

West Essex Regional School District Board of Education Meeting

August 30, 2021



Reports

- Board President - Mary Wojtowicz
- Superintendent - Damion Macioci
- Director of Curriculum - Ryan Gupta
- High School Principal - Caesar Diliberto
- Middle School Principal - Gina Donlevie

Update: Health and Safety Guidance

[2021-2022 School Year Information](#)

- Vaccination
- Communication with the Local Health Department
- Mask Wearing Protocol
- Physical Distancing and Cohorting Protocols
- Hand Hygiene and Respiratory Etiquette Protocols
- Meals
- Transportation Protocols
- Supplies, Equipment, Cleaning, Disinfection, and Airflow
- Screening, Exclusion, and Response to Symptomatic Students and Staff Members
- Contact Tracing
- Testing
- Student and Staff Member Travel

Masks Update - August 6

[Executive Order No. 251](#)

Students, educators, staff, and visitors will be required to wear face masks indoors for the start of the 2021-2022 school year. The Governor signed Executive Order (EO) 251, which will mandate masking in the indoor premises of all public, private, and parochial preschool, elementary, and secondary school buildings, with limited exceptions. The EO is effective on Monday, August 9, 2021.

[Exceptions](#) *will remain unchanged from last year.*

The Road Forward: NJDOE/NJDOH

August 21

- Mandatory masking requirement per Executive Order 251
- Close contact exception in the K-12 classroom setting
- LEAs are encouraged to promote the COVID-19 vaccination
- LEAs should work closely with LHDs as they make decisions regarding which mitigation strategies to implement and when based on data (WE Medical Advisory Committee)

****Monitor the community transmission levels****

Summary of Changes, NJDOH - August 21

Close Contact: Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person (laboratory-confirmed) for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24-hour period (for example, *three individual 5-minute exposures for a total of 15 minutes*).

- **Exception:** In the K–12 indoor classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student if both the infected student and the exposed student(s) correctly and consistently wore well-fitting masks the entire time.

This exception does not apply to teachers, staff, or other adults in the indoor classroom setting.

Low: 1

Moderate: 2

High: 3

Very High: 4

COVID-19 Activity Level Reports Northeast Region

(Bergen, Essex, and Hudson = Moderate)

<u>Week ending: July 3</u> -	Case: 2.33	Percent CLI: 2.23	Percent Positivity: 1.17
<u>Week ending: July 10</u> -	Case: 2.62	Percent CLI: 2.53	Percent Positivity: 1.48
<u>Week ending: July 17</u> -	Case: 5.07	Percent CLI: 2.89	Percent Positivity: 2.32
<u>Week ending: July 24</u> -	Case: 7.59	Percent CLI: 3.14	Percent Positivity: 3.25
<u>Week ending: July 31</u> -	Case: 9.58	Percent CLI: 3.52	Percent Positivity: 3.59
<u>Week ending: August 7</u> -	Case: 12.04	Percent CLI: 4.01	Percent Positivity: 4.33
<u>Week ending: August 14</u> -	Case: 13.74	Percent CLI: 4.27	Percent Positivity: 4.62
<u>Week ending: August 21</u> -	Case: 13.93	Percent CLI: 4.67	Percent Positivity: 4.37

Vaccination Update - August 23

[Executive Order No.253](#)

Requires all preschool to Grade 12 school personnel to be fully vaccinated against COVID-19 by October 18 or be subject to COVID-19 testing at minimum one to two times per week.

The order also clarifies that individuals seeking a medical exemption from mask wearing pursuant to certain exceptions outlined in Executive Order No. 251 will be required to produce written documentation from a medical professional to support that exemption. Self-attestations and parental attestations are not sufficient.

Vaccination Clinic - Tentative

- Essex County has partnered with St. Barnabas Medical Center/RWJ Barnabas Health and is committed to providing onsite mobile vaccine clinics at schools
- Familiar and convenient location for teachers, staff, and eligible students and their families
- The West Essex Regional School District, the Essex Fells School District, Fairfield Public Schools, North Caldwell Public Schools, and Roseland School District will be hosting a vaccination clinic (Pfizer vaccine) for individuals 12 years or older
- Friday, September 10 (dose 1) and Friday, October 1 (dose 2) from 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm at West Essex High School.

