Appendix K

Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

Reunite, Renew, and Thrive: Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) Roadmap for Reopening School

The OCSD understands the important role of climate and culture, more specifically, social and emotional learning (SEL) and how critical it is in re-engaging students, supporting adults, rebuilding relationships, and creating a foundation for academic learning.

OCSD will take social and emotional learning actions including:
1. Making deliberate efforts to communicate the importance of SEL and how it relates to student success in your school or district to students and families.
2. Facilitating opportunities for connection and reflection among students, families, and staff.
3. Promoting supportive staff – student relationships to ensure that all students have at least one caring staff member who checks in regularly with them and their family is able to connect with for any additional support.

Additional behavioral health services are available for students and families. Students should contact their school guidance counselor for assistance. Employees should contact the Personnel Manager and/or Business Office for information regarding employee health benefits. OCSD will focus on social and emotional competencies, situated within the contexts of classrooms, schools, and communities.

Consistent with guidance from the United States Department of Education, the Ocean City School District continues to meet their obligations to students with disabilities to the greatest extent possible. The NJDOE will continue to update the OCSD with any additional guidance from the USDE on implementation of IDEA. Specific strategies and considerations for students with disabilities will be critical points of discussion for every return-to-school scenario. OCSD will consider the following when addressing the education of students with disabilities for the 2020-21 school year:

- Procedures that address the return to school of medically fragile students and students with physical or health impairments who may require accommodations and modifications as part of a 504 Plan. The district will communicate frequently with the families of students with significant medical risk factors to determine if additional precautions or unique measures are necessary prior to a student's return to school.
- IEP teams will review student data/student progress to determine whether critical skills were lost during the period in which remote instruction was being provided to students and determine the need for additional services to address learning loss.
- IEP teams will consider the impact of missed services on student progress towards meeting IEP goals and objectives. The teams will determine if additional or

compensatory services are needed to address regression and recoupment of skills within a reasonable length of time.

- IEP teams will develop procedures to complete overdue and/or incomplete evaluations to determine eligibility for special education services.
- The use of school guidance department staff and child study team personnel to identify students whose postsecondary plans may have been adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and provide support, resources, and assistance, which may include facilitating connection to community organizations, scholarship programs, county, state, and federal opportunities to access support.

Appendix N

Scheduling of Students

Educational Program:

OCSD will accommodate educators teaching in-person, hybrid, and virtual learning, in a way that allows students to meet their required instructional hours for the day, which may include remote students completing independent work while students in the classroom receive instruction. The Virtual Academy is available to students but will require a commitment to the program for the first trimester at the Primary School and the first semester at the Intermediate and High Schools.

In the event that the school district must close due to weather related events, the district will deliver virtual instruction to all students. This will be communicated to the school community via Swift K-12 messaging and social media outlets.

If the weather related closure is coupled with coastal evacuation mandates and/or county wide power failures, the district will enact a full-day school closure with no instruction provided to ensure the safety of our students, staff and community.

Special Education Program:

The special education programs for students in Learning/ Language Disabilities (LLD) and Multiple Disabilities (MD) will receive onsite instruction and services on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, with Wednesday being a remote facilitation day. Case managers will contact families the week of September 8-11 to discuss their students program.

Parent Choice:

Students in the Ocean City School District will return to traditional, face-to-face instruction on Tuesday, September 8, 2020. Parents will be allowed to choose to have their child attend the Ocean City Virtual Academy (OCVA) and receive their instruction without attending in-person instruction.

Learning and Instruction: Certified teachers will deliver the curriculum. Mental health and social-emotional supports are in place for students. In addition, universal safety measures, cleaning practices, hygiene protocols and practices are in place to protect students, families, and staff.

Learning occurs in a traditional classroom setting with accommodations made for physical distancing, cleaning and disinfecting, and symptom monitoring. All students will be assigned to traditional classrooms. **Additional social distancing, hygiene routines, and the wearing of masks or face coverings will be required.** Students will receive quality instruction on all grade levels. Learning will also take place virtually, without being in regular face-to-face contact with a teacher inside the classroom. Students will login to PowerSchool's Unified Classroom each day and follow their class schedules for accessing class content, activities and assignments. Students should follow expectations and deadlines set by teachers for completing activities and turning in assignments. The virtual environment will consists of scheduled, online, teacher prepared lessons, that will drive student-centered and directed learning. Education will continue, even though students and teachers are not in the same physical location.

