and to help mitigate COVID-19 transmission. During the 2020-2021 school year, the district opted to provide full instructional hours to students instead of the abbreviated school day schedule; this has allowed teachers and students more opportunities to close achievement gaps that resulted from previous school closures. Schools within the district have conducted after-school learning programs to help alleviate the impact that the pandemic has had on student academic achievement. The district implemented a summer learning program following the commencement of the 2020-2021 school year to reduce learning loss, help maintain student academic success garnered during the school year, and ensure students are well prepared for the subsequent grade level. During the 2020-2021 school year and into the 2021-2022 school year, teachers will continue to arrange classrooms in a manner to maximize social distancing and be provided with enough resources and supplies to avoid sharing of materials to the greatest extent possible.

3. How will the school district monitor student progress at the elementary, middle, and secondary level, for both in-person students and students who may be receiving virtual instruction due to an underlying medical condition?

- a. BWSO utilizes online assessments to support continuous feedback that drives data-driven decision making by using STAR testing for both diagnostic testing and progress monitoring. The district also utilizes MasteryConnect for both formative and benchmark assessments which provide both item and standard analysis. Standards specific data can be collected from these assessments to further individualize instruction based on the data collected. These academic

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monitoring tools can be used for both in-person students and students who may be receiving virtual instruction due to an underlying medical condition.

- 4. How will the school district ensure continuity of staff observation and feedback cycles, for both in-person and virtual instruction?**
 - a. The BWSD will continue to follow the MDE Teacher Growth Rubric for observations and feedback. The district utilizes the Feedback platform on School Status for teacher evaluations and observations. Feedback enables administrators to effortlessly gather evidence and help sculpt the performance of the educators they oversee. Administrators are able to perform both formal and informal observations through the app and provide immediate high quality feedback to support both in-person and virtual instruction.
- 5. How will the school district gather feedback from staff about instructional programming and needed supports?**
 - a. The BWSD periodically surveys faculty and staff to gather feedback about instructional programming and needed areas of support. The district's Curriculum Department, composed of the Director of Curriculum and Instruction, the Instructional Technology Coach, along with the District Instructional Mathematics Coach continuously engage in discussions with district-wide teachers to ensure teachers are supported, both within and outside the classroom.

OPERATIONS

- 6. What is the school district's process for student arrival and dismissal?**
 - a. Student arrival and dismissal will be staggered to the greatest extent possible in order to ensure social distancing. Entry and exit procedures will help reduce the number of students congregating outside or within the hallway. Most hallways are separated for two way traffic on opposite sides and students are encouraged to maintain social distance when transitioning the hallways.
 - b. Students will enter and exit through designated areas and have their temperature checked upon entry of the school building. Heightened screenings by the school nurse will be conducted for any students exhibiting signs or symptoms of COVID-19.
 - c. Hand sanitizer stations will be available at all entrances to the building and within the classroom.
 - d. A gradual controlled release of students and multiple loading locations will be implemented to limit the congregation of students during the process of loading and unloading buses.
- 7. How will the school district provide transportation? (include description of district protocols: windows, masks on bus, cleaning schedule, seating arrangement based on loading order / unloading order)**
 - a. Social distancing and mitigation strategies will be implemented during school bus transportation as much as possible. Facial coverings are OPTIONAL and families/students are asked to self-monitor for symptoms and not attend school if they have any symptoms consistent with COVID-19.
 - b. BWSD recommends that parents transport students to and from school when possible to help reduce the number of students on each bus.

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- c. Daily cleaning procedures to include, but not limited to: wiping of seats and handrails with disinfectant wipes, the use of disinfecting misters, use hand sanitizer when entering the bus, and students sitting in their own seats when possible will be utilized to limit the transmission of COVID-19 as students are transported to and from school.

8. Where will the school district provide meals to students?

- a. BWSO is making every effort to ensure students are provided meals in a safe and healthy manner. Students will be served breakfast throughout the hallways or through the school cafeteria allowing students to quickly grab meals and eat within the classroom. Lunch will be served in the school cafeteria with social distancing incorporated as much as possible.

