

# CLOSTER BOARD OF EDUCATION

## *Closter, New Jersey*

### MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING

*Tenakill Middle School*

*July 14, 2022 - 7:30 PM*

The Board meeting was called to order by Ms. Finkelstein at 7:31 PM

The following Board members were present:

Ms. Kwon, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

The following Board members were absent:

Ms. Fanelli and Ms. Kothari

Also present:

Mr. McHale and Mr. Villanueva

#### NEW JERSEY OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT STATEMENT - Read by the President:

The New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act was enacted to ensure the right of the public to have advance notice of and to attend the meeting of public bodies at which any business affecting their interests is discussed or acted upon. In accordance with the provisions of this Act, the Secretary to the Board of Education has caused notice of this meeting by having the date, time, remote access information, and place thereof, posted at each school building within the district, district website, the Board of Education office, the Office of the Borough Clerk, and transmitted to *The Record* and *Northern Valley Suburbanite* newspapers.

#### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

*Mr. Vincent McHale, Superintendent of Schools shared with the Board and the community his report:*

- *Learning continues in the summer here in Closter Public Schools! Some of our teachers attended professional development in-district during the last week of June. The sessions focused on best practices in delivering ELA and math instruction. He sat in on some of the sessions and the teachers who attended shared positive feedback with me. There will be additional professional development on the same topics at the end of July.*
- *Our student summer programs started on July 5th! Students attending the programs are reading, writing, reviewing math skills, and making art each day. For all students, please be reminded that summer reading and math activities are posted on the Hillside School website and on Schoology for Tenakill students. These activities will help students keep their academic skills sharp over the summer.*
- *The NJDOE requires us to update the Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service. The NJDOH issued on July 6, 2022, updated COVID-19 public health recommendations for K-12 schools. The recommendation is that schools should continue the COVID-19 prevention strategies "while supporting and prioritizing uninterrupted, full-time,*

*in-person learning and care.” The primary prevention strategies are:*

- Encouraging students and staff to stay up to date with vaccinations.*
- Encouraging parents and staff to report positive test results, illness, and household exposures to the school nurse.*
- Enforce isolation and exclusion for school for those who are symptomatic or have tested positive for COVID-19.*
- Supporting mask use by students and staff who choose to mask (masking remains optional).*
- Implement control measures recommended by the Mid-Bergen Health Department in response to clusters of cases in classrooms and confirmed outbreaks (could be mandatory masking for specific classrooms).*
- Comply with the vaccination and testing requirements for staff required by Executive Orders 253 and 264.*
- Continue to report outbreaks and suspected outbreaks to the Mid-Bergen Health Department.*
- Large outbreaks or important circulating variants may necessitate more stringent disease control strategies. The July 5th guidance states that schools may transition away from the case investigation response model to a routine disease control model, which will not require contact tracing in the 2022-2023 school year. The updated Closter Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service is posted on the district website.*
- Mr. McHale is committed to keeping everyone safe in school, and he is excited that our reopening in September 2022 will be a step closer to what school was like prior to the start of the pandemic in March 2020.*
- As summer continues, he encourages students to read, practice math facts, and read some more!*
- Enjoy the warm days.*

*Mr. McHale reported the updated Closter Plan for a Safe Return, which is posted on the school website.*

*Dr. Puttannah requested clarification regarding notification of possible Covid-19 exposure since there will no longer be contact tracing. Mr. McHale explained that the previous recommendations regarding contact tracing are no longer recommended. If a child or staff member tests positive the families will be notified advising them that someone in their child’s class has tested positive and to please monitor for symptoms. If a parent chooses to keep their child home due to the exposure it would be acceptable as well.*

*Ms. Finkelstein stated if a student or staff member is not fully vaccinated they would need to quarantine.*

*Ms. Yeoh asked if a child was exposed in a classroom would they be able to have classes virtually. Mr. McHale stated they would.*

*Ms. Yeoh also inquired about social distancing – will the 7th and 8th graders have lockers this year? Mr. McHale responded that all students in the Middle School will have lockers this upcoming school year.*

*Ms. Cross asked for further clarification if a student is exposed and not vaccinated will they need to quarantine? Mr. McHale confirmed they would need to. He further stated that the School Nurses would*

be asking for vaccination information of all students. This will alert them if the unvaccinated student is in a class with exposure and they can advise the parents that their child will need to quarantine.

