

SAFE RETURN PLAN

I. Maintaining Health and Safety

A. Universal and Correct Wearing of Masks

- (1) The Board promotes behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19 such as encouraging staff and students to stay home when appropriate; encouraging the practice of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette; requiring the use of face coverings; and utilizing signs and messages in and around school buildings.
- (2) The Shore Regional High School District is providing transportation services on a school bus. Face coverings **must be worn** by all students who are able to do so upon entering the bus.
- (3) Accommodations for students who are unable to wear a face covering shall be addressed according to that student's particular need and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- (4) If physical distance (three feet apart) cannot be maintained for individuals in line waiting to enter or exit a building, face coverings are required to be worn while in the line.
- (5) Shore Regional School staff and visitors are required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age.
- (6) Students are required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the student's health. It is also necessary to acknowledge that enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for individuals with disabilities.
 - (a) Accommodation for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according to that student's need and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- (7) Exceptions to requirements for face coverings shall be as follows:

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- (a) Doing so would inhibit the individual's health.
 - (b) The individual is in extreme heat
 - (c) The individual is in water.
 - (d) A student's documented medical condition, or disability as reflected in an IEP, precludes the use of face covering.
- (8) Visitors are required to wear a face covering. Should the visitor refuse to comply for non-medical reasons and if such covering cannot be provided to the individual at the point of entry, the visitor's entry to the school/district facility will be denied.

B. Physical Distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)

- (1) Shore Regional High School will allow for social distancing within the classroom to the maximum extent practicable. This will be achieved by ensuring students are seated at least three feet apart. If a classroom or other "space" within the High School is not able to maintain this physical distance, additional modifications should be considered including using physical barriers between desks, turning desks to face the same direction (rather than facing each other), and/or having students sit on only one side of the table, spaced apart.
- (2) All instructional and non-instructional rooms in the High School and district facilities must comply with social distancing standards to the maximum extent practicable.
- (3) If physical distancing (three feet apart) cannot be maintained for individuals in line waiting to enter the building, face coverings shall be worn while in the line.
- (4) Shore Regional High School will provide physical guides, such as tape on floors or sidewalks and signs on walls, to help ensure that staff and students remain at least three feet apart in lines and at other times (e.g. guides for creating "one-way routes" in hallways).

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- (5) Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. School officials will follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.
- (6) The procedures the District will use when someone tests positive for COVID-19 will include written procedures detailing the district's COVID-19 related response for symptomatic students and staff. The procedures must be consistent with the district's contact tracing procedures
- (7) Methods to assist in contact tracing including records of groups/cohorts, assigned staff, and daily attendance.
- (8) The cafeterias will be used in the school district and the school district will incorporate the following into the Board's Plan, if applicable:
 - (a) Stagger times to allow for social distancing and clean and disinfect between groups.
 - (b) Space students at least three feet apart.
- (9) The Shore Regional Board's Plan regarding physical education should include protocols to address the following:
 - (a) Students will be encouraged to wear comfortable clothing and safe footwear to school that allows for safe movement and is appropriate for the weather in order to participate in physical education.
- (10) The Shore Regional High School District Board's Plan should adhere to all applicable social distancing requirements and hygiene protocols during any extra-curricular activities.

C. Handwashing and Respiratory Etiquette

- (1) The Board promotes behaviors that reduce the spread of COVID-19 such as encouraging staff and students to stay home when appropriate; encouraging the practice of hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette; requiring the use of face

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coverings; and signs and messages in and around school buildings.

- (2) The Shore Regional School District will prepare and maintain hand sanitizing stations with alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol). Such stations should be:
 - (a) In each classroom (for staff and older children who can safely use hand sanitizer).
 - (b) At entrances and exits of buildings.
 - (c) Near lunchrooms and toilets.
 - (d) For classrooms that have existing handwashing stations, stations should be prepared with soap, water, and alcohol-based hand sanitizers (at least 60% alcohol).
- (3) Shore Regional High School officials shall develop a school-wide plan where students are required to wash hands for at least twenty seconds at regular intervals during the school day and always before eating, after using the bathroom, and after blowing their nose, coughing, and/or sneezing.
 - (a) If washing with soap and water is not possible, washing with an alcohol-based hand sanitizer (at least 60% alcohol) should be used.
- (4) The cafeterias will be used in the school district and the school district will incorporate the following into the Board's Plan, if applicable:
 - (a) Require individuals must wash their hands after removing their gloves or after directly handling used food service items.
 - (b) Locker rooms will be monitored to mitigate risk and prohibit students and staff from confined spaces with limited ventilation and/or areas with large amounts of high contact surfaces.