Ocean City Virtual Academy (OCVA):

The Ocean City Virtual Academy is available for students in grades P – 12. Certified teachers will deliver the OCSD Board adopted curriculum. Mental health and social-emotional supports are in place for the students. Instruction will consist of synchronous and asynchronous learning activities but will follow the normal school schedule. OCSD will make every effort to provide a fully virtual program that best accommodates a child's learning needs, but some learning opportunities must be modified in a remote environment.

Participation in a fully virtual environment is voluntary. In order for a student to continue to participate in mandatory learning, his/her virtual attendance will be taken, assessments administered, and grades will be counted toward the student's cumulative grade average. Any devices, technology, or materials given to the student to facilitate virtual learning are the property of the district and must be returned in good condition at the end of the remote learning period. Students participating in virtual learning will be able to participate in any extra-curricular or co-curricular activities. Participation in virtual learning will continue until the end of the first trimester (Primary School) or first semester (Intermediate and High School), at which time the necessity of this program will be revisited.

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Appendix O

Staffing

The OCSD is committed to the knowledge that classroom teachers serve as the number one in-school factor impacting student learning. Regardless of the environment, teachers should clearly understand expectations and be supported and held accountable for student learning. Access and equity for all staff will be considered to ensure continuity of student learning.

When making staffing schedules and assignments, the School District will comply with all applicable employment laws including but not limited to the American Disabilities Act (ADA) and Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), and all applicable state law.

OCSD has thoughtfully planned for how to best support the well-being of educators. As educators' social-emotional state improves, they are better able to support the social-emotional well-being and learning needs of their students.

OCSD will:

- Provide professional development to support educators:
  - Integration of SEL in their teaching, including the skills to foster positive learning environments and techniques for embedding SEL into instruction (in-person and remote instruction).
  - Understanding and utilization of trauma-informed practices.
  - Protocol for identifying and supporting students who may be experiencing social-emotional, behavioral, and mental health challenges.
- Establish systems that promote supportive staff-student relationships to ensure that all students have at least one caring staff member who checks in regularly with them and who their family and is able to connect with for any needed supports.
- Create opportunities for staff to regularly practice and reflect on their social and emotional competencies.
- Support educators' access to mental health resources and encourage them to utilize their services.

OCSD will deploy staff to design and deliver instruction and assess students in remote learning environments with a plan that identifies roles and responsibilities of school administrators, teachers, instructional assistants, and educational services professionals. The plan will ensure continuity of learning and leverage existing resources and personnel

to maximize student success. Regardless of the format or schedule, we are committed to excellence and will maintain quality instruction for students.

Technology

[Ocean City School District Technology](#)

The District has taken measures to ensure that every student has access to a device and internet connectivity. Additional surveys will be conducted prior to the new school year. The district has prioritized the provision of technology to those in need and has a plan for assisting students and families in gaining access to technology or internet services to support student learning.

The District was able to provide a Chromebook to any student that needed one to participate in remote learning. The district proactively purchases an additional supply of Chromebooks and is exploring the feasibility of moving to a one-to-one device distribution for students from 6-12 grades while still maintaining devices for in-person instruction in grades PreK-5 and having a supply of devices that may be loaned out for remote learning. Forms have been created for requesting a device for remote learning for any parent that has not set up a parental PowerSchool account with those forms posted on the district's webpage.

Assistance and support will be provided by the IT department for both in-person and remote learning. Contact information for the IT department was disseminated and is prominent on our webpage at https://oceancityschools.org/remoteschoolinginformation. Should anyone need assistance, they can contact the Ocean City School District's Technology Help Desk by emailing questions or issues to help@ocsdnjathome.on.spiceworks.com. This will generate a ticket in our system and one of our support team members will respond as quickly as possible. If anyone is unable to reach us by email, they can call and leave a message at (609) 399-1290 ext. 1234.

Prior to the health-related closure in March 2020, the District conducted an internet and computer accessibility survey. The survey results were utilized to identify students in need of a computer or who were lacking internet access at home. Those actions will be repeated prior to the new school year. Additionally, the district disseminated the information that Xfinity is providing free WiFi for everyone. Xfinity WiFi hotspots will be available to everyone who needs them for free, including non-Xfinity customers. Additionally, the district will continue to share that Xfinity is offering two months of free service for qualified new customers (https://www.internetessentials.com/). For any student without internet access at home, they are asked to contact their building for assistance.