### BOARD COMMITTEES

No Committees have met, however, Mr. McHale wanted to give everyone a quick update regarding the open positions due to retirement, resignations, and maternity leaves. As of now, the district has filled 20 of the 21 positions for the upcoming school year. He thanked the Administrative Team and Teachers who participated in the hiring process.

Ms. Finkelstein thanked everyone for their work with the hiring of the new personnel.

### PUBLIC DISCUSSION ON AGENDA ITEMS

Moved by Ms. Micera - , seconded by Ms. Cross - to open the meeting to the public.

Statements made by individual participants are limited to a duration of three (3) minutes unless otherwise announced at the beginning of the discussion. A maximum of 15 minutes for public input is scheduled as per bylaw 0167. The Board urges large groups to select one person to represent them. The Board reminds those individuals who take the opportunity to speak to please step up, identify themselves by name and address, and to limit their comments to items listed on the agenda.

### **No Public Comments**

Moved by Ms. Micera - , seconded by Ms. Yeoh - to resume the regular order of business.

### BOARD OPERATIONS

Moved by Ms. Yeoh - , seconded by Ms. Micera - to approve Motions A - E.

Ms. Kwon asked for clarification on item E. Mr. McHale stated that the current self contained class at Hillside Elementary school will have some of the same students as last year; however, the class focus is changing to provide students with different supports due to student classifications. The class is changing to address students' emotional and behavioral needs. In order for this change to occur, Board approval is needed and submitted to the Department of Education for final approval.

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Kwon, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

#### A. **APPROVAL - Minutes**

Motion to approve June 20, 2022, minutes.

- B. **APPROVAL - Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB)**  
 Motion to affirm the decision of the Superintendent of Schools regarding Harassment, Intimidation, and Bullying (HIB) incidents #HES-2122-05, HES-2122-06, HES-2122-07, HES-2122-08, HES-2122-09 and HES-2122-10 as reported to the Board in Executive Session at the June 20, 2022, Meeting.
- C. **APPROVAL - Safe Return Plan Update for First Half of 2022-2023 School Year**  
 Motion to approve the Safe Return Plan Update for the first half of 2022-2023 school year, Attached hereto as Appendix A.
- D. **APPROVAL - Before and After School Enrichment Programs Contract**  
 Motion to approve the contract between the Closter Board of Education and KCE Champions LLC to provide Before and After School Enrichment Programs. The agreement includes a facility rental fee of \$1,000 per month.
- E. **APPROVAL - New Special Education Program**  
 Motion to approve the addition of an Emotional Regulation Impairment class for SY 2022 - 2023.

**CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson: Dr. Puttannah; Members: Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh*

Moved by Dr. Puttannah , seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A & B.

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Kwon, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - Staff Coursework**

Motion to approve the following courses for 2022-2023 as recommended to the Superintendent by the Principals:

Staff Member:	Elizabeth Klink
Course Nos./Titles:	1) EDUC 711H Teaching Gifted & Talented Students 2) EDUC 7130 Building Classroom Discipline
Institution:	University of LaVerne
Credits:	6 (3 credits each)

Staff Member:	Jamie Morgan
Course Nos./Titles:	1) EDUC 711C Effective Character Education 2) EDUC 717E Creating a Google Apps Classroom
Institution:	University of LaVerne
Credits:	6 (3 credits each)

**B. APPROVAL - Staff Conferences**

Motion to approve the following staff conferences:

Staff Member(s): Soojung Kwak, Sarah Kang and Kathy Lee  
Conference: WIDA Annual Conference 2022 - Advancing Learning Together  
Location: Virtual  
Date: 9/28 - 9/30/22  
Cost to Board: \$885.00 (Paid for by Title III Grant)

Staff Member(s): Catherine Ianni and Ellen Monaghan  
Conference: Conquer Mathematics Workshop  
Location: Pompton Plains, NJ  
Date: 9/22/22, 12/6/22, 1/12/23, 2/13/23, 3/10/23  
Cost to Board: \$1,746.08 Total (\$873.04 each)

Staff Member(s): Laurie Rochlin  
Conference: NJALC Fall Symposium  
Location: Virtual  
Date: 10/20/22 (evening) and 10/21/22 (full day)  
Cost to Board: \$125.00

**FINANCE AND PHYSICAL PLANT COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson: Ms. Kwon; Members: Ms. Finkelstein, Ms. Kothari, Ms. Yeoh*

Moved by Ms. Kwon , seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A - L.