9. What is the school district's academic calendar for the 2021-22 school year?

- a. https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FUCiSBMo2NeEz6EHTU3y9-r3CD_Pifv/view

BAY WAVELAND SCHOOL DISTRICT 2021-2022 SCHOOL CALENDAR

<p>5 Independence Day Holiday</p> <p>29 PD day #1</p> <p>30 PD day #2</p>	<p>JULY '21</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td></tr> <tr><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td></tr> <tr><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td></tr> <tr><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S					1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	<p>JANUARY '22</p> <table> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>Th</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <tr><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td></tr> <tr><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td></tr> <tr><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td></tr> <tr><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td></tr> <tr><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td></tr> <tr><td>30</td><td>31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table>	S	M	T	W	Th	F	S							1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31						<p>3 PD day #5</p> <p>4 Students Return</p> <p>12 Report Cards</p> <p>17 ML King Holiday</p>							
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FAMILY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

10. How will the school district provide academic support to families?

- a. Addressing learning loss starts with providing parents consistent updates on their child's progress. The Bay-Waveland School District will provide academic support to families through the use of the School Status platform where teachers and school administrators can build parent

engagement through 1 to 1, data informed conversations and begin to decrease the achievement gap.

11. How will the school district gather feedback from families of diverse student groups about instructional programming and needed supports?

- a. The Bay-Waveland School District will continue to seek input and feedback from parents, families, and community members through school board meetings, along with additional surveys posted to social media and the district's website. The district's comprehensive needs assessment will also identify needs and performance challenges within the district, help determine their root causes, and set priorities for future action.

COMMUNICATIONS

12. How will the school district communicate regularly with families to promote healthy behaviors to reduce spread? How will the school district communicate health and safety issues or necessary changes to the district's regular operating schedule?

- a. Teachers, school administrators, and school nurses promote healthy behaviors to reduce the transmission of COVID-19 by communicating regularly with families through School Status. Two-Way direct communication allows for better engagement with parents and the use of district-wide mass notifications helps administrators get important information out to all parents, as soon as possible. Emails and texts can be translated into over 100 languages to reach parents despite any language barriers, thus allowing parent engagement with all families in the district regardless of their native language. The Superintendent also has the ability to conduct district-wide callouts to quickly communicate any necessary information.
- b. School nurses, principals, and district administrators provide information posted on the district's website or social media to keep parents, family, and staff up-to-date by proactively pushing information out regarding COVID-19 and how to address related issues. School nurses will also coordinate with the district's family service coordinator to distribute a list of resources that families may need, including local food pantries, health centers, etc.

HEALTH AND SAFETY

13. What specific policies has the district adopted regarding CDC safety recommendations?

- a. The Bay-Waveland School District is committed to providing a safe and healthy educational environment that is conducive to learning for all students, faculty, and staff. In accordance with CDC recommendations for in person learning, the Bay-Waveland School District has implemented the following prevention and mitigation strategies to help protect students, teachers and staff, slow the spread of COVID-19 transmission, and ensure the safe delivery of in-person instruction. **Please remember that this plan is subject to change as new recommendations become available.**
 - i. Masks
 1. Masks are OPTIONAL for students and staff
 2. Masks are OPTIONAL on school buses
 - ii. Physical Distancing

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1. Established school policies and implemented structural interventions to promote physical distancing between students, faculty, and staff as much as possible
2. Use of physical barriers within the classroom setting
- iii. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
 1. Ongoing health education to teach and reinforce handwashing
 2. Use of hand sanitizer prior to entering classroom
 3. No-touch hand sanitizer stations throughout the school building
 4. Increased cleaning and maintaining of facilities
 5. Regular cleaning of high touch surfaces and objects within the school at least daily or between uses.
- iv. Contact Tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine
 1. Automated thermal temperature monitoring of all students/staff twice a day on all campuses
 2. Education of teachers, staff and families about symptoms and when they should stay home and when they can return to school
 3. School nurses facilitate systematic case investigation and contact tracing of infected students, teachers, and staff to include quarantining of close contacts.
 4. Student seating charts maintained to ensure thorough contact tracing

14. How will the district address the social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of students and staff?

- a. The BWSD recognizes the social and emotional impact the coronavirus pandemic has had on students of all ages. Procedures at each campus include built-in activities in small group settings to allow teachers and students to connect to each other. The utilization of these small groups include strategies of social distancing and correct wearing of masks, when required. Students' social/emotional health will also be monitored through a student needs assessment in the form of a survey. The district's school psychologist has created a survey that will identify each student's social and emotional needs. Students who are too young to complete the survey independently will have the assistance of a teacher or parent. The results will be shared with the school counselors and the Family Services Coordinator to address confidential concerns. Teachers will be given guidance on how to promote and monitor the social/emotional health of their students.. School counselors and the district Family Services Coordinator are able to provide counseling services and nurses have been trained to offer an additional layer of support to our teachers and administrators.