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D. Cleaning and Maintaining Healthy Facilities, Including Improving Ventilation

- (1) Every school bus when possible, either district-owned or contracted, should be cleaned and disinfected before and after each bus route.
- (2) Shore Regional High School officials must continue to adhere to existing required facilities cleaning practices and procedures, and any new specific requirements of the local health department as they arise.
- (3) The Board's Plan and Policy will establish cleaning/disinfecting schedules, targeted areas to be cleaned, and methods and materials to be used including:
 - (a) A schedule for increased routine cleaning and disinfection.
 - (b) Routinely and, at least daily, cleaning and disinfecting surfaces and objects that are frequently touched. This may include cleaning objects/surfaces not ordinarily cleaned daily (e.g. door knobs, light switches, classroom sink handles, countertops).
 - (c) Use of all cleaning products according to the directions on the label. For disinfection, most common EPA-registered household disinfectants should be effective. A list of products that are EPA-approved for use against the virus that causes COVID-19 is available on the EPA's website.
 - (d) Follow the manufacturer's instructions for all cleaning and disinfection products (e.g. concentration, application method, and contact time, etc.). Examples of frequently touched areas in schools are:
 - (i) Classroom desks and chairs;
 - (ii) Lunchroom tables and chairs;

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- (iii) Door handles and push plates;
 - (iv) Handrails;
 - (v) Kitchens and bathrooms;
 - (vi) Light switches;
 - (vii) Handles on equipment (e.g. athletic equipment);
 - (viii) Buttons on vending machines and elevators;
 - (ix) Shared telephones;
 - (x) Shared desktops;
 - (xi) Shared computer keyboards and mice;
 - (xii) Drinking fountains; and
 - (xiii) School bus seats and windows.
- (4) Sanitize bathrooms daily, or between use as much as possible, using protocols outlined by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).
- (5) The cafeterias will be used in the school district and the school district will incorporate the following into the Board's Plan, if applicable:
- (a) Stagger times to allow for social distancing and clean and disinfect between groups.
 - (b) Clean and sanitize tables/surfaces between each meal service, pursuant to the protocols outlined by the EPA.
- (6) The Shore Regional Board's Plan regarding physical education should include protocols to address the following:
- (a) The use of cones, flags, tape, or other signs to create boundaries between groups.

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- (b) Complete an inventory of outdoor spaces (athletic fields, track, green spaces, open spaces) and designate zones, use stations, mark off areas, floor markers, floor tape, poly spots, etc., to ensure separation among students (three feet apart for social distancing).

E. Contact Tracing in Combination with Isolation and Quarantine

- (1) The Shore Regional School District will adopt Board Policy 2048 regarding the screening procedures for students and employees upon arrival at school or work location for symptoms and history of exposure. These screening procedures will include the following:
 - (a) Staff must visually check students for symptoms upon arrival (which may include temperature checks) and/or confirm with families that students are free of COVID-19 symptoms.
 - (b) Health checks must be conducted safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations.
 - (c) Results must be documented when signs/symptoms of COVID-19 are observed.
 - (d) Any screening policy/protocol must take into account students with disabilities and accommodations that may be needed in the screening process for those students.
- (2) The Board must adopt procedures for symptomatic staff and students, which shall include the following:

(Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. School officials will follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.a)

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- (a) If the Shore Regional School District becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a district facility tests positive for COVID-19, officials must immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality.

- (b) The procedures the District will use when someone tests positive for COVID-19 will include written procedures detailing the district's COVID-19 related response for symptomatic students and staff. The procedures must be consistent with the district's contact tracing procedures to the maximum extent practicable. The procedure includes:
 - (i) Establishment of an isolation space. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.

 - (ii) Following current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.

 - (iii) An adequate amount of PPE shall be available, accessible, and provided for use.

 - (iv) Methods to assist in contact tracing including records of groups/cohorts, assigned staff, and daily attendance.

 - (v) Continuous monitoring of symptoms.

 - (vi) Re-admittance policies consistent with Department of Health guidance and information for schools and Department of Health/Communicable Disease Services Quick Reference Guidance on Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19.