*Ms. Wagner inquired if item L had any changes from previous years or were they the same. Mr. McHale stated that these programs were already in use and was a renewal of those contracts.*

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Kwon, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttanniah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

**A. APPROVAL - Monthly Bills**

Motion to approve payment of bills from June 20, 2022, to June 30, 2022, in the amount of:

General Fund (Fund 10)	\$555,249.42
Special Revenue (Fund 20)	\$ 33,590.73
Total	\$588,840.15

B. **APPROVAL - Staff Remuneration**

Motion to approve remuneration to staff members as follows:

Staff Member: Jamie Morgan  
Course: 1) I'm So Stressed; 2) Understanding Autism; 3) Bullying  
College/University: University of LaVerne  
Remuneration: \$1,000.00

C. **APPROVAL – Tuition Contracts for Received Students**

Motion to approve tuition contracts for received students as outlined below for the 2022-2023 school year:

<b><u>NJSMART#</u></b>	<b><u>Tuition</u></b>	<b><u>Grade</u></b>	<b><u>District</u></b>
2515472486	\$25,375 (LLD)	Gr 8	Harrington Park
2941066759	\$25,375 (LLD)	Gr 7	Old Tappan
2139435137	\$25,375 (LLD)	Gr 7	Alpine
9480082869	\$25,375 (LLD)	Gr 2	Old Tappan
3884145442	\$31,952 (PSD)	PrK	Haworth
1291401099	\$25,375 (LLD)	Gr 6	Harrington Park
8943632107	\$31,952 (PSD)	PrK	Northvale
9808079630	\$ 1,853 (ESY only)	K	Northvale

D. **APPROVAL – Special Education Placements**

Motion to approve the following 2022-2023 Special Education placements for Closter Students:

<b><u>NJSMART#</u></b>	<b><u>Tuition</u></b>	<b><u>Grade</u></b>	<b><u>Placement</u></b>
8583886300	\$84,600.00	GR4	BCSS-HIP UNION
2377584260	\$13,200.00	TOD GR6	BCSS-TOD
4491998149	\$13,200.00	TOD GR7	BCSS-TOD
4780672334	\$13,200.00	TOD GR1	BCSS-TOD
4621240704	\$68,505.00	GR1	BCSS-Brownstone
9597653741	\$94,966.00	GR3	CTC-Fairlawn
1595602128	\$94,966.00	GR3	CTC-Fairlawn
2515429166	\$78,170.00	GR6	Park Academy
8949793385	\$36,728.00	GR6	The Craig School
9766852016	\$68,723.82	GR4	Newmark School
6046457095	\$68,723.82	GR2	Newmark School
7827469181	\$52,005.00	GR7	NVRHS-TIP
8420806703	\$52,005.00	GR6	NVRHS-TIP
6176799742	\$48,291.99	GR8	NVRHS-TIP
8310099361	\$85,831.00	GR3	NVRHS
5323815997	\$85,831.00	GR5	NVRHS
4700189801	\$135,196.00	GR1	NVRHS

3657640030	\$85,831.00	GR4	NVRHS
1483137465	\$85,831.00	GRK	NVRHS
6753977047	\$85,831.00	GR3	NVRHS
1543457212	\$85,831.00	GR1	NVRHS
5400823973	\$85,831.00	PreK	NVRHS
8322109236	\$85,831.00	GR8	NVRHS
1653301736	\$85,831.00	GR 6	NVRHS
2948044104	\$85,831.00	PreK	NVRHS
8860616163	\$88,000.00	GR8	Cresskill
4452885313	\$88,000.00	GR6	Cresskill
9397735904	\$ 1,675.00	GR2	REG III-ESY only
2710068403	\$ 1,675.00	GR3	REG III-ESY only
7463243843	\$ 1,675.00	GR1	REG III-ESY only
9206382581	\$ 1,675.00	GR8	REG III-ESY only
2658126120	\$ 1,675.00	GR3	REG III-ESY only
22887020694	\$ 1,675.00	GR1	REG III-ESY only
4622705497	\$ 1,675.00	GR3	REG III-ESY only
9901292105	\$ 1,675.00	GR3	REG III-ESY only
3380272583	\$ 4,727.73	K	VALLEY-ESY only

E. **APPROVAL - Purchase and Installation of 3M Security Film**

Motion to retroactively approve the contract with Window Film Depot, the lowest and most responsive quote for the purchase and installation of 3M security film on windows in Hillside Elementary School. The contract amount is up to \$29,393.35.

