Barrington School District
Working Together to Keep Our
Schools Safe:
School Plan Handbook
October 19, 2021 (Approved by School Board)
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Introduction

Dear Barrington Families and Staff,

We recognize that the COVID-19 virus is still a prevalent concern in our schools and community and requires preventative strategies to be implemented. As we begin a new school year, the COVID-19 Task Force Committee (composed of 2 School Board members and Administrators), Administration, School Nurses, and School Board have reviewed and updated the School District Handbook. The COVID-19 Task Force Committee meets at least once per month to regularly review the handbook and health guidance. As outlined in the handbook, several of the mitigation strategies are similar to last school year with some key revisions for the start of the school year. One of the significant updates is face masks being optional in the schools to begin the new school year. Each family is encouraged to assess the risk that the COVID-19 virus presents to their family, and to make decisions accordingly on the use of face masks for their child(ren). The school district will support families' decisions on face masks for their child(ren) in the school.

The medical, scientific knowledge, and health guidance and recommendations of COVID-19 (the Coronavirus) continues to evolve and require revision of the handbook. Due to the presence of the virus and school community transmission of the virus, the school district will continue to review and update the plan as necessary. A consistent message from the State, is to have these decisions be made by school districts based upon the school community transmission of the virus. The district will continue to communicate updates to the handbook based upon the best interests of the students, teachers, and staff. A weekly report with the district decision matrix will be sent to Administration, School Nurses, and School Board to monitor the need for revising school procedures. As part of the ongoing review of this plan, the school district decision matrix will be updated each week and reported on the school district website to provide communication and monitoring of the COVID-19 virus to the community.

Thank you for your continued support and working together as a team for the safety of our students, staff, families, volunteers, and coaches that are part of the Barrington School District Team.

Sincerely,

Daniel Moulis
Superintendent
Guidance for School Nurses (PK-8)

The following symptoms may appear with COVID-19:

- Fever or chills (fever is determined by a measured temperature of 100.4 F or greater)
- Shortness of breath or difficulty breathing
- New loss of taste or smell
- Congestion or runny nose
- Cough
- Fatigue
- Muscle or body aches
- Sore throat
- Headache

*Due to the current public health concerns regarding COVID-19 variants, these will still apply to all individuals regardless of their vaccination status.*

Other symptoms that have been reported but less common:

- Nausea, vomiting, and/or diarrhea.
- Children may have milder symptoms which may include cold-like symptoms
- If a child has allergies, family will provide documentation from a medical health provider to the school nurse before the start of the school year

**Face Masks:**

- Face coverings/masks are optional for students and staff in grades preschool-8.
- Families are encouraged to communicate the decision regarding their child(ren) wearing face coverings/masks to their classroom teacher
- Face mask breaks will be provided throughout the day
- Students will be required to wear face coverings/masks on the bus

Please refer to Appendix D.

The school district will continue to review and assess the COVID-19 dashboard provided by NIDHS regarding current cases in the school district, Town, County, and State. Should COVID-19 cases be at risk of community transmission, the school district will update the plan to require face coverings/masks.

**Who Will Decide When and How Schools Can Reopen and Stay Open Safely?**

A COVID-19 Task Force composed of School Nurses, School District Administrators, and School Board members will continue to make local decisions on school closures and transitioning to an alternative school plan. The Superintendent will continue to review current COVID-19 cases in the School District, Town, County, and State to make informed decisions on School District reopening plans and continuing with the implemented
instructional plan or transitioning to remote learning. All decisions will also involve consultation and recommendations from NHDHS, Governor’s Office, and the NH Department of Education.

Return to School in the Fall
Implemented with all students and staff at school with state guidance and health recommendations as required, pending state guidance limited social distancing practices will be included as part of this plan.

Remote Learning 3.0 (Referenced in Appendix A)
When necessary, the school district will implement remote learning based upon substantial transmission of COVID-19 cases in the school district, community, in Strafford County, and/or in New Hampshire.

Return to School in the Fall
Implemented with all students and staff at school with state guidance and health recommendations as required, pending state guidance limited social distancing practices will be part of this plan.

Social Distancing:
Social distancing helps to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by keeping space between you and other people in the school. Based upon the most recent health guidance, three-feet (3’) social distancing will be utilized whenever possible for students, teachers, and staff, recognizing in certain situations this may not be practical such as small-group instruction, transitions to classes, etc.

