Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act

LEA Name: Sussex County Charter School for Technology

Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 12/12/2022

Reviewed again: 5/12/2023

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.

A. **Universal and correct wearing of masks** - Students and staff will have the option of wearing masks beginning on March 7, 2022 as per the Governor and State of New Jersey Guidelines. Masks will be made available if anyone needs one.

B. **Physical distancing** (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding) - For the 2022-2023 school year, there will be no student cohorts.

C. **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette** - During the summer of 2020, Sussex Charter installed handwashing stations in the science labs. In addition, there were two handwashing stations created in the hallways of the 100 and 200 building. Students are given time to wash their hands before lunch and as necessary throughout the school day. We have also installed hand sanitizing stations in each classroom, bathroom and gymnasium and encourage students to use them throughout the day. Students and adults have been instructed in respiratory etiquette, including the proper way to wear a mask (over nose and mouth).

D. **Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation** - Sussex Charter has increased and enhanced its daily cleaning practices. The school has purchased two electrostatic sprayers which are used nightly to clean the buildings. Additionally, the school has received an ozone machine which rotates nightly amongst the buildings to provide a deeper cleaning. Finally, during the summer of 2020, the Charter School had HALO filter systems installed in all the classrooms.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments. Contract tracing at Sussex Charter is conducted based upon the guidelines established by the New Jersey Department of Health. Any student or adult within a 6 feet radius for more than 15 minutes during a 24 hour period who could have been potentially exposed will be contact traced. Parents will be notified and the quarantine period will depend upon the Cali Index Level.

F. **Diagnostic and screening testing**. Students are sent to the nurse when not feeling well. Temperatures are taken and communication is made with parents.

G. Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible. Staff members who have decided to receive the COVID vaccination will not be charged sick time, etc... in order to receive the vaccine shot. In the event a staff member has a reaction to the vaccine, they will not be charged sick days until they return. Staff and students will not be marked absent in the event they need to quarantine.

H. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies. Wearing a mask will be optional for students starting on March 7, 2022.

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) Sussex County Charter School for Technology will continue to provide counseling services to the students to assist with their social emotional needs. We will be offering students tutoring services both individually