F. **APPROVAL - Shared Services for Speech Therapist**

Motion to approve the shared services agreement with Demarest Public Schools for a Speech Therapist in the amount of \$27,553.62, two days per week for SY 2022-2023.

G. **APPROVAL - Update and Painting of Hillside School Front Area**

Motion to approve the contract with CertaPro Painters the lowest and most responsive quote for the update and painting of the front area in Hillside Elementary School. The contract amount is \$14,930.76, and is funded using Capital Reserve as included in the SY 22-23 budget.

H. **APPROVAL - Various Repairs in Hillside and Tenakill Parking Lots & Curbs**

Motion to approve the contract with D&L Paving Contractors Incorporated, the lowest and most responsive quote for various repairs in Hillside Elementary School and Tenakill Middle School parking lots and curbs. The contract amount is \$40,450.00, and is funded using Capital Reserve as included in the SY 22-23 budget.

I. **APPROVAL - Use of Facilities Fees**

Motion to establish the fees for the Use of Facilities for the 2022-2023 school year:

- \$100.00 per room/day
- \$55.00 per hour for custodians (\$73.00 per hour on Sunday or Holidays)

J. **APPROVAL - Substitute Rates**

Motion to approve the substitute rates as follows:

- Substitute Custodian: \$19 per hour
- Substitute Nurse: \$225 per day
- Substitute Teacher: \$105 per day
- Substitute Paraprofessional: \$105 per day

K. **APPROVAL - Disposal of Smartboard**

Motion to approve the disposal of an obsolete Smartboard from Tenakill Middle School, tag #10248.

L. **APPROVAL - Instructional Resources**

Motion to approve the purchase of the following proprietary instructional programs and web-based services:

- Big Ideas - \$11,476.58
- Geometry Virtual High School - \$8,100.00
- Powerschool (Schoology) - \$7,457.10
- IXL - \$17,670.00
- Actively Learn - \$14,925.00

**PERSONNEL AND MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

*Chairperson: Ms. Cross; Members: Ms. Fanelli, Ms. Finkelstein*

Moved by Ms. Cross , seconded by Ms. Micera to approve Motions A - N.

*Mr. McHale advised the Board that there were six (6) new personnel recommended for approval for the 22-23 school year. He also mentioned the resignations of Ms. Sara Kim, Social Worker, and Mr. Joseph Bonasorte, Tenakill Paraprofessional (items M and N). Mr. McHale wished them well and thanked them for their service.*

Motions were approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Kwon, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

A. **APPROVAL - FMLA / NJFLA - Margaret Johnston**

Motion to approve Margaret Johnston for a leave of absence from October 28, 2022, through March 17, 2023, (anticipated return date is March 20, 2023) as follows:

- Paid sick leave from October 28, 2022, through November 18, 2022;
- Personal leave from November 21, 2022, through November 23, 2022;
- An FMLA and NJFLA child bonding leave from November 25, 2022, through February 15, 2023; and
- A discretionary child bonding leave from February 16, 2023, through March 17, 2023, with an anticipated return to work on March 20, 2023.



B. **APPROVAL - FMLA / NJFLA - Soojung Kwak**

Motion to approve Soojung Kwak for a leave of absence from November 14, 2022, through February 7, 2023, (anticipated return date is February 8, 2023) as follows:

- Paid sick leave from November 14, 2022, through November 15, 2022; and
- An FMLA and NJFLA child bonding leave from November 16, 2022, through February 7, 2023, with an anticipated return to work on February 8, 2023.