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- (vii) Written protocols to address a positive case.
- (3) Shore Regional High School officials will encourage parents to be on alert for signs of the illness in their children and to keep their child home when they are sick.
- (4) Shore Regional School staff and visitors are required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age.
- (5) Students are required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the student's health. It is also necessary to acknowledge that enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for individuals with disabilities.
 - (a) Accommodation for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according to that student's need and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- (6) If a visitor is asked to wear a face covering for any reason and refuses to do so for non-medical reasons and if such covering cannot be provided to the individual at the point of entry, the visitor's entry to the school/district facility will be denied.
- (7) The NJDOE Guidance does not include any "anticipated minimum standards" for contact tracing. However, all school and district administrators, school safety specialists, counselors, and any other staff deemed appropriate by the Superintendent or designee should be provided information regarding the role of contact tracing conducted by State, county, and local officials.
- (8) School officials should engage the expertise of their school nurses on the importance of contact tracing.
- (9) The NJDOE will credit certified School Safety Specialists with three hours of training upon completion of Johns Hopkins University's COVID-19 Contact Tracing course.

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F. Diagnostic and Screening Testing

- (1) The Board's Plan will establish the process and location for student and staff health screenings.
- (2) The Shore Regional School District will adopt Board Policy 2048 regarding the screening procedures for students and employees upon arrival at school or work location for symptoms and history of exposure. These screening procedures will include the following:
 - (a) Staff must visually check students for symptoms upon arrival (which may include temperature checks) and/or confirm with families that students are free of COVID-19 symptoms.
 - (b) Health checks must be conducted safely and respectfully, and in accordance with any applicable privacy laws and regulations.
 - (c) Results must be documented when signs/symptoms of COVID-19 are observed.
 - (d) Any screening policy/protocol must take into account students with disabilities and accommodations that may be needed in the screening process for those students.
- (3) The Board must adopt procedures for symptomatic staff and students, which shall include the following:

(Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. School officials will follow current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.)

- (a) If the Shore Regional School District becomes aware that an individual who has spent time in a district facility tests positive for COVID-19, officials must immediately notify local health officials, staff, and families of a confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality.

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- (b) The procedures the District will use when someone tests positive for COVID-19 will include written procedures detailing the district's COVID-19 related response for symptomatic students and staff. The procedures must be consistent with the district's contact tracing procedures (see "Critical Area of Operation #6 – Contact Tracing") to the maximum extent practicable. The procedure includes:
 - (i) Establishment of an isolation space. Students and staff with symptoms related to COVID-19 must be safely and respectfully isolated from others. Students should remain in isolation with continued supervision and care until picked up by an authorized adult.
 - (ii) Following current Communicable Disease Service guidance for illness reporting.
 - (iii) An adequate amount of PPE shall be available, accessible, and provided for use.
 - (iv) Methods to assist in contact tracing including records of groups/cohorts, assigned staff, and daily attendance.
 - (v) Continuous monitoring of symptoms.
 - (vi) Re-admittance policies consistent with Department of Health guidance and information for schools and Department of Health/Communicable Disease Services Quick Reference Guidance on Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Home Isolation for Persons Diagnosed with COVID-19.
 - (vii) Written protocols to address a positive case.

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- (4) Shore Regional High School officials will encourage parents to be on alert for signs of the illness in their children and to keep their child home when they are sick.
- (5) Shore Regional School staff and visitors are required to wear face coverings unless doing so would inhibit the individual's health or the individual is under two years of age.
- (6) Students are required to wear face coverings and are required to do so at all times and in all situations, unless doing so would inhibit the student's health. It is also necessary to acknowledge that enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for individuals with disabilities.
 - (a) Accommodation for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according to that student's need and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- (7) If a visitor is asked to wear a face covering and refuses to do so for non-medical reasons and if such covering cannot be provided to the individual at the point of entry, the visitor's entry to the school/district facility will be denied.

G. Efforts to Provide Vaccinations to Educators, Other Staff, and Students

- (1) The Shore Regional High School District is committed to ensure easy access to vaccination sites to those persons within the school community. To this end, the District will distribute information regarding vaccine availability and the locations on an on-going basis and updated daily.

H. Appropriate Accommodations for Children With Disabilities

- (1) Reasonable accommodations, as applicable by law, will be provided for individuals that have been medically determined as having a higher risk for severe illness from COVID-19, including older adults (aged 65 years and

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older) and individuals with disabilities or serious underlying medical conditions, which may include:

- (i) Chronic lung disease or asthma (moderate to severe);
 - (ii) Serious heart conditions;
 - (iii) Immunocompromised;
 - (iv) Severe obesity (body mass index, or BMI, of 40 or higher);
 - (v) Diabetes;
 - (vi) Chronic kidney disease undergoing dialysis;
 - (vii) Liver disease;
 - (viii) Medically fragile students with Individualized Education Programs (IEPs);
 - (ix) Students with complex disabilities with IEPs; or
 - (x) Students who require accommodations under a Plan in accordance with the Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (504 Plan).
- (2) The Shore Regional High School District is providing transportation services on a school bus. Face coverings **must be worn** by all students who are able to do so upon entering the bus.
- (3) Accommodations for students who are unable to wear a face covering should be addressed according to that student's particular need and in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations.
- (4) The Shore Regional School District will adopt Board Policy 2048 regarding the screening procedures for students and employees upon arrival at school or work location for

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symptoms and history of exposure. These screening procedures will include the following:

- (5) Any screening policy/protocol must take into account students with disabilities and accommodations that may be needed in the screening process for those students.

(the use of face coverings may be impractical for young children or individuals with disabilities.

- (6) A student's documented medical condition, or disability as reflected in an IEP, precludes the use of face covering.

II. Ensuring Continuity of Services (The minimum number of instructional hours shall be four)

- (1). Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

In addition to taking the steps listed in the Health and Safety Guidelines section to protect students' and educators' physical health, leaders must also consider the impact of social isolation on both educators and students. School officials are not mandated to develop protocols for these elements as these elements are not "anticipated minimum standards" in the NJDOE Guidance. However, the NJDOE recommends school officials consider the following elements while developing the Board's Plan.

While only a small introduction to these elements is included in this Plan, a more detailed explanation and further considerations in the NJDOE Guidance are under the Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports section to reference as the Plan is being developed. School officials may use the supports listed in the NJDOE Guidance.

The elements listed below in A.2.a. through A.2.e. provide an explanation for school officials to indicate if the strategy is:

- Not being utilizing
- Being developed by school officials
- Currently being utilizing

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There is space provided below in A.2.a. through A.2.e. for a brief explanation of the school district's status for each element.

a. Social Emotional Learning (SEL) and School Culture and Climate

SEL will be critical in re-engaging students, supporting adults, rebuilding relationships, and creating a foundation for academic learning.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

b. Multi-Tiered Systems of Support (MTSS)

MTSS is a systematic approach to prevention, intervention, and enrichment in grades Pre-K through twelve for academics and behavior that offers educators and families a mechanism to identify individual students who need extra support.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

c. Wraparound Supports

Wraparound services differ from traditional school-based services in their comprehensive approach to addressing the academic, behavioral, and social-emotional needs of students with interventions both inside and outside of the school environment.

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Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

d. Food Service and Distribution

School meals are critical to student health and well-being, especially for low-income students. The NJDOE considers it a moral imperative to ensure the seamless and continuous feeding of students during all phases of school reopening.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

e. Quality Child Care

Child care will be needed as schools reopen, particularly in instances where modified school schedules may increase the likelihood that families who otherwise would not utilize child care will now require it.

Not Being Utilized

Being Developed by School Officials

Currently Being Utilized

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Academic, Social, and Behavioral Supports

As part of our Pandemic Response Team, a subcommittee has been created specifically to address staff and student wellness, as related to social and emotional support. Shore Regional High School has a structure in place with its Guidance Department and Student Assistance Counselor to support student mental wellness. Guidance counselors and the Student Assistance Counselor will be available for any student for social and emotional support. They will be in contact with families as appropriate and will provide outside services for support.

Professional development will also be made available to staff during the first weeks of school. These opportunities will focus on Social Emotional Learning and student/staff wellness. Shore Regional's physical education and health departments will also be focusing their lessons on student wellness. The departments will create and facilitate lessons on mindfulness, meditation, yoga as well as SEL. Below are more resources made available for staff and students.

1. Faculty/staff:
 - a. [Support, Control, Structure: Educator Self-Care](#)
 - i. [Educator Workbook](#)
 - b. [A Trauma-Informed Approach to Teaching Through COVID](#)
 - c. [De-escalating Strategies for the Online Classroom](#)
 - d. [NJ Hope and Healing Crisis Counseling Services](#)
 - e. [COVID-19 Emergency Response Resource Directory](#)
 - f. [COVID-19 PANDEMIC RESOURCE GUIDE](#)
 - g. [NJ DOH](#) New Jersey Department of Health
 - h. [Coping With Stress During Infectious Disease Outbreaks](#)

2. Students:
 - a. [Ideas to help manage anxiety](#)
 - b. [2nd Floor video/hotline](#)
 - c. [Self care short videos \(variety\)](#)
 - d. [Free online meditation resources](#)
 - e. [Smiling mind \(free app\)](#)
 - f. [Calm \(free resources\)](#)