- Visitors (parent meetings, vendors, coaches, etc.) complete COVID-19 checklist stating no symptoms
- In the staff handbook, staff acknowledge the COVID-19 checklist stating no symptoms and adhering to this health procedure on a daily basis
- Parent or Guardian acknowledges as part of the registration process adhering to the COVID-19 checklist and this health procedure on a daily basis
- All schools develop hallway procedures with traffic arrows or stickers for social distancing and hallway directional arrows
- Classrooms and school facilities are reviewed and reconfigured when feasible to enhance social distancing in building and on the grounds.
- Students not feeling well go immediately to school nurse, school nurse assessing student takes necessary precautions to limit exposure away from other students and staff.
- Stricter protocols will be in place for lunch times with respect to distancing and cleanliness.
- Recess will remain a part of the school day with sanitizing hands before and after recess.
Field Trips and School Events:

- Field trips and in-person events held at the school will be reviewed on a case by case basis by the Administrative Team and Superintendent.

Curriculum and Instruction:

As we return to school, there will be a focus on social emotional learning and community building for students and teachers. Our academic focus will be on literacy and mathematics for grades PK-4 and content area instruction grades 5-8, along with unified arts. Teachers will implement any curricular revisions based upon standards not addressed during the past school year as part of Plans A and B. Teachers will continue to meet the standards established for each grade level.

- Readers Workshop (K-4)
- Reading of Novels and Nonfiction Informational text (5-8)
- Math in Focus (K-8)
- Writing lessons (K-8)
- Fundations lessons (PK-3)
- Science and Social Studies will occur on a weekly basis in grades (K-4)
- Unified Arts classes (1-8)
- Content Area Focus (5-8)
- Reading Interventions (K-8)
- Set Assessment schedule
  - i-Ready Diagnostic testing
  - DRA and PALS assessments

Meetings

Parents/Guardians have the option to have meetings either in-person or via Google Meet.

Family Expectations:

The following are continued family expectations to work with the school district in maintaining a healthy school environment.

- Be a system of support for your child
- Reach out to your teacher when questions arise
- Remind your child to be ready to learn and actively participate
- Support student engagement in remote instruction
- The Pick-Up Patrol app. will still be utilized for families to complete the health symptom form on a daily basis
- ECLC, BES, & BMS-Before school starts, check temperature and assess child’s symptoms. If a fever or other symptoms exist such as fever or chills, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, new loss of taste or smell, congestion or runny nose, cough, fatigue, muscle or body aches, sore throat, headaches, the child must stay home and
call a medical provider. If waiting for the bus, practice social distancing and ensure child(ren) are wearing a mask before entering the bus.

- All Schools-
  Any student that has traveled internationally is expected to quarantine for 10 days based upon the State travel guidance. All visitors will be expected to complete the health assessment checklist before entering the school.

- The Barrington School District will follow the most current guidance from DHHS and health officials.

Transportation

Bus transportation will be at full capacity for the 2021-2022 school year. Students will be required to wear face coverings/masks on the bus. Any guidelines that are revised are in accordance with the Bus Company and Federal Public Transportation Regulations.

**Barrington’s Transportation Provider is required to:**

1. Clean and disinfect transportation vehicles regularly. Children must not be present when a vehicle is being cleaned.
2. The buses will be cleaned and disinfected between bus routes.
3. Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfection products.
4. Clean and disinfect frequently touched surfaces of vehicles (surfaces in driver’s area, passenger seats, arm rests, door handles, windows, etc.) prior to morning and afternoon routes.
5. Keep doors and windows open when cleaning vehicle and between trips to let vehicles properly air out
6. Clean, sanitize, and disinfect equipment including items such as seats, seat belts, wheelchairs, walkers, and adaptive equipment being transported to schools.
8. Individuals must stay home and not board school transportation if they are experiencing symptoms of COVID-19 or have been exposed to someone positive for COVID-19.
9. Create a plan for getting students home safely if they are not allowed to board the vehicle.
10. Enforce that if an individual becomes sick during the day, they must not use school transportation to return home.
11. If a driver becomes sick during the day, they must follow protocols outlined under suspected, presumptive or confirmed positive cases of COVID-19 and must not return to drive students.
12. Provide hand sanitizer to support healthy hygiene behaviors on all school transportation vehicles for safe use by staff and older children.
   a. Hand sanitizer should only remain on school transportation while vehicles are in use.
   b. Systematically and frequently check and refill hand sanitizers.
Public Health Requirements and Recommendations

Protecting Vulnerable Populations:
Protecting Vulnerable Populations: Individuals at high risk should notify the building administrator and provide medical documentation from their health care provider regarding their medical diagnosis and specific needs.