C. **APPROVAL - FMLA / NJFLA - Jamie Morgan**

Motion to approve Jamie Morgan for a leave of absence from October 3, 2022, through May 31, 2023, (anticipated return date is June 1, 2023) as follows:

- Paid sick leave from October 3, 2022, through October 28, 2022;
- An FMLA and NJFLA child bonding leave from October 31, 2022, through January 23, 2023; and
- A discretionary child bonding leave pursuant to Board Policy 3435 (contingent upon Board approval) from January 24, 2023, through May 31, 2023, with an anticipated return to work on June 1, 2023.

D. **APPROVAL – Summer Custodial Assistants**

Motion to approve, upon recommendation of the Business Administrator the employment of the following 2022 Summer Custodial Assistants; not to exceed 7.5 hrs/day, effective July 15, 2022, through August 26, 2022:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Hr/rate</u>
Mayuli Copeland	2	\$19.00
Nicholas Rodriguez	1	\$14.00

E. **APPROVAL – Professional Learning Community Summer Program Staff**

Motion to approve, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the following teachers for the Professional Learning Community for the Summer of 2022 (funded by American Rescue Plan - Accelerated Learning Coach and Educator Support Grant) up to 50 hours per teacher at \$50.00/hour:

- Kate Weisenseel
- Lauren Mandal
- Chelsea Smith
- Jamie Morgan
- Michelle Durocher
- Sylvia Jost
- Alison Wong
- Bianca DiQuattro

F. **APPROVAL - 2022-2023 Substitute Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Nurses & Custodians**

Motion to approve Substitutes for the 2022-2023 school year as per Appendix B attached.

- G. **APPROVAL - Michelle Durocher as Special Education Replacement Teacher for the 2022-2023 School Year**  
Motion to approve Michelle Durocher as tenure track Middle School Special Education Replacement Teacher, Grades K-6, for the 2022-2023 school year at a salary of \$63,639, MA Step 2, starting September 1, 2022, pending a criminal history background check.
- H. **APPROVAL - Bianca DiQuattro as Special Education Teacher for the 2022-2023 School Year**  
Motion to approve Bianca DiQuattro as tenure track Elementary School Special Education Teacher, for the 2022-2023 school year at a salary of \$73,522, MA +15 Step 5, starting September 1, 2022, pending a criminal history background check.
- I. **APPROVAL - Elizabeth Apollo as Behaviorist for the 2022-2023 School Year**  
Motion to approve Elizabeth Apollo as tenure track Behaviorist, for the 2022-2023 school year at a salary of \$83,527, MA Step 11, starting September 1, 2022, pending a criminal history background check.
- J. **APPROVAL - Alison Wong as Pre-school with Disability Teacher for the 2022-2023 School Year**  
Motion to approve Alison Wong as tenure track Pre-school with Disability teacher, for the 2022-2023 school year at a salary of \$63,639, MA Step 2, starting September 1, 2022, pending a criminal history background check.
- K. **APPROVAL - Leeann Cameron as District Social Worker for the 2022-2023 School Year**  
Motion to approve Leeann Cameron as tenure track District Social Worker, for the 2022-2023 school year at a salary of \$68,139, MA Step 4, starting September 1, 2022, pending a criminal history background check.
- L. **APPROVAL - Julianna Kadian - Long-Term Leave Replacement - PLUS Program**  
Motion to approve Julianna Kadian as Long-Term Leave Replacement for the Hillside School PLUS Program from September 1, 2022, through June 30, 2023. Salary will be \$200 per day on days 1 through 10; at the beginning of day 11, MA Step 0, \$60,839, prorated.
- M. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Sara Kim, Social Worker**  
Motion to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Sara Kim, Social Worker, effective August 19, 2022.
- N. **APPROVAL - Resignation of Joseph Bonasorte, Paraprofessional**  
Motion to accept, with regrets, the resignation of Joseph Bonasorte, Paraprofessional, effective July 5, 2022.

## OLD/NEW BUSINESS

- *Mr. Villanueva reminded the trustees to complete their mandatory training and if they are attending the New Jersey School Board Conference, to please let him know which dates they are attending so he can reserve the hotel accommodations.*
- *Mr. McHale also reminded everyone it is time for the Board and the Superintendent to set goals for the new school year. He will be sending everyone information on the process and inviting them to think about targeted areas they would see as goals for the district.*

## PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Moved by Ms. Micera ▾ , seconded by Ms. Cross ▾ to open the meeting to public discussion.