Additional Information

- Health Screening - Genesis Form (yearly) - Week of August 30
- COVID-19 Cases - notification is only to individuals involved in the incident (community notification no longer required)
- WE Medical Advisory Committee (local healthcare professionals, including physicians, nurses, nurse practitioner, and health officer)
- 2021-2022 - Comparison Chart - all subject to change

Remote Instruction

Local Education Agencies (LEAs) may be confronted with the incidence of COVID-19 positive cases amongst staff and/or students. The LEA should be prepared to offer virtual or remote instruction to those students in a manner commensurate with in-person instruction to the extent possible:

The Road Forward: Health and Safety Guidance 2021-2022 School Year

Criteria for Remote Instruction

COVID-19 Related Incidents:

- School related exposure
- Outside exposure
- Student, Class, and/or or Group of students required to quarantine
- COVID-19 diagnosis

Remote Instruction

In collaboration with our District Planning Team and School Staff:

- Asynchronous learning with classroom teacher
- Use of certified teachers for structured support during the day
- Continued access to Google Classroom
- Continued access to classroom teacher before/after school
- Excused absence (medical) from in-person attendance
- Independent bell schedule for high school and middle school
- Remote instructors will take attendance in their Zoom classes

Structured Support Schedule (Tentative)

BLOCK	TIME	MIDDLE SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL	HIGH SCHOOL
Block 1	8:00-9:00 am	Social Studies	English 9-12	World Language - Spanish
Block 2	9:00-10:00 am	English	Social Studies 9-12	World Language - Italian
Block 3	10:00-11:00 am	Reading & Math	Science 9-10	Math - Alg. I, Pre-Calc World Language - All
LUNCH	11:00-12:00 pm	LUNCH	LUNCH	LUNCH
Block 4	12:00-1:00 pm	Math	Science 11-12	Math - Calculus
Block 5	1:00-2:00 pm	Science	Math Alg. 1	Math - Geometry

Unit Lunch

- Providing additional locations indoors and outdoors
- Additional tables and seating for students
- Pre-packaged food options
- Pre-ordering lunch is highly recommended
- Senior privileges
- Lunch activities

WEST ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING

Item	2020-2021	2021-2022
Face Masks (Indoors)	Yes	Yes
Face Masks (Outdoors)	Yes	No
Face Masks (Buses)	Yes	Yes
Physical Distancing (indoors)	6 feet	3 feet or the greatest extent possible
Physical Distancing (outdoors)	6 feet	None required
Full Day In-Person Instruction	No	Yes
Full-time Remote Instruction Option	Yes	No
Remote Instruction for Quarantined Students	Yes (synchronous)	Yes (asynchronous)
Cohorts	Yes	No
Lunch in school	No	Yes
Field Trips/Assemblies	Yes (virtual/in-person)	Yes (virtual/in-person)

WEST ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING

Item	2020-2021	2021-2022
Hallway Lockers	Yes	Yes
Locker Room Use	No	Yes (face masks required)
Directional or Distanced Hallways	Yes	No
Enhanced Ventilation	Yes	Yes
Signage (Masks, Hand Hygiene)	Yes	Yes
Hand-Sanitizing Stations	Yes	Yes
Daily Temperature Checks	Yes	No
Staff/Student Symptoms - Daily Screening	Monthly Form	Yearly Form
Faculty Meetings	Virtual	In-person
Professional Development	Virtual	Virtual/In-person
Board Meetings	Virtual	In-person
Travel Quarantine Required	Yes	Yes
Contact Tracing	Yes	Yes
Community Notification Positive COVID-19 Cases	Yes	No (individuals involved in incident only)