Based upon health concerns the following health accommodations will be provided:
1. The use of plexiglass,
2. limiting the size of small-group instruction,
3. use of face masks in small-group settings,
4. and other accommodations as deemed necessary by administration.

Individuals considered high-risk for severe illness due to COVID-19 include those:

• 60 years of age or older
• High-risk conditions include:
  o Chronic lung disease, moderate asthma
  o Heart disease with complications
  o Compromised immune system
  o Other underlying medical conditions

More information on who is high risk for severe illness due to COVID-19 is available from the CDC.

Cleaning and Hygiene:
Washing hands with soap for 20 seconds or using hand sanitizer reduces the spread of the virus.

Schools are required to:
1. Teach and reinforce handwashing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds and/or use hand sanitizer. School nurses will go into classrooms to teach and reinforce handwashing.
2. Encourage staff and students to cough and sneeze into their elbows or cover with tissue. Tissues should be thrown in the trash and wash hands immediately with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
3. Incorporate frequent hand washing and sanitation breaks during classroom schedule.
4. Establish schedule for ongoing cleaning and disinfecting during the school day (door handles, stair rails, faucets, playground equipment, drinking fountains, light switches, desks, tables, chairs, kitchen countertops, cafeteria tables, carts, trays, etc.) with an EPA approved disinfectant for COVID-19. Increase frequency of disinfecting during high-density times and disinfect shared objects (gym equipment, art supplies, games, classroom shared supplies, etc.).
   a. Paper-based materials such as books and paper are not considered high risk for COVID-19 transmission and do not need additional cleaning or
disinfecting.
5. Ensure safe and correct use and storage of cleaning and disinfecting products including storing these products away from children, and allowing for adequate ventilation when staff are using these cleaning products.
6. Ensure that all non-disposable food service items are minimally handled and washed with hot water and soap or in a dishwasher, or use disposable food service items such as plates and utensils.

Monitoring for Symptoms

School are required to:
1. Enforce that staff and students stay home if:
   a. Tested positive for or showing COVID-19 symptoms, until they meet the criteria to return.
   b. Close-contact with a household member who tested positive for COVID-19, until they meet the criteria to return.
2. Complete the daily symptoms screening form for visitors and family members entering the building.

Handling Suspected, Presumptive, or Confirmed Positive Cases of COVID-19

Schools are required to:
1. Post signage at main entrances requesting people who have been symptomatic with fever, cough, etc. not to enter school.
2. Educate staff, students, and their families about symptoms of COVID-19 when they should stay home and when to safely return to school.
3. Staff will be sending students to the School Nurse that are exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19.
4. Establish dedicated space for symptomatic individuals that will not be used for other purposes.
5. Immediately isolate symptomatic individuals to designated area in school, notify family, and send them home to isolate.
6. Require the symptomatic individual to wear a face covering or surgical mask while waiting to leave school.
   a. Cloth face covering should not be placed on:
      i. Anyone who is having trouble breathing or unconscious.
      ii. Anyone who is incapacitated or otherwise unable to remove the face covering without assistance.
      iii. Anyone who can’t tolerate cloth face covering due to developmental, medical, or behavioral needs.
7. Implement cleaning and disinfecting procedures following CDC guidelines.
8. Have a plan to transport an ill student or staff member home or to medical care.
9. Adhere to the following process of allowing a student or staff member to return to school.
a. If tested negative for COVID-19, they can return to school once there is no fever without the use of fever-reducing medicines and have felt well for at least 24 hours and symptoms have resolved. (Home or self-tests for COVID-19 will not be an accepted method for meeting the return-to-school criteria.)
   - For international travel related concerns, please refer to above guidance.
   - For all other related concerns, both a PCR and rapid COVID-19 negative test is acceptable.

b. If a person is diagnosed with COVID-19 by a medical professional based on a test or their symptoms or does not get a COVID-19 test but has had symptoms, they should not be at school and should stay home until they (or a family member if younger child) can answer yes to the following three questions:
   i. Has it been at least 10 days since the individual first had symptoms?
   ii. Has it been at least 24 hours since the individual had a fever (without using fever reducing medicine)?
   iii. Have symptoms resolved?

10. Notify local health authorities of confirmed COVID-19 cases among children and staff (as required by state guidelines).

11. Ensure that if a person with COVID-19 was in the school setting while infectious, school administrators coordinate with local health officials to notify staff, and families that may have had direct close-contact with the individual immediately while maintaining confidentiality in accordance with FERPA and all other state and federal laws.