*Mr. Villanueva read a statement from Ms. Witko. Ms. Witko asked the Board when preparing the calendar for the 2023 - 2024 school year to take into consideration the Labor Day holiday.*

*Mr. McHale commented that he received a telephone call from Mr. Oettinger regarding the town fireworks which occur on the evening of Labor Day. Mr. Oettinger expressed his concern that this would be a late night for parents and students since the fireworks start in the late evening. Mr. McHale advised him that when working on the school calendar, there are many factors in determining the start date. When the time comes to prepare next year's calendar, they will take this into consideration.*

Moved by Ms. Micera ▾ , seconded by Ms. Cross ▾ to close the meeting to public discussion.

**CLOSED SESSION MOTION (If required)**

Moved by Ms. Wagner ▾ , seconded by Dr. Puttannah ▾ to approve the following Closed Session Motion.

Motion was approved by a roll call vote of the Board as follows:

YEAS: Ms. Kwon, Ms. Micera, Dr. Puttannah, Ms. Wagner, Ms. Yeoh, Ms. Cross, Ms. Finkelstein

NAYS: None

BE IT RESOLVED that the Closter Board of Education will adjourn to a Closed Session to discuss the following:

***Student-Legal Matters  
HIB***

The matters so discussed will be disclosed to the public as soon as and to the extent that such disclosure can be made without adversely affecting the public.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:10 PM.

The Board reconvened from Closed Session at 9:20 PM.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Ms. Cross ▾ seconded by Dr. Puttannah ▾ to adjourn the meeting at 9:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Florio M. Villanueva, Jr.  
Business Administrator/Board Secretary



**LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service  
Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, Section 2001(i)**

**LEA Name: CLOSTER SCHOOL DISTRICT**

**Date: 6/9/21**

**Date Revised: (11/18/2021; 02/15/22. 3/2/22; 7/14/22)**

### **1. 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 Mid-Bergen Health Department, Closter Public Schools 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.

Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines that will be 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 use of cohorts/podding)**

Students and staff will follow social distancing within the school, to the maximum extent practical.

Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines that will be 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**

Hillside Elementary School classrooms all have sinks, soap, and hand sanitizer for frequent hand washing. The middle school classrooms have hand sanitizing stations for use by students and staff. Students will have their own materials, supplies, and resources. In the event that any object or material is shared, the teacher will use the district-provided disinfecting wipes to sanitize it.

Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines that will be 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.**

Regular cleaning and disinfection of facilities will be completed by the maintenance and custodial staff, including frequent cleaning and disinfection for high-risk and frequently touched surfaces. Custodians will clean and disinfect lunch tables between each individual 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.

The district has already taken the steps to improve ventilation and ensure the health and safety of students and staff. All classroom unit ventilators are functioning properly to make sure that outside air is introduced into the classrooms. Classrooms have air conditioning, which helps improve ventilation.

Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities that will be 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

The Board of Education policy 5141.2 directs that the contact tracing will be conducted by the health department. The Closter Public Schools' administrators and school nurses will report all COVID-19 cases to the Mid-Bergen Health Department and New Jersey Department of Education, as required. For the 2022-2023 school year, the school nurses will only conduct contact tracing when directed by the Mid-Bergen Health Department.

Quarantine may be required for students, teachers, and staff who might have been exposed to COVID-19. Close contacts should quarantine, unless they are fully vaccinated, or have tested positive in the last 3 months, and do not have any symptoms. Students, teachers, and staff who are in quarantine should stay home and follow the direction of the local public health department about when it is safe for them to be around others. If a child with a disability is required to quarantine, the school is required to provide services consistent with federal disability laws. Quarantine shall not be required solely due to travel outside of the State of New Jersey.

Closter Public Schools will comply as reasonably practicable with additional directions and guidelines for contact tracing that will be 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

Prior to 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.

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.

Closter Public Schools has partnered with FAST MED and Bio Reference Labs to provide free weekly COVID-19 testing for all staff, students, parents, and community members. The testing takes place on Tuesdays, from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Hillside Elementary School upper parking lot.

Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for diagnostic and screening testing that will be 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. Closter Public Schools encourages all who are eligible to receive the vaccination to do so.

