



Public Notification of Great Bay Charter School Scheduling Transition Plans: American Rescue Plan (ESSER III)

(Uploaded 5.23.21; Updated June 14, 2021)

Per Governor Sununu's Executive Order #89 New Hampshire schools were required to provide in-person instruction for five days per week for those students who want that option beginning April 19, 2021. The order further required schools to maintain a remote option for students who could not access in-person instruction due to health reasons and allows schools to *retain the option* of remote and/or hybrid instruction for students who select that option.

As of April 8, 2021, Great Bay Charter School was offering the five day in-person learning option for all students who selected it to date, and continued compliance with the Governor's April 19 deadline without requesting a waiver.

It was our collective belief and desire that each of our in-person students, if not already full-time, should return to campus full-time beginning on May 3. This day is chosen because it represented the return from April Break and followed the completed vaccination cycle, thus a return for the remainder of GBCS staff.

Some students requested the fully remote option. GBCS worked with families to formalize other fixed alternatives (i.e. a limited hybrid situation) if necessary, but we did not allow students to opt in and out of in-person and remote instruction models on a daily basis. It was simply too difficult to account for students and is disruptive to both the student's and school's program.

Pre-April 19 Instructional Delivery Status (as of April 8, 2021)

In-person: Five-day in-person instruction option available for all students

Partially Remote: Partially remote/in-person scheduling available with students on a fixed, on pre-arranged, fixed schedule.

Fully Remote: Approximately ten students were fully remote

Instructional Delivery Status (as of April 19, 2021)

- In-person:*** Five-day in-person instruction available for all students
- Partially Remote:*** Partially remote/in-person scheduling available, with students on a fixed, pre-arranged schedule. (full-time in-person instruction recommended)
- Fully Remote:*** Fully remote schedule option was available for students who need it for health reasons (approximately eight students)

Instructional Delivery Status (From May 3, 2021, through June 16 school year end)

- In-person:*** Five-day in-person instruction available for all students and recommended
- Partially Remote:*** Partially remote/in-person scheduling available, with students on a fixed, pre-arranged schedule (full-time in-person instruction recommended). The availability of synchronous remote classes will begin to be scaled back for classes without remote students.
- Fully Remote:*** Fully remote schedule option available for students who need it for health reasons, some in-person participation was strongly encouraged.

Continuation of Synchronous Remote Instruction

To the extent possible, GBCS continued to provide real-time synchronous classes for our remotely scheduled students. We will continue to assess the format of how, if, and under what circumstances remote instruction continues to be delivered.

30 Day Public Comment Period and [Feedback Form](#)

To qualify for funding under the recently enacted *American Rescue Plan (a.k.a ARP/ESSER III)*, GBCS is required to make its plan publicly available and hold a 30-day public comment period. This webpage and any subsequent updates will serve as this notice and it was posted on May 23, 2021. Public comment is invited using the linked [feedback form](#) and will be collected for at least 30 calendar days from this date.

Re-opening Plan Following NH Department of Education Template

I. General Information

1. LEA Name: **Great Bay Charter School**
2. Date of Publication: **5/23/2021**

II. Transparency and Accessibility

1. This plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services was published and made publicly available online here:
Description: **School website: www.gbcs.org [Re-opening Plan for Fall, 2021](#)**
2. Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA sought public comment on the plan and took such comments into account in the development of the plan (please check one). **Yes**

Description: **Feedback was sought and direction taken from Staff feedback (meetings), Parent Surveys, and Student Discussion (Advisory). Public comment from the greater community was also sought via the school website.**
3. The plan is in an understandable and uniform format (please check one): **Yes**
Description: **Written plan available on school website**
4. The plan, to the extent practicable, is written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated (please check one): **Yes**
Description: **Written plan (in English) available on school website. No non-English speaking learners are currently enrolled.**
5. The plan, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, is provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent (please check one): **Yes**
Description: **Verbal explanation, hard copy, and/or answers to questions available via phone**

III. Health and Safety

1. How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff:
During SY20-21: Description: **The school followed and continues to follow CDC and State of NH Public Health standards for its safety practices and protocols. These include integration of PPE, daily screening of students and staff, social distancing, cleaning and sanitizing protocols, increasing ventilation of utilized spaces, and participation in efforts to quarantine or isolate individuals with COVID or having had close contacts with positive individuals.**

The school has sought ways to reduce the risk of exposure to its community and when faced with potential exposures, respond according to CDC and State guidelines to minimize risk to others.

During SY21-22: Description: **The school will continue to be guided by and follow as appropriate, CDC and State of NH Public Health standards for its safety practices and**

protocols throughout the school year. Adjustments to current practices will be made based upon guidelines issued closer to the onset of the school year (late July/early August, 2021) These will include integration of any PPE, potential daily screening of students and staff, maintenance of social distancing, cleaning and sanitizing protocols, increasing ventilation of utilized spaces, and participation in efforts to quarantine or isolate individuals with COVID or having had close contacts with positive individuals.

The school will continue to seek ways to reduce the risk of exposure to its community and when faced with potential exposures, respond according to the most recent CDC and State guidelines to minimize risk to others.