WEST ESSEX REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT PLANNING

Item	2020-2021	2021-2022
Isolation Area in Each School	Yes	Yes
Visitors in Schools	No	Yes (virtual/in-person)
Extracurricular Activities	Yes (virtual/in-person)	In-person
Athletics	Yes (virtual/in-person)	In-person
Back-to-School Night	Virtual	In-person
Parent/Teacher Conferences	Virtual	In-person (virtual at parent request)
IEP, 504, and I&RS Meetings	Virtual	In-person (virtual at parent request)
Buses	Yes	Yes
Late Buses	Yes	Yes
ACTs/SATs/PSATs	Yes	Yes

This form is subject to change as governing health authorities may issue new guidelines

TEACHING AND LEARNING

District Goals

2021-2022

Goal #1: Using Data to Improve Student Outcomes

Goal #2: Improve School Culture and Climate



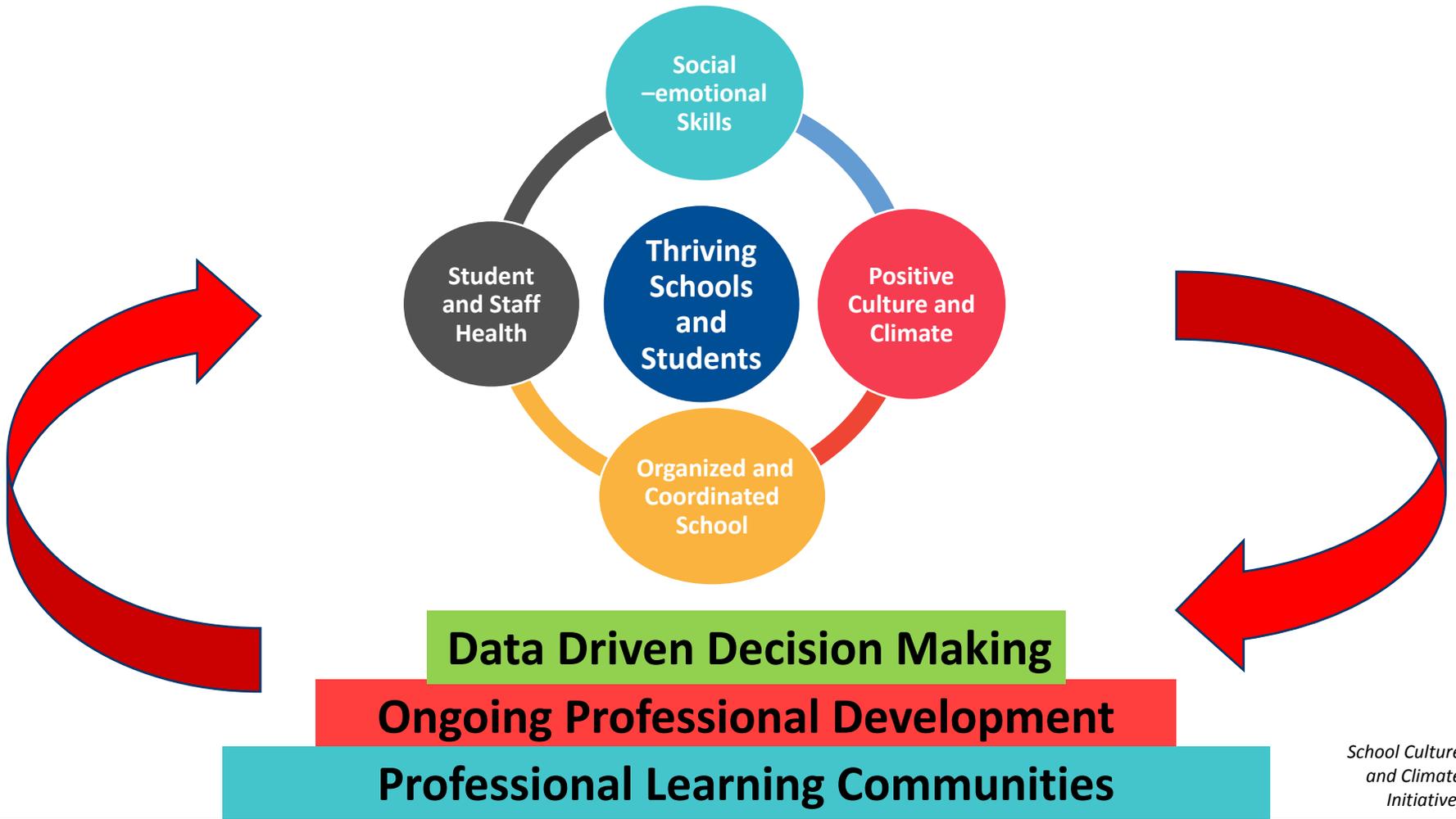
Goal #1: Using Data to Improve Student Outcomes