Closter Public Schools coordinated with the Bergen County Executive's office and Englewood Health to provide vaccinations to educators and staff during the 2020-2021 school year. If additional vaccination opportunities become available for educators, staff, and students, we will communicate the information to the eligible groups.



Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for providing vaccinations that will be provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

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 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, as well as any necessary supplies or resources to accommodate their needs.

Closter Public Schools will comply with all updated directions and guidelines for appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies that will be provided by the New Jersey Department of Education and the New Jersey Department of Health for the 2022-2023 school year.

## **2. Ensuring Continuity of Services**

A. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services. (1000 character limit).

For the 2022-2023 school year, Closter Public Schools will provide a full continuum of in-person services. We will follow the curriculum developed by the Northern Valley Curriculum Consortium. Students will be assessed at the start of the year, using Aimsweb (K-2) and Linkit (3-8) assessments to determine their academic levels. Teachers will use assessment data to address the needs of all students through differentiated assignments, materials, instruction, and assessments. School counselors will continue providing social-emotional-mental health support for students through the ICARE program, advisory program, and counseling services. ESSER Funds were used for an additional school counselor at Tenakill Middle School. The Intervention and Referral Services teams will utilize a collection of data and information to identify, screen, collaborate and implement

interventions to promote student success. Our district does not provide food service, but we will work with the Closter PTO to coordinate lunch ordering services for all students.

### **3. Public Comment**

A. Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comments into account in the development of its plan. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 60-day revision to the plan. (1000 character limit)

The School Reopening Committee, which includes administrators, teachers, staff, Board of Education members and parents, met on June 9, 2021, to provide comments on the plan. The Superintendent presented the plan to the Board of Education and community at the June 14, 2021, Board of Education meeting, which was advertised as required. The plan was posted to the Closter Public Schools website, with translations in Hebrew, Korean, and Spanish.

The Superintendent presented the July 2022 revision to the Board of Education and the community at the July 14, 2022, Board of Education meeting.

B. 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. (1000 character limit).

The plan will be posted on the Closter Public Schools' website in English, Hebrew, Korean, and Spanish. Individuals with disabilities can use assistive technology on their devices to access the plan on our website.

### Substitute Teachers

<u>Name</u>	<u>Certification</u>
Ajram, Sandrine	NJ Substitute Certification
Angresano, William	NJ Substitute Certification
Chakamian, Ani	NJ Substitute Certification
Corcoran, Corrine	NJ Substitute Certification
Finan, Lauren	NJ Substitute Certification
Frost, Angela	Teacher Cert K-8
Greco, Veronica	NJ Substitute Certification
Guerino, Sarah	NJ Substitute Certification
Kalachian, Houri	Teacher Cert K-5
Kessler, Lauren	Teacher Cert K-3
Kim, Jiyeon	NJ Substitute Certification
Lagomarsino, Maria	NJ Substitute Certification
Latner, Alissa	Teacher Cert Elementary
Lee, Jennie	NJ Substitute Certification
Lee, Songhee	Teacher Cert PK - 3
Mattes, Claudia	NJ Substitute Certification
Mody, Nina	NJ Substitute Certification
Noviello, Frank	NJ Substitute Certification
Paspalas, Christina	NJ Substitute Certification
Perez, Jaime	NJ Substitute Certification
Schoeppler, Sylvia	NJ Substitute Certification
Stokes-Caglar, Krista	NJ Substitute Certification
Stone, Howard	NJ Substitute Certification
Ureten, Hande	NJ Substitute Certification
Wellenkamp-Keller, Kathleen	Teacher Cert Elementary

### Substitute Paraprofessional

<u>Name</u>
Cooper, Lauren
Mangano, Virginia
Michelis, Penelope
Podest, Mary-Pat

### Substitute Nurse

<u>Name</u>
Farrell, Barbara
Skific, Melisa

### Substitute Custodians

<u>Name</u>
Amaya, Nelson
Angresano, William
Carbajal, Cirillo
Emmett, James
Copeland, Mayuli

### Paraprofessionals with Substitute Certification (to be used as needed)

<u>Name</u>
Agramonte, Julissa
Chow, Catherine
Dhorajia, Naynaben
Duffy, Bridget
Eller, Judy
Finan, Karen
Molina, Loretta
Saad, Farha
Sun, Changhui