



**Applicant:** 37 5360 VERNON TOWNSHIP - Sussex

ARP Safe Return Plan ▾

**Application:** ARP Safe Return Plan - 00-

**Project Period:** 9/1/2021 - 8/31/2022

**Cycle:** Original Application

### Safe Return Plan Updated

**Safe Return Plan text and assurances must be agreed to every six months.**

Date Plan Updated

Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

VTSD is planning summer acceleration programs for all students who wish to attend. These programs also have an SEL component. We are also providing SEL training and curricular materials for the 2021-2022 school year. A focus is being placed on SEL for faculty/staff as well with training and supports in the summer and throughout the school year. We continue to work toward access for all students and also are working with our food service company to provide meals to those who need them.

Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comment into account in the development of its plan. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

This plan will be published on the district website for stakeholder review. It will also be published via district podcasts and reviewed and approved during the June 10 Board of Education meeting. Board meetings are recorded therefore this serves as another opportunity for the public to review the plan. The website will invite public comment via email and/or Google Forms that can be reviewed and considered for revision to the plan.

Describe how the LEA ensured that the plan is in an understandable and uniform format; is to the extent practicable written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, will be orally translated for such a parent; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

This plan will be made available to non-English speaking families, parents, or guardians. It will also be accessible to those needing ADA accommodations. The plan will be reviewed in a podcast for the community. The platform used is YouTube which provides transcripts in languages that may be needed by the community stakeholders.

Briefly describe any guidance, professional learning, and technical assistance opportunities the LEA will make available to its schools. ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

The VTSD will continue to provide professional development learning opportunities for faculty, staff, and administrators.

Provide current link to the district's website where the plan is posted.

www.vtsd.com

By checking this box and saving the page, the applicant hereby certifies that they will assure that the information contained in the Safe Return to School plans will be updated within this system every 6 months during this grant project period.

Assurances Fully Agreed to By:

Charles McKay

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**SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION**

(1) IN GENERAL - A local educational agency receiving funds under this section shall develop and make publicly available on the local educational agency’s website, not later than 30 days after receiving the allocation of funds described in paragraph (d)(1), a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

2) COMMENT PERIOD.—Before making the plan described in paragraph (1) publicly available, the local educational agency shall seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

Support for Schools: Describe how the LEA will support its schools in safely returning to in-person instruction and sustaining safe operation. This description must include:

*For each mitigation strategy listed below, please describe how the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.*

**LEA Response Table**

1) Universal and correct wearing of masks  
([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. VTSD students, staff, and faculty will continue the universal and correct wearing of masks as designated by the Governor, Executive Orders governing schools and/or the CDC and Department of Health.
- b. Should the district have the opportunity to choose whether or not the wearing of masks is necessary, VTSD will not require students, staff, faculty or visitors/volunteers to wear masks.

2) Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)  
([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. VTSD will no longer be using cohorts. All students are invited to school for full day attendance. Pods will no longer be utilized.
- b. Physical distancing of 3 feet will be maintained where practicable.

### 3) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. Signs and reminders, directives from teachers and staff will remain for all students attending schools. Frequent handwashing prevents other colds and the flu. Handwashing and the use of hand sanitizer will be encouraged.
- b. Students, faculty, staff, and visitors/volunteers will be reminded to cough into the elbow. If they are unable to, hands should be washed immediately after covering a cough.

### 4) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. VTSD will maintain regular cleaning protocols established this year however will remove the pandemic response team who frequently wiped down surfaces such as doorknobs, handles, etc. They will continue using Victory sprayers in the evening after students have left in order to kill any viruses left in the rooms.
- b. Windows shall be opened in classrooms (weather permitting) to maximize fresh air flow. Attention will be paid to upgrading ventilation systems to improve air flow for faculty, students, and staff.

### 5) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. Each school will maintain a location for isolation and/or quarantine should the need arise.
- b. Schools will continue their ability to contact trace by utilizing seating charts and other mechanisms developed by teachers and administrators in order to assist the Department of Health in investigating COVID cases.

### 6) Diagnostic and screening testing ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. During the 2020-2021 school year, we provided two opportunities for asymptomatic persons to be tested with a small number of participants. VTSD will not be providing COVID testing during the 2021-2022 school year however we will be utilizing the Binax rapid test kits that were ordered to identify COVID infections more quickly.

### 7) Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. VTSD volunteered to be a host site to distribute vaccinations for Vernon during the 2020-2021 school year. This did not come to fruition. Now that the vaccine is readily available that may not be necessary but VTSD is committed to providing assistance where we can, therefore the district is willing to act as a vaccine site, if needed.

### 8) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies ([count] of 1000 maximum characters used)

- a. All students with disabilities will receive reasonable accommodations or modification as it relates to their individualized education plan. Case managers and special education personnel will continue to work with families to ensure the needs of our students with disabilities are met.