15. What specific steps has the school district taken to address air quality within school facilities?

- a. The District has proposed to replace components of the air conditioning and ventilation systems at Bay Waveland Middle School and Bay High School, while also continuing to improve ventilation to the greatest extent possible by increasing the circulation of outdoor air, increasing the delivery of clean air and diluting any potentially harmful contaminants.

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- 16. Does the school district plan to require daily health screening by families before students come to school? Does the school district plan to conduct temperature checks for staff and students upon arrival?**
- a. The Bay-Waveland School District strongly encourages all teachers and students to self-screen or conduct at-home symptom checks before arriving on campus. Any student with symptoms related to COVID-19 needs to stay home, notify the school, and seek further medical guidance. The district has purchased and implemented automated thermal temperature sensors to screen all students and staff twice a day at every campus. As a result of information obtained from the auto screenings, students and staff are able to receive heightened screening measures before entering the school building. School RNs also are responsible for contact tracing of students and staff members that are COVID positive.
- 17. Does the school district plan to require masks of students and adults while being transported and on campus? If requiring masks of students, what ages / grade levels will be required to wear a mask?**
- a. Masks are OPTIONAL for all students (PreK-12) and staff. Masks must meet dress code requirements.
- b. Mask wearing guidance will be updated regularly to incorporate adjustments as needed based on current COVID trends in the school district.
- 18. What is the school district's comprehensive plan for cleaning?**
- a. Cleaning and disinfection of school surfaces will be done in coordination with custodial staff and follow CDC's cleaning and disinfection protocols. All campuses will increase frequency of cleaning practices, including additional cleaning by janitorial staff, as well as providing students the opportunity to clean their own spaces before and after they are used. Cleaning schedules will be created to arrange for cleaning of classrooms between class groups and the cleaning of high touch surfaces, such as door handles, desks, or shared devices.
- 19. How will the school district identify and address the needs of students and staff with underlying health conditions?**
- a. School nurses will review and update Individualized Health Plans and Emergency Action Plans to determine students who are at increased risk of complications or illness from COVID-19.
- 20. Who is responsible for overseeing health and safety within the school district?**
- a. In addition to their regular health duties, our school RNs provide Covid related services to all of our students and staff. Because of their medical knowledge, the district believes that our RNs are best equipped to make decisions related to the transmission of COVID-19 and oversee the health and safety concerns within the school district. School nurses coordinate with district and school-level administrators on issues related to the health and safety of students and staff.
- 21. How does the school district intend to ensure safety of students, staff, and spectators involved in co curricular and extracurricular activities (athletics, band, choir, etc.)?**

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- a. BWSD will follow the most up-to-date guidance and recommendations from Mississippi High School Activities Association (MHSAA), Mississippi Department of Education, and the Mississippi Department of Health for extracurricular activities.

TECHNOLOGY

22. How will the district utilize technology to enhance in-person learning and support remote learning for students as needed?

- a. The BWSD utilizes multiple digital platforms to provide instruction and assessments to students to include, but not limited to: Savvas EnVision Mathematics, TE21 Case Benchmarks, Mastery Connect, Google Suite (Classroom, Email, Meet, Jamboard, Drive, Calendar), Rocketmath, BrainPop, ReadWorks, CommonLit, School Status, and various other digital instructional resources. A majority of assessments and instructional material are available in a digital format, while others are in the process of being converted to a digital format. Google Classroom will be the main hub for enhancing in-person learning and support remote learning as needed. Many programs, such as EnVision Mathematics, have the ability to sync assignments and grading through the Google Classroom platform.
- b. The Bay Saint Louis-Waveland School District is continuing to make a strong push towards a 1:1 initiative, with the goal of allowing every student the opportunity to benefit from the access to a chrome device. With the goal of providing every student the best available education, the district remains steadfast in focusing their efforts on the integration of technology and instruction through a seamless digital-instructional delivery system that provides equitable instruction to all students regardless of their accessibility to the physical classroom.

23. How will the district identify the professional learning needs of staff in utilizing technology to enhance in-person learning and support remote learning?

- a. Instructional staff communicate technology support requests to the Curriculum Instructional Specialists (CIS) at each campus or directly to the Instructional Technology Coordinator. The CIS personnel meet monthly to discuss instructional needs for each campus with the Director of Curriculum and Instructional Technology Coordinator.

I completely understand and appreciate the gravity of this situation and want you to know that we are working hard to ensure the health and safety of your child as well as our staff. If I can be of assistance to you during this challenging time, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Best,

Dr. Sandra Reed

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