12. If a student/employee has been diagnosed with COVID-19 but does not have symptoms, they must remain out of school until 10 days have passed since the date of their first positive COVID-19 diagnostic test, assuming they have no subsequent developed symptoms since the positive test.

13. If a student/employee that has been diagnosed with COVID-19 or has been presumed positive by a medical professional due to symptoms they are not required to have documentation of a negative test in order to return to school.

14. If a student/employee has been determined to have been in close contact with a household member diagnosed with COVID-19. They must complete the full 10 days of quarantine before returning, even if the test is negative.

**Schools are recommended:**

- Establish and enforce sick policies to prevent the spread of the illness including:
  - Enforcing staff staying home if sick.
  - Encouraging use of sick leave policy. Staff should contact Vicki Drouin regarding questions or concerns regarding sick time used.
  - Administration has the right to send a staff member home who is experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.
  - Establish and encourage use of sick days for students and discontinue attendance dependent awards and ratings.
  - Develop plans for substitute teaching positions for employees on sick leave and consider cross-training employees to allow for changes in staff duties.
Water and Ventilation Systems

Schools are required to:
- An indoor air quality test will be conducted before the start of the school year and another indoor air quality test will be done mid school year.
- All water fountains will be water bottle dispensers for the start of the new school year.
- In addition, Air filter changes will be done 3 times a school year.

Schools are recommended to:
- Take steps to ensure all water systems and features (sink faucets, drinking fountains) are safe to use after prolonged facility shutdown.
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible by opening windows and doors, using fans or other methods. Do not open windows and doors if they pose a safety or health risk to people using the facility.
- An ionizer filter system has been installed to all HVAC systems at all schools and the SAU.
- Provide cups or alternative procedures to minimize use of water fountain.
Appendix A

Remote Learning 3.0

In the event of a school closure due to COVID-19, the following will serve as a schedule for remote learning. Teachers will have a half-day to prepare for remote learning.

Instruction:

- Google Classroom
- Teachers will be instructing in the classroom - unless another plan has been developed with building administrators and the superintendent
- Set schedule 8:30-12:30 Remote Learning for each school during Remote Learning

Draft of ECLC Schedule
- 20-30 minutes Responsive Classroom time
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 30 minutes classes for Math, Reading, and Writing
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 60 minutes Intervention/Remediation time
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes

Draft of Elementary School Schedule
- 20-30 minutes Responsive Classroom time
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 30 minutes classes for Math, Reading, and Writing
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 30 minutes Unified Arts classes
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 60 minutes Intervention/Remediation time
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes

Draft of Middle School Schedule
- 15-20 minutes Advisory
- 30 minutes Math, Reading, Writing, Science, and Social Studies
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 30 minutes World Language in grades 7 and 8
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 30 minutes Unified Arts classes
  - Transition to next class 5-10 minutes
- 60 minutes Intervention/Remediation time

Grades 1-8 - Consistent schedule for Unified Arts class
- Intervention time and remediation time set each day for students (minimum of 30 minutes)
- Social Emotional Learning - Responsive Classroom time for grades PK-4 and Advisory time for grades 5-8 each day as part of schedule
• Virtual Morning meeting and virtual school or grade level assemblies are recommended to occur once per month.

Schools are recommended to:

• Allow for small-group instruction to occur when reasonable with remote learning
• Virtual field trips when appropriate

Appendix B

SCHOOL FACILITY COVID-19 CLEANING PROCEDURES

The following cleaning procedures will be in place as we begin the new school and may be revised during the school year based upon local and state health guidance. There will be increased custodial staff during the school day to provide proper and thorough cleaning practices to all schools in the district.

The custodial staff will clean the following school areas during the school day:

• Cleaning of bathrooms (more frequently)
• Water fountains (every two hours)
• Classroom door handles, exterior doors, stair rails, and other surfaces (more frequently)
• Gym will be cleaned after each gym class
• Classrooms will be cleaned daily, including classroom sinks
• Grade 1 classroom bathrooms will be cleaned by custodial staff several times during the school day
• ECLC bathrooms will be cleaned by custodial staff several times during the school day.
• Floors will be cleaned regularly
• Offices will be cleaned regularly and frequently during the school day.
• Nurses’ offices will have regular cleaning during the school day and a thorough cleaning by the end of the school day.

Classroom staff:

• During the school day staff should provide a cleaning of tables when appropriate (cleaning supplies and disinfectant spray/or Lysol wipes will be available).