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- g. [UCLA Mindful](#)
- h. [Short Mindfulness Meditation-Reduce Stress and Anxiety in 6 Minutes](#)
- i. [How to Feel Swell: Resource for Students](#)

3. Summer Institutes and Programs:

The following summer institutes and programs are designed to further support students and ensure continuity of the academic and SEL Programs

- a. AP/IB Summer Enrichment
- b. ELA Prep/Summer Reading Support
- c. Step-Up Math Readiness
- d. Summer School/Credit Recovery
- e. Child Study Team Summer Services
- f. Guidance counselors' summer services

Remote Learning

In the event of a temporary and/or longer school closing, all of our students are provided a device and, if needed, a hotspot to learn remotely. Shore Regional High School is capable of switching from an all-in-person environment to an all-remote or a hybrid environment at any time and with no delay of instruction or services. All services provided to students in-person can be performed virtually as well.

III. Public Comment

A. Public Comment

(1) Re-Establishing the School's Restart Committee

- a. The School Restart Committee (Reopening SRHS Steering Committee), established in the summer of 2020, will re-convene and collaborate on the redevelopment and implementation of the Board's Plan.

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- b. The Reopening SRHS Steering Committee includes school district and school-level administrators, a member of the Board of Education, the President of the local education association, a medical expert, a local health department official, a representative of the local emergency management team, educators, parents, and a student.
 - c. The Reopening SRHS Steering Committee will oversee the work of the School Pandemic Response Teams (Reopening Subcommittees), Local Health Department, and others in municipal and county government as necessary to develop the Shore Regional High School District Plan. The Reopening SRHS Steering Committee and the Reopening Subcommittees will help address policies and procedures for the Board's Plan.
 - d. The Reopening SRHS Steering Committee reflects the diversity of the school community, including those representing students with disabilities, whose families speak languages other than English at home, and who reflect diverse racial, ethnic, and socioeconomic demographics.
 - e. The Reopening SRHS Steering Committee has developed subcommittees to focus on all aspects of student and staff life.
- (2) Pandemic Response Teams
- a. The Reopening School Subcommittees have been established in Shore Regional High School to centralize, expedite, and implement COVID-19 related decision-making.
 - b. Each Subcommittee has a liaison that reports to district-level administrators to ensure coordinated actions across the district.
 - c. Members of the school teams include a cross section of administrators, teachers, staff, and parents.
 - d. Reopening School Subcommittees represent a cross-section of the school and district, including its gender and racial diversity.

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- e. The Subcommittees are comprised of, at a minimum, the following members, if applicable.
 - (1) School Principal or Lead Person;
 - (2) Teachers;
 - (3) Child Study Team member;
 - (4) School Counselor or mental health expert;
 - (5) Subject Area Chairperson/Director;
 - (6) School Nurse;
 - (7) Teachers representing each grade band served by the school district and school;
 - (8) School safety personnel;
 - (9) Members of the School Safety Team;
 - (10) Custodian; and
 - (11) Parents.

- f. The Reopening SRHS Steering Committee is responsible for:
 - (1) Overseeing the school's implementation of the Plan, particularly health and safety measures, and providing safety and crisis leadership.
 - (2) Adjusting or amending school health and safety protocols as needed.
 - (3) Providing staff with needed support and training.
 - (4) Reviewing school level data regarding health and safety measures and the presence of COVID-19 and reporting that data to the district as required.

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- (5) Developing and implementing procedures to foster and maintain safe and supportive school climates as necessitated by the challenges posed by COVID-19.
 - (6) Providing necessary communications to the school community and to the school district.
 - (7) Creating pathways for community, family, and student voices to continuously inform the Team's decision-making.
- g. The Reopening SRHS Steering Committee should meet regularly and provide the community with timely updates and any changes to protocols.

While the Reopening SRHS Steering Committee, the School Restart Committee, and the Pandemic Response Committees will all seek input from constituents, other strategies have been initiated to ensure public input and support for the reopening of school and the Safe Return Plan. The district website seeks input regularly through both passive and direct communication and solicitation of comment. Additionally, the Board agenda contains a specific agenda item designed to provide a means to the public for comments, questions and other communications regarding the Safe Return Plan.

III. Public Comment

B. Accessibility of Public to Comment

The Shore Regional School District will provide the following methods in order to ensure access of the Safe Return Plan to all its constituents: The postings on the District website will be translated to include Spanish and Portuguese native speakers. All communiques relative to the Safe Return Plan will be translated to Spanish and Portuguese as well.