

Estell Manor School District

Fall 2020 Reopening Update

Presented to the Board of Education and Public ~ August 26, 2020

Purpose

- ▶ To share updated information from the State and its agencies
- ▶ To communicate the current status of Estell Manor School
- ▶ To provide additional information, clarifications, recommendations, and suggestions.

Updates from the State

The background features abstract, overlapping geometric shapes in various shades of green, ranging from light lime to dark forest green. These shapes are primarily located on the right side of the slide, creating a modern, layered effect. The text 'Updates from the State' is positioned on the left side of the slide in a clean, sans-serif font.

Updates from the State – Does E0173 (indoor capacity) apply to schools? (Response received 8-7-20)

- ▶ In The Road Back and its most recent updates, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) introduced science-backed measures to limit the risks to students and staff upon their return to school, including social distancing, required face coverings, limiting the intermingling of cohorts, district screening policies, and increased cleaning and disinfection of frequently touched surfaces and objects. Given these measures, indoor gathering limitations pursuant to E0173 do not apply to school activities in school buildings or to rooms within school buildings.

Executive Order 175

- ▶ Received Thursday, August 13
- ▶ References American Association of Pediatrics
 - ▶ Discusses benefits of in-person schooling
- ▶ Allows for totally virtual start if a district is unable to meet “health and safety standards”
 - ▶ If a district indicates this, the district must submit a plan to address the unmet standards, a timeline for remediation, and an anticipated date for opening

EO 175

- ▶ At least six feet of distance between individuals in all settings to the greatest extent practicable or social distancing modifications; such as physical barrier or turning desks to face the same direction, when six feet cannot be achieved;
- ▶ Mandatory use of face coverings by staff, students, and visitors (also includes a list of exceptions)
- ▶ Routine cleaning and sanitization of classrooms, lunchrooms, gymnasiums, restrooms, high-trafficked areas such as hallways, high-touch areas such as light switches and door knobs, and shared surfaces;
- ▶ The facilitation of student handwashing at frequent intervals, or use of alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available;

EO 175

- ▶ The use of face coverings and social distancing procedures to the extent practicable and cleaning protocols on school buses if students are bussed to and from school;
- ▶ Student and staff health screenings;
- ▶ Implementation of enhanced social distancing and infection control protocols for music, chorus, and physical education classes that are conducted in indoor spaces, particularly where students are not wearing face coverings;
- ▶ A plan for response to students and staff that exhibit symptoms of COVID-19, which must include coordination with the local health department and procedures for isolating symptomatic students and staff;
- ▶ A plan detailing the response when students and/or staff test positive for COVID-19, which must include coordination with the local health department and procedures for isolating any students who learn of a positive test result while on school grounds;

EO 175

- ▶ Coordination with the local health department to support contact tracing;
- ▶ A plan to ensure that indoor facilities have adequate ventilation;
- ▶ Implementation of social distancing and infection control practices during recess and physical education periods;
- ▶ Procedures for resumption of athletics programs and extracurricular if applicable;

Department of Health

- ▶ COVID-19 Public Health Recommendations for Local Health Departments for K-12 Schools
- ▶ Received Thursday, August 13th
- ▶ Regional Risk Matrix for use by Local Health Department when providing guidance to school districts
- ▶ Protocols and Related Information
- ▶ Resources
- ▶ Sample Screening Tools and Letters

DOH Protocols & Related Information

- ▶ Stay Home When Sick or Exposed to Someone with COVID-19
- ▶ Maintain social & physical distancing and small-group cohorts
- ▶ Limited Use of Shared Equipment
- ▶ Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette
- ▶ Face Coverings
- ▶ Cleaning and Disinfecting
- ▶ Symptom Screening
- ▶ Preparing for Illness

DOH Protocols and Related Information

- ▶ COVID-19 Symptoms
- ▶ When Illness Occurs Within the School Setting
- ▶ When Someone Tests Positive for COVID-19
- ▶ COVID-19 Illness and Test Results Scenarios
- ▶ Outbreaks
- ▶ Contact Tracing and Notification
- ▶ Closure
- ▶ Testing

Estell Manor School Status

The right side of the slide features a decorative graphic composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent green triangles and polygons. The colors range from a light, pale green to a dark, forest green. The shapes are arranged in a way that creates a sense of depth and movement, with some shapes appearing to be layered behind others. The overall effect is a modern, abstract design element.