2. The LEA's adoption of the following CDC health and safety strategies are described below: (Note federal regulation on this plan requires such reporting, but does not require adoption of CDC safety recommendations. The NH DOE recognizes schools will implement localized safety measures based on the guidance provided by the CDC, NH Public Health, and local public health officials.)

a. Universal and correct wearing of masks:

During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes**

During SY21-22 (check one): **Somewhat**

Description of both SYs: **During sy 20-21, all staff, students, and visitors will wear masks per recommendations. This has been relaxed outside the building, particularly when distancing permits. During sy 21-22 we are hopeful that masks will not be necessary for students and staff, but are prepared to continue this practice, or modify if recommendations change.**

b. Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding and modifying facilities):

During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes:**

During SY21-22 (check one): **Yes**

Description of both SYs: **During sy 20-21, the school engaged a hybrid schedule with two cohorts of students alternating days while the opposite cohort was remote and accessed their classes via Zoom. In mid-April, all students were offered the option of returning fully and at the beginning of May all were encouraged to return fully. This corresponded with the vaccination schedule of our staff and adults in NH ages 18 and up.**

Unless guidance suggests otherwise, it is anticipated that during sy21-22, we will continue with our full student capacity with all students and staff as we are ending 20-21. The extent of the availability of a remote option is currently under discussion.

c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes**

During SY21-22 (check one): **Yes**

Description of both SYs: **All students and staff are and will continue to be encouraged to wash their hands regularly and use hand sanitizer.**

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

During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes**

During SY21-22 (check one): **Yes**

Description of both SYs: **All classroom table surfaces are sanitized after classes and**

frequently touched surfaces (doorknobs, restrooms, handles, etc.) are sanitized multiple times each day. All classrooms and surfaces are cleaned by maintenance staff at the end of each day.

The school is a tenant in an older facility and will continue to operate with passive ventilation. Windows and classroom doors are opened as much as possible to create ventilation and when weather does not allow, individual HEPA air filtration units are run in the classrooms.

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

During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes**

During SY21-22 (check one): **Yes**

Description of both SYs: **The school has and will continue to cooperate with health officials to contact trace, quarantine and isolate impacted individuals. To the extent**

f. Diagnostic and screening testing:

During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes**

During SY21-22 (check one): **Yes**

Description of both SYs: The school has continued to screen all students and staff for daily temperature through sy20-21. The continuation of this practice will be determined as guidance is released later this summer. There is currently no testing process in place, nor is it expected to be in place for sy21-22.

g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities:

During SY20-21 (check one): **Somewhat**

During SY21-22 (check one): **Somewhat**

Description of both SYs: **The school made a significant effort to have all staff vaccinated this spring through the cooperation with a local SAU. As the vaccine has become available, many of our students have gotten vaccinated, but there has not been a school-wide effort to facilitate this. This is partly due to the broad geographical area of our students and the availability of vaccine at multiple sites if desired.**

- h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies:
During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes**
During SY21-22 (check one): **Yes**

Description of both SYs: **All GBCS students regardless of disability followed PPE and health/safety protocols. Some students accessed different forms of PPE (clear masks/shields), KN95 masks, etc.,) and had slightly modified accommodations like more frequent mask breaks etc.**

- i. Coordination with state and local health officials (please check one):
During SY20-21 (check one): **Yes**
During SY21-22 (check one): **Yes**

Description of both SYs: **The school coordinated with State officials when dealing with contact tracing/notifications, etc. We expect to continue this practice in sy21-22 as practical.**

IV. Continuity of Services

1. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing student academic needs:

Description during SY20-21: **The charter school has worked with local school districts to maintain services throughout the school year. We provided real-time access to classes via Zoom and support staff had accounts by which they could work with our students. The school made every effort to facilitate the district personnel to access their students for services.**

Description during SY21-22: **The charter school will continue to work with local school districts of residence to maintain services throughout the school year. We will provide real-time access to students via Zoom and support staff provide support staff with accounts by which they can work with our students. The school will make every effort to facilitate the district personnel to have access to our students for services.**

2. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing student social, emotional, mental, and other health needs, which may include student health and food services:

Description during SY20-21: **During this school year, the school contracted with a local district for food service to provide lunch to every student who wanted one. These were available to students daily, and when remote, a bag lunch was provided for them to take home for the next day.**

Our embedded advisory program ensured that students had access to a trusted adult who monitored their progress and to whom they could communicate.

Daily phone communication home accompanied absence (remote or physical) and local or state authorities when warranted.

Description during SY21-22: **The same practices will continue during sy21-22**

3. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing staff social, emotional, mental, and other health needs:

Description during SY20-21: **The school applied and was granted a Promising Futures for NH grant award and is participating in developing a network of additional regional**

social-emotional support for our students. Staff training and information will be provided and information and support for parents is part of the planning. Our advisory curriculum activities will be supported (Choose Love) as well.

Description during SY21-22: **We will build upon our Promising Futures for NH grant activities, continue to support our advisory curriculum and build capacity for supporting our students throughout the year.**

V. Plan Review

1. The LEA will meet the federal regulatory requirement to review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months through September 30, 2023 (the award period including the Tydings period). (Note an LEA that developed a plan before ARPA was enacted on 03/11/2021 that complied with the federal statutory requirements for public posting and comments but does not meet all of the requirements above must revise its plan no later than six months after the LEA receives LEA ESSER funds.) **Yes**

Description: **The plan will be reviewed in November, 2021, May, 2022, November, 2022, May 2023, and August, 2023**

2. In doing so, the LEA will meet the federal statutory requirement to seek public input and take such input into account in determining whether to revise the plan and, if revisions are determined necessary, on the revisions it makes to its plan.

Yes

Description: **Staff, Student, Parent input will be sought via survey and/or via general public input period.**

3. In doing so, the LEA will also meet the federal regulatory requirement to address CDC safety recommendations and, if the CDC has updated its safety recommendations at the time the LEA is revising its plan, each of the updated CDC safety recommendations.

(Note federal regulation on this plan requires such reporting, but does not require adoption of CDC safety recommendations. The NH DOE recognizes schools will implement localized safety measures based on the guidance provided by the CDC, NH Public Health, and local public health officials.) **Yes**

Description: **The school will update its plan maintaining compliance with regard to CDC, NH Public Health and local public health recommendations.**

VI. Authorization

LEA Superintendent's Signature:



Date: 5.23.2021