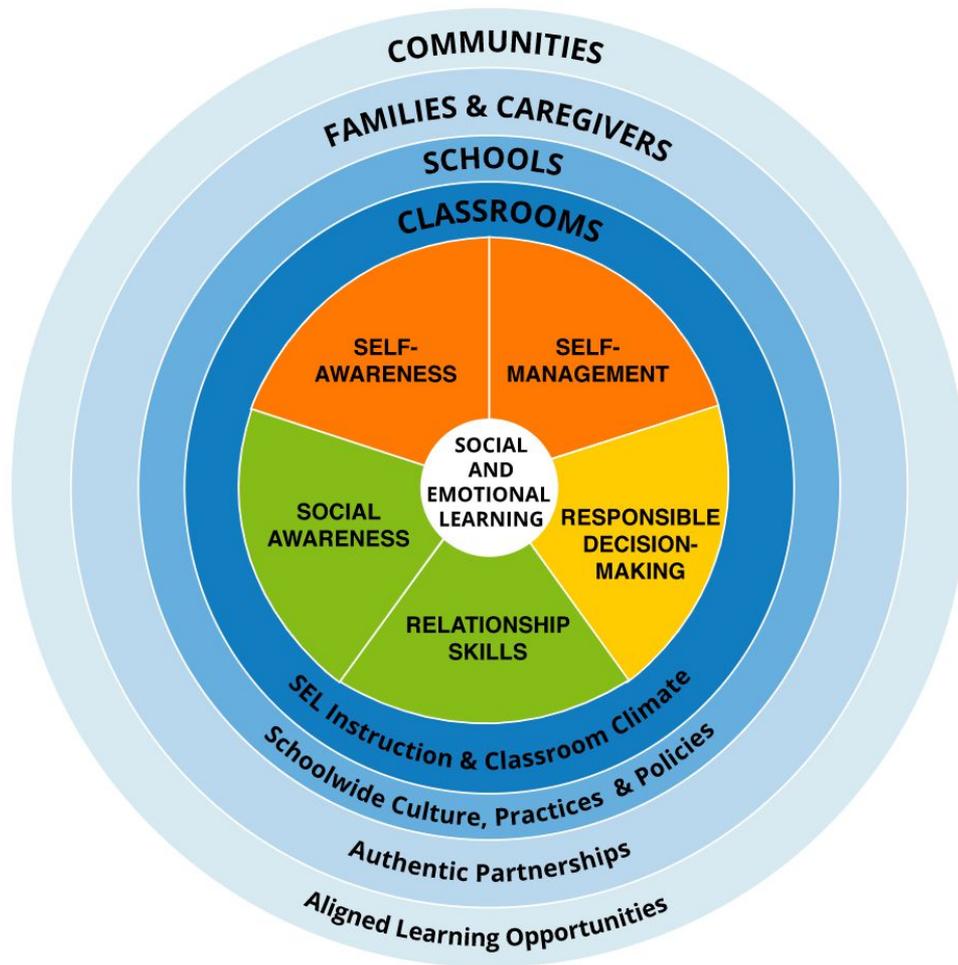
- Data may include: standardized tests, attendance records, student demographics, formative assessments, observations of student performances, homework grades, surveys, pre-assessment results...
- Data used to identify learning gaps, determine student strengths and weaknesses, measure student growth, inform instruction
- Data Team (admin., teachers of all content areas, support staff)
- Partnership with [Teach4Results](#), Dr. Tracey Severns
- Partnership with Linkit (benchmark assessments, data warehousing, and timely data analysis)
- Summer data workshops; Turnkey-training for full staff on Sept. 2
- Ongoing PD and support throughout the school year