Restart Plan

- ▶ Received acknowledgement that it met the checklist of criteria on Tuesday, August 24 and was being sent to Trenton.
- ▶ Our Plan meets all standards in the EO and Restart Planning Guidance.
- ▶ Implementation of Plan still in progress. We will need to continue to reevaluate the plan as conditions change
- ▶ Personal Protective Equipment is in-district (e.g. face masks, gloves, staff face shields, desk shields)

Status of Plan Implementation

- ▶ Currently in progress:
 - ▶ Installation of desk shields, sanitizing stations, new water spigots in bathrooms
 - ▶ School and classroom set-up for school opening
 - ▶ Creation of classes for both A and B hybrid groups and totally virtual
 - ▶ Staffing assignment adjustments, where needed
 - ▶ Planning of professional development for staff (e.g. health and safety protocols, hybrid instructional model, totally virtual instructional model)
 - ▶ Creating of informational documents and videos for students and parents/guardians (e.g. health and safety protocols, learning management system, totally virtual and hybrid schedules)

Important Information and Reminders

- ▶ Even though we are moving forward with our current plan, please have a plan for yourself if we need to move to all virtual. It could happen with very little notice. As conditions change, so will our plan.
- ▶ Students will be accountable for attendance and grades as they were pre-pandemic.
- ▶ You can change your mind about your child's instructional model.
 - ▶ If your child is in-person (Model #1 or 2) you can choose to go all remote at any time by notifying the school in writing (letter or email). Please allow 24 hours for the transition to take effect. This also applies for changing from Model 1 to Model 2.
 - ▶ If your child is fully remote (Model #3) you can choose to go to in-person (Models 1 or 2) at the end of first marking period. Please notify the school in writing by October 16.

Important Information and Reminders

- ▶ If you answered on your survey that you are eligible but did not plan to use the bus at this time, your children will still get a bus pass. We are counting on the responses on the survey for limiting the number of students on the buses, but if you didn't officially opt-out then there will be a bus assigned (that doesn't mean you have to use it).
- ▶ As a result of the survey, we have reduced the number of children on the buses to around 25. The children will be required to wear masks, and they will not all be 6 feet away from each other. This still meets the safety guidelines outlined in The Road Back.
- ▶ We are not planning to increase the cost of Wildcat Den. However, due to the number of requests, we are having trouble staffing it adequately at this time. We hope to have it covered, but will let you know by September 1 if it will be altered in any way.

Important Information and Reminders

- ▶ The school day will be 9:10 - 2:15. Please do not arrive at the school before 9:00. Students will stay on the playground but will line up as they arrive. If it is raining, students will go into the building. It is important that students wear their masks as they arrive because of the number of people moving around at that time.
- ▶ If your children are sick or have come in contact with someone who has COVID-19, please keep them home.
- ▶ Students who are in learning Models #2 and #3 are strongly encouraged to attend instruction at the same time as the students in school if at all possible. Schedules will be provided.
- ▶ For the first several days, buses will be running as close to their schedule as possible, but the drivers will have lists that include students who may not be getting on that day. This will alter how long the run takes. Please be at the bus stop early and plan to wait additional time if necessary.

Important Information and Reminders

▶ Upcoming:

- ▶ Chromebooks for Remote and Hybrid B learners can be picked up next week Monday - Thursday 9:00-2:00. If you need another time, please contact the school and we can make arrangements. All other learners will receive their Chromebooks on the first day of school.
- ▶ The beginning of the year handouts will be on the school website starting next week, and you will be able to either print them and fill them out, or complete them electronically and send them through email. A free app called Kami will allow you to fill out PDF forms and save them.
- ▶ A training session for parents for google classroom will also be held, please keep a look out for additional information.
- ▶ You will be receiving information on an app called Share911. This app will push out a notification every morning for you to complete a health screening for your child before sending them to school.

Important Information and Reminders

- ▶ Please be patient. We learned a lot from the sudden closure in March last spring, and as a result we are doing many things differently. This means we are learning how to do them. By maintaining great communication and working together, we can make this year an outstanding one.

Estell Manor



Wildcats