• The school community will work together to clean classrooms as a preventative measure to stop the COVID-19 virus. This will be at the dissertation of the teacher.
# Appendix C

**BARRINGTON SCHOOL DISTRICT DECISION GUIDING MATRIX**

## Table 1: COVID-19

School Community Transmission

### School Impact (defined at the educational facility level):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Minimal</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Substantial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Transmission within the school facility</td>
<td>Zero or sporadic cases with no evidence of transmission within the school setting</td>
<td>One cluster* in the school</td>
<td>Two or more unrelated clusters* in the school with onset (based on source case symptom onset dates) within 14 days of each other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student absenteeism</td>
<td>&lt;15%</td>
<td>15-30%</td>
<td>&gt;30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECLC %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BES %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMS %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Staff capacity to conduct classes and school operations†</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECLC-%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BES - %</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BMS -%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* A cluster is defined as 3 or more individuals confirmed with COVID-19 who are part of a related group of individuals (e.g., classroom) who had the potential to transmit infection to each other through close contact.
† This subjective assessment should factor in a school’s ability to maintain adequate staff for facility operations, transportation, teaching, and administrative functions.

NIH Department of Health and Human Services  
COVID-19  
Division of Public Health Service  
Bureau of Infectious Disease Control  

Transitioning Between Instructional Models  
September 1, 2020
Table 2: COVID-19 Barrington Community Transmission:
Community transmission is based on the town of Barrington:
Total active cases =

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Minimal</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Substantial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative COVID-19 PCR test positivity (last 7-days)</td>
<td>&lt;5%</td>
<td>5-10%</td>
<td>&gt;10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of new infections per 100,000 population over prior 14 days</td>
<td>&lt;50</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>&gt;100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Average number of new infections per 100,000 per day over prior 14 days (calculated):

Table 3: COVID-19 County Community Transmission:
Community transmission is based on the towns and cities of Strafford County:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Criteria</th>
<th>Minimal</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Substantial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cumulative COVID-19 PCR test positivity (last 7-days)</td>
<td>&lt;5%</td>
<td>5-10%</td>
<td>&gt;10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of new infections per 100,000 population over prior 14 days</td>
<td>&lt;50</td>
<td>50-100</td>
<td>&gt;100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Current confirmed hospitalizations prior 7 day average</td>
<td>&lt;10</td>
<td>10-20</td>
<td>&gt;20</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Appendix D

NH DPHS Indoor Face Mask Recommendation

Table 1: COVID-19 School Community Transmission

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases within School Facility</th>
<th>Level of Community Transmission</th>
<th>Minimal</th>
<th>Moderate</th>
<th>Substantial</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sporadic cases without evidence of facility transmission</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single cluster in school setting</td>
<td>Targeted</td>
<td>Targeted</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Multiple cluster of COVID-19 cases or larger outbreak</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td>Universal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A cluster is defined as 3 or more individuals confirmed with COVID-19 who are part of a related group of individuals (e.g., classroom) who had the potential to transmit infection to each other through close contact.

NH DHHS Recommends face masks for everyone when the level of NH community transmission reaches “substantial” in the region where the school or child care program is operating.

Definitions:
Targeted - use of face masks-in a classroom or grade level for students and this will include during specific Unified Arts classes or classes with interventionists, etc.
Universal - use of face masks-in the school setting and/or in the school district for all students and staff
Self-Evaluation for Unvaccinated Household Contacts’ Quarantine Timeline

If you are unvaccinated and therefore should quarantine as a result of an exposure (please see What To Do If You Were Exposed to COVID-19), then you may use the evaluation below to determine whether you are able to shorten your quarantine to 10 days from your last exposure to the sick individual. If at any time another individual in the household becomes ill with COVID-19, the quarantine period for the rest of the household will re-start and this protocol can be re-visited. Follow these instructions for safely caring for someone sick in the home.

---

The exposed contact will only need to quarantine for 10 full days from the last exposure* with the sick individual.

Is the exposed contact sleeping in a separate bedroom or sleeping space from the sick individual?

Yes

No

Is the exposed contact able to avoid ongoing close contact within the home?

Yes

No

The exposed contact will only need to quarantine for 10 full days from the last exposure* to the sick individual.

The exposed contact will need to quarantine for a full 10 days following the sick individual’s isolation period.

*the last day of exposure will be considered day 0, quarantine will begin the next day (day 1).

Note that shared bathrooms are a significant risk factor for spread of COVID-19. If the patient is not able to use a separate bathroom from others in the household, the bathroom should be cleaned and disinfected thoroughly between each use. Instructions for cleaning and disinfecting the home can be found here.

NH Department of Health and Human Services
Division of Public Health Services
Bureau of Infectious Disease Control

October 6, 2021