

Elysian

Charter School of Hoboken

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Emergency Preparedness Plan

Updated: 12/16/2022

County – Hudson

District – Elysian Charter School

District Chief School Administrator – Susan Grierson

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Upon written notification from the State of New Jersey, New Jersey Department of Health, Health Department of Hoboken or the City of Hoboken, the **Elysian Charter School** will adopt the following Emergency Preparedness Plan.

Demographic Profile

The plan pertains to all Elysian students:

- K- Grade 8
- low socio -economic
- Special Education classified students including those with 504 plans, and • English Language Learners.

Maintaining Health and Safety

For each mitigation strategy listed below (A–H), 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. (1000 character limit for each section)

A. Universal and correct wearing of masks:

Following the expiration of the New Jersey state mandate requiring school universal masking and updated guidelines received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the New Jersey Department of Health, and after consultation with the Hudson County Health Department, Elysian Charter School will follow an optional masking protocol for School Year 2022 - 2023. Mandatory masking may be re-implemented in periods of elevated community transmission for classes with active outbreaks. Students who return to school during days 6 - 10 of isolation or quarantine will be required to wear a mask or must remain at home for the full 10 days of quarantine. People who have known or suspected exposure to COVID-19 should also wear a well-fitting mask or respirator around others for 10 days from

their last exposure, regardless of vaccination status or history of prior infection. Elysian Charter School will comply with all updated directions and guidelines provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

B. Physical distancing (e.g., including the use of cohorts/podding):

As of the August 11, 2022, CDC Guidelines for Schools, there is no longer a requirement for physical distancing or to cohort students. Students and staff may still keep social distancing to the maximum extent practical in school. Elysian Charter School will comply with all updated directions and guidelines provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

Elysian Charter School Kindergarten classrooms have sinks, soap, and hand sanitizer for frequent hand washing. The remaining classrooms have hand sanitizing stations for use by students and staff. Students will have their own materials, supplies, and resources. If any object or material is shared, the teacher will use the district-provided disinfecting wipes to sanitize it. Elysian Charter School will comply with all updated directions and guidelines provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.

The maintenance staff will complete regular cleaning and disinfection of facilities. Maintenance and staff will clean and disinfect tables between each use. Cleaning and disinfection will be rigorous and ongoing and will occur at least daily. The daily cleaning schedules will be monitored and adjusted as needed. Elysian Charter School has already taken steps to improve ventilation and ensure the health and safety of students and staff. All classroom unit ventilators are functioning properly to ensure that outside air is introduced into the classrooms. Classrooms have air conditioning, which helps improve ventilation. Staff is encouraged to open windows to improve air circulation and our HVAC system has been serviced. Elysian Charter School will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments

Elysian Charter School's administrators and school nurse will report all COVID-19 cases to the Hudson County Health Department and New Jersey Department of Education, as required. For the 2022-2023 school year, the school nurse will only conduct contact tracing when directed by the Hudson County Health Department. Quarantine is no longer required for students, teachers, and staff who might have been exposed to COVID-19. We recommend anyone exposed to COVID-19 wear a well-fitting mask and get tested. The school staff will notify parents of COVID-19 exposure in classes. Anyone who tests positive for COVID-19 must stay home for at least 5 days and isolate from others. Isolation may end after day 5 if the person is fever-free for 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medication) and symptoms improve. If the person still has a fever or other symptoms have not improved, continue to isolate until

they improve. After ending isolation, and feeling better (no fever without the use of fever-reducing medications and symptoms improving), the person must wear a well-fitting mask through day 10. Elysian Charter School will comply as reasonably practicable with additional directions and guidelines for contact tracing provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing

Before arrival each day, staff and students will self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms, exposure, and travel. Parents should keep students home if they exhibit any COVID-19 symptoms. Further, parents should report any changes in their child's COVID-19 symptoms and exposure status to the school nurse. There is no requirement to complete a daily screening form. Anyone with a temperature or COVID-19 symptoms during the school day will be directed to the school nurse's office. The nurse will examine the individual. A student exhibiting symptoms of COVID-19 may be required to submit to a COVID-19 test. Elysian Charter School will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for diagnostic and screening testing provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible. Staying up to date with COVID-19 vaccinations is the leading public health strategy to prevent severe disease. Not only does it provide individual-level protection, but high vaccination coverage reduces the burden of COVID-19 on people, schools, healthcare systems, communities, and individuals who are not vaccinated or may not develop a strong immune response from the vaccines. Elysian Charter School encourages all eligible to receive the vaccination to do so. We will communicate the information to eligible groups if additional vaccination opportunities become available for educators, staff, and students. Elysian Charter School will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for vaccinations provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year. Elysian Charter School also provides an annual flu clinic to all staff members.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies Students with disabilities will have all appropriate accommodations addressed based on the needs identified in their IEPs, which will support their health and safety. This will include consultation with teachers, Child Study Team, and related service providers to ensure that all precautions are in place and any necessary supplies or resources to accommodate their needs. Elysian Charter School will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities concerning health and safety policies provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

HIB & Mental Health Services

- Resources have been provided to all students and parents to assist with coping strategies during this time, as well as referral information to community service providers.
- We continue to provide opportunities for team building activities.
- The school social worker will be available to provide counseling services to students who

are struggling with stress, anxiety or other mental health concerns.

Students with Special Needs

- All students receive their accommodations and services as per their IEP and 504 plan.

Communication

The school and staff have and will continue to:

- Communicate with families weekly with updates around preventative measures and expectations around family communication around travel and possible exposure..
- The School Nurse monitors daily attendance and absences. Phone calls home to any absent student are made daily.
- The School Nurse communicated with faculty, staff, families and students on a regular basis around preventative measures faculty/staff, students and families should take. • CDC links and other important information are shared and updated.
 - Families are provided with schoolwide blast daily with resources for families.

Preventative Measures

- The custodial staff and teachers are following protocol to disinfect surfaces such as door knobs, computers, phones, desks, faucet handles, etc. multiple times daily. • Students are being reminded to wash their hands before and after eating snack and lunch daily.
- During the time the school is closed, the cleaning company will do a deep clean of the entire premises.
 - Websites with pertinent preventative information have been shared with families. • The School Nurse met with all K-8 classes and communicated with all K-8 families and faculty/staff to review CDC and DOH recommended precautionary measures. • Children and staff should stay home when sick. Children must be fever and symptom free for 24 hours without the use of fever reducers before returning to school.

CDC Guidelines/Websites/COVID-19 hotline shared with staff/families.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water is not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer. Please note- hand sanitizers are not as effective as washing your hands with soap and water.
 - Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.
 - Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
 - Cover your cough or sneeze with an elbow. When a tissue is used, throw the tissue in the trash and wash your hands.
 - Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.
 - Visit your healthcare professional if you are feeling ill and advise them of the symptoms so they can take necessary precautions.
 - Get vaccinated every year. (It is not too late to get this season's flu shot.) • School events and field trips that involve engagement with people outside our typical school community are being reviewed on a case-by-case basis and we are not approving new trips at this point.

- Faculty/staff have been advised to stay home from work when sick.