



**Department of Health**

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Providence, RI 02908-5097

TTY: 711  
[www.health.ri.gov](http://www.health.ri.gov)

August 30, 2021

Hello : TAPA: Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts

Thank you for resubmitting your LEA Planning Template: Back to School Plan based on the feedback from the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH).

The RIDOH K12 COVID-19 Unit reviewed your plan and confirmed it fully aligns with the published state Health and Safety Guidance as of August 2021. Please consider this letter certification that you are in line with all COVID-19 mitigation recommendations from RIDOH.

If at any point you revise your plan, please resubmit please resubmit **HERE** and notify the RIDOH K12 Inbox of the change. The RIDOH K12 Unit will review and reassess you plan at that time.

Regards,

K-12 Leadership Team

Rhode Island Department of Health COVID-19 Unit



State of Rhode Island

Respondent



111

Anonymous



19:59  
Time to complete



## Information

As part of the LEA Back-to-School Plan Health & Safety component, policies and procedures related to COVID-19 Mitigation Strategies should be submitted via this electronic survey form by or before August 13, 2021 for review and feedback from the Rhode Island Department of Health (RIDOH), as applicable.

Submissions will be accepted through August 13th and early submission is encouraged. To preview the survey and plan your responses, please see Attachment A in your Back-to-School planning template.

Please share your name and the district you are answering on behalf of, so RIDOH can return the results of your survey to you. You will publish the responses along with your completed LEA Template.

If you have any questions or require further information about the COVID-19 mitigation guidance, call 401-222-8022.

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First and Last Name \*

Elizabeth A. Richards-Hegnauer

2

District \*

TAPA: Trinity Academy for the Performing Arts

## Masking

3

Will you have a universal masking policy? \*

- Yes – all students and staff required to wear
- Yes – universal policy that students and staff not required, but recommended
- No – no universal policy

## Symptom Screening

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What kind of symptom screening will your school conduct for students, teachers and staff? \*

- Virtual Screening
- "Stay at home when sick" policy
- Daily home screening
- Other

5

If "Other" or "None", please explain.

6

How will you implement and effectively monitor symptom screening? \*

Students will be monitored at home by parents, and daily every morning in Advisory.

### Physical Distancing

Per RIDOH Back to School Guidance, the recommended physical distancing by vaccination status is:

- 1. Eligible Age Group (7th grade - High School): Not Required
- 2. Ineligible Age Group (Elementary – 6th grade) without Stable Groups: Recommend at least 3 feet, especially while students are dining without a mask indoors.
- 3. Stable Groups: Not required; Recommend at least 3 feet between stable groups for indoor activities in shared spaces.

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What level of physical distancing will you implement indoors for:

\*If at 3 feet, select '3 up to 6 feet" \*

	0 up to 3 feet	3 up to 6 feet	6 or more feet	N/A
Stable Groups (Where Applicable)	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Vaccine Eligible Groups in High School	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vaccine Ineligible Groups in Middle School without stable groups	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

0 up to 3 feet    3 up to 6 feet    6 or more feet    N/A

Age groups in  
Elementary School  
without stable groups



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If you would like to further \*

The CDC has established a close contact exception for indoor PK-12 students only when both the infected student and close contact between three and six feet apart and if they are wearing a mask at all times. This guidance is based upon the science and data from schools last year. It helps children to stay in school and reduce the number of contacts required to quarantine associated with an index case.

9

If there are further details you would like to add regarding your physical distancing plan, do so here. \*

We have updated our plan per the RIDOH Response: The CDC has established a close contact exception for indoor PK-12 students only when both the infected student and close contact between three and six feet apart and if they are wearing a mask at all times. This guidance is based upon the science and data from schools last year. It helps children to stay in school and reduce the number of contacts required to quarantine associated with an index case.

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Can you confirm that you will not implement stable groups according to vaccination status, in accordance with the recommended CDC guidance?

Yes

11

Will you implement stable groups?

Select all that apply. \*

- Yes - High School
  - Yes - Middle School
  - Yes - Elementary School
  - No
- 
- 

## Testing

The different types of testing strategies are:

1. Symptomatic testing:

It is strongly recommended that schools test students and staff members who have COVID-19 symptoms.

2. Outbreak testing:

In the event of a spike in positive cases, RIDOH will provide staffing and resources to conduct on-site PCR testing.

3. Routine Asymptomatic Testing:

Schools monitor transmission data to determine what level of asymptomatic testing is recommended.

For further testing guidance, visit the CDC website: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html#anchor\\_1625662107144](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html#anchor_1625662107144)  
([https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html#anchor\\_1625662107144](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html#anchor_1625662107144))

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Are you planning to implement opt-in parental consent to testing which would be obtained at the start of school and remain for the duration of the academic year?

\*RIDOH will offer support to implement. \*

Yes

No

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What will the frequency of asymptomatic surveillance testing be when there is:

\*See table below for recommended guidance. \*

	Low Transmission	Moderate Transmission	Substantial Transmission	High Transmission
Case Threshold* <small>Cases / 100K in the past 7 days</small>	0 - 9	10 - 49	50 - 99	100+
CDC Recommendations: <i>All Students</i>	No testing required	Expanded screening testing of students once per week	Expanded screening testing of students once per week	Expanded screening testing of students once per week
<b>RI Proposed Recommendations:</b> <i>All Students</i>	No testing required	No testing required	25% of non-vaccinated individuals surveillance program per week	50% of non-vaccinated individuals surveillance program per week
CDC Recommendations: <i>Sports (High-risk vs. Low/Intermediate)</i>	Test once per week	Test once per week	High-risk: twice per week Low/intermediate-risk: once per week	High-risk: twice per week Low/intermediate-risk: once per week