Goal # 2: Improve School Culture and Climate

Partnered with Saint Elizabeth University *School Culture and Climate Initiative (SCCI)*

- Collecting and using *data* from multiple sources to guide all school climate improvement efforts
 - Conducting a school climate survey and gathering other baseline data to inform goal setting
 - Identifying strengths and potential weaknesses that will form the basis for school improvement plans
- Involving stakeholders in school and district-wide culture/climate committees
- Providing continuous professional development and support
 - PD topics support our commitment to improving our school's culture and climate and integrating social-emotional skills and character development





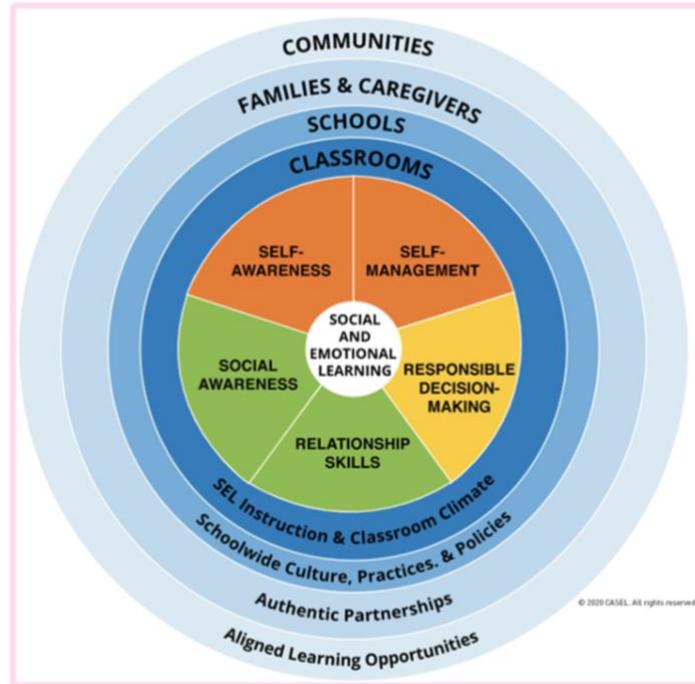
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CASEL 5: SEL Competencies

- Identifying emotions
- Self-perception/Identity
- Recognizing strengths
- Sense of self-confidence

- Perspective-taking
- Empathy
- Appreciating diversity
- Respect for others

- Communication
- Social engagement
- Building relationships
- Working cooperatively
- Resolving conflicts
- Helping/Seeking help



- Impulse control
- Stress management
- Self-discipline
- Self-motivation
- Perseverance
- Goal-setting
- Organizational skills

- Identifying problems
- Analyzing situations
- Solving problems
- Evaluating
- Reflecting
- Ethical responsibility

HS Principal's Report

Caesar Diliberto

- Freshman Orientation hosted by WEuKNIGHT on Tuesday, August 31.
- Senior Privileges
 - Late Arrival / Early Departure
 - Open Campus
- Facility updates
 - Auditorium exterior
 - LEDs
 - Senior Murals
- Alumni Day - October 9

MS Principal's Report

Gina Donlevie

- Open House
- WE Lead 7th Grade Orientation (*August 31, 8:00 - 11:00 a.m.*)
- Tailgate
 - Grade 8 (*Friday, September 10*)
 - Grade 7 (*Friday, September 17*)
- New Staff

Upcoming Board Meetings

West Essex High School Auditorium

Monday, September 13 - 7:30 pm

[West Essex Youtube](#)

For Board Information:

https://www.westex.org/district/board_of_education