

Timberlane Regional School District 2021-2022
Plan on the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

In response to the recent guidance from the State of New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services (NH DHHS), the Timberlane Regional School District has revised our ***Plan on the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction & Continuity of Services.***

COVID-19 Data

- Changes in January 2022 at the state level:
 - Schools are NO longer required to report individual COVID cases to the state.
 - Schools are no longer asked to contact trace or inform families if their child is exposed.
 - School comparative data is no longer published at the state level.
- TRSD has published daily data for all of the 2021-2022 school year. Since mid-January 2022, all COVID metrics (community level of transmission- new cases per 100k population, 14-day average, positivity rate, etc.) have been steadily declining.

Keys to Our Success

- Effective resource allocation, including expanded resources and supports for underperforming students.
- Improved access to valid and reliable data to better identify students' academic needs and potential learning loss.
- Expanded educational services for vulnerable populations.
- Support for our staff, including emphasis on emotional and physical well-being.
- Health and safety measures in place for students and staff.
- Equitable access to support services, including mental health supports.

Facility Access

- School building and office access for parents and others attending student-focused meetings will be determined on a case-by-case basis.
- Access for other visitors, including volunteers, classroom guests, contracted service providers, and vendors, will be based on current conditions and determined on a case-by-case basis.

- TRSD will continue to ask visitors to self-screen and adhere to appropriate mitigation strategies in effect at the time.
- Restrictions on facility use may remain in place for outside organizations and rental requests.

Mitigation Efforts/Safety Protocols

- All mitigation efforts and protocols will be based on local conditions as well as state and federal guidance.
- TRSD will continue to inform our decisions by recommendations of public health officials.
- TRSD will continue to emphasize handwashing and provide hand-sanitizer in all classrooms and common spaces.
- TRSD will strive for 3-foot distancing between people in all indoor spaces.
- TRSD will use daily cleaning protocols, supplies and techniques as recommended by CDC and NH DPHS in all indoor spaces.
- TRSD will continue to use an “at home screening tool & process.”
- TRSD will continue to use our “nurse’s form” to inform nurses about sick and absent students and staff. The district will continue to require individuals to inform the school nurse regarding any and all absences due to illness.
- TRSD asks that those individuals with signs and symptoms of any communicable disease, including COVID-19, to please stay home.
- TRSD will continue to use the NH DHHS [Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines](#) as published in January 2022.

Facemask Usage

- Masks are not required outdoors (recess, outdoor classrooms, etc.).
- TRSD will switch to “Mask Optional” starting on Monday, February 21, 2022.
- Individuals will need to continue to wear facemasks as determined by the [Isolation and Quarantine Guidelines](#).
- Individuals may be required to wear masks in the school health office.
- If a large cluster or outbreak is suspected based on weekly aggregate reporting, or if a school/child care official is concerned about uncontrolled transmission within a facility, the school or child care program can contact NH DHHS to report the situation and seek advice on mitigating further spread of COVID-19.

- We will continue to follow the federal mandate on all public conveyances.
- TRSD staff will not be responsible to enforce the masking choice of families.

Vaccinations

- Although students ages 5-18 are eligible for vaccination, we do not currently have data on percentages of vaccinated students.
- TRSD will continue to adhere to guidance provided by health and medical professionals as to the need for mitigation strategies for those students age 4 and under who cannot yet receive the vaccine.

Mental Health and Well-Being

- TRSD will maintain student emotional health and well-being as a priority. Counseling Team members will meet regularly to identify student and staff needs and supports.
- District and School-based mental health teams will continue to develop practices that focus on emotional, mental, and physical well-being.
- TRSD will focus on formal school community and classroom team building.

Diagnostic Screening and Testing / Learning Loss

- TRSD will utilize a number of diagnostic screening tools for students preschool through grade 8, to better identify student academic needs in both literacy and math.
- A consistent process has been adopted at the elementary grades (K-5) to identify students with academic needs, target skills necessary for intervention, along with maintaining records of data, and identifying assessments.
- A new structure for increased intervention opportunities has been enacted at the middle school level.
- TRSD increased opportunities for after-school extra help sessions at the middle and high schools.
- Summer opportunities are being planned to provide and support students, as well as staff, in creating or changing structures for academic growth.
- Late transportation home for after-school programming and extra help sessions will continue at the secondary level.
- TRSD's biggest concerns remain for vulnerable populations, including foster children, special needs, ELL and minority students.

Coordination with State and Local Health Officials

- Throughout the 2021-2022 school year, the district has maintained close communications and a collaborative relationship with local and state health officials.
- TRSD administration will continue to work with local and state health officials to ensure fluid communications in regard to COVID metrics as well as federal, state and local guidance/requirements for schools.

Funding

- TRSD will continue to allocate available grant funds to ensure our schools continue to be safe for students and will plan the use of funds accordingly.
- Our priorities to determine allocation of available grant funds will be:
 - The potential learning loss for all students, as well as our at-risk subgroup student populations, as identified by clear, reliable, and valid student data;
 - Updates to the infrastructure of our current school buildings and aging facilities to maintain safe and healthy environments for students and staff; and
 - Increased training for staff to support Social Emotional Learning and increased mental health support for both students and staff.

Communication

- Communication regarding changes to any protocols will be provided via School Messenger, which will include voice, text, email, social media and the District website.