\*Case rates tracked at the municipal level

	Weekly	Twice Weekly	Daily	None
Low Transmission	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Moderate Transmission	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
Substantial Transmission	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
High Transmission	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

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Where will you offer outbreak and symptomatic testing? \*

- On-site
- Off-site
- Other

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Will you offer testing for symptomatic individuals? \*

- Yes - Both Binax and PCR
- Yes - Binax Only
- Yes - PCR Only
- No

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What opt-in testing support will you need? \*

- Hire additional staff with ELC funds
- Incentivize existing staff using ELC funds
- State-Delivered Testing Support
- State support in establishing lab connections for test results
- None

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If you selected one of the options above, please provide more details (i.e. additional staff roles, your HST model, incentives for current staff, etc.) \*

We will be applying for ELC funds to enter into a partnership with an external medical facility to support with testing. We would appreciate state support in providing test kits and getting test results.

## Quarantine

Per state and CDC guidance, the definition of a close contact for students is: In most instances, those who have been within 6 feet of a confirmed case for greater than 15 minutes will be deemed a close contact. As a result, a reduction in spacing between individuals will likely lead to the identification of more close contacts if there is a positive case within the classroom.

Quarantine Guidelines:

- Unvaccinated students who were within 0 to 3 feet of the infected student in an indoor classroom for a total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period must quarantine.
- Unvaccinated students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student in an indoor classroom for a total of 15 minutes over a 24-hour period do not need to quarantine IF:
  - Both students were masked correctly and consistently and
  - The school follows the State’s most recent guidance on ventilation; and
  - One or more additional K–12 school prevention strategies were in place, including but not limited to:
    - Screening daily for symptoms
    - Routine asymptomatic testing when recommended
    - Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
    - Cleaning and disinfection protocols in place
    - Ventilation is maximized
    - Promoting vaccination
    - Screening testing to promptly identify cases, clusters and outbreaks
    - Staying home when sick and getting tested
    - Contact tracing, in combination with isolation and quarantine

Take this into consideration when answering the quarantine questions below.

\*This is based on current CDC guidance, which may change.

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If RIDOH does not have the ability to mandate a state-wide quarantine requirement, what quarantine period will you implement? \*

- None
- 7 Days, with testing (Recommended)
- 10 Days, no testing
- 14 Days

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Will you require unvaccinated close contacts to quarantine? \*

- Yes
- No

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Will you require vaccinated close contacts to quarantine? \*

- Yes
- No

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## Vaccination

21

Have you previously worked with RIDOH to provide vaccines? \*

Yes

No

22

Will you offer an opt-in submission of students' vaccine status to inform mitigation policies? \*

Yes

No

23

If yes, explain how you collect and record statuses. \*

Our Family/Community Liaison will speak to students and families, as will our school nurse and our partner medical agency.

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Have you scheduled a state-run vaccination clinic in your district for SY21-22? \*

Yes

No

25

If yes, at what location will you hold it? \*

TAPA is participating in a downtown Charter School Vaccination Clinic that will happen at Village Green HS downtown.

26

Who do you expect to be present at the clinic? \*

- Students
- Teachers/Staff
- Families

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Are there any schedule considerations as far as student attendance that RIDOH needs to be aware of for scheduling?

(i.e. First day of school, arrival/dismissal time, other logistics and timing information that could impact a vaccination clinic) \*

None

28

How will you promote vaccination among teachers, staff, families and eligible students? \*

- Provide information about COVID-19 vaccination
- Encourage vaccine trust and confidence

Establish policies and practices that make getting vaccinated easy and convenient

100% of our teachers are vaccinated.

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Based on your response above, please provide more information regarding your plan to promote vaccination. \*

TAPA will be participating in a vaccine clinic for the downtown charters. Paolino Properties is providing free promotion and parking, and the clinic will be held at VGV, which is about a block from here. The clinic is on 9/17 (first shot) and 10/15 (second shot), 2:30-4:30, and open to anyone in our school community. To promote the clinic, TAPA will pull together a group of staff members who want to help support/promote the clinic. Our music teacher has a film that he wants to show, and our Spanish teacher also has some great resources in Spanish and English for kids and families. We will take a few of the after school meeting times over the upcoming weeks to get a plan in place. Right now 30% of our students are vaccinated; if we could use this push to get the next 30%, it would make a huge difference. The clinic is recommending offering an incentive (like a day off for everyone who gets vaccinated?!) so that's something to think about too.

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## Cleaning, Disinfection and Hand Hygiene

30

Can you confirm that you will adhere to CDC cleaning, disinfection and hand hygiene guidance.

Visit CDC website for further details.

Yes

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## Ventilation

When planning for ventilation improvements, note that district allocation of ESSER funds can be used to cover the cost.

31

What ventilation strategies have you already implemented?

Select all that apply. \*

- Opening windows and doors
- HVAC System
- Indoor filtration of MERV13 or higher
- Portable air cleaner with HEPA filters
- 

32

What ventilation strategies will you implement for the 2021-22 school year?

Select all that apply. \*

- Opening windows and doors
- HVAC System
- Indoor filtration of MERV13 or higher
- Portable air cleaner with HEPA filters
- 

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Other

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What primary languages options are needed by your district for 2021-22 guidance documents? \*

- English
- Spanish
- Portuguese
- Khmer
- Arabic
- Haitian Creole
- Swahili
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If there is anything else you would like to share regarding your back to school COVID-19 mitigation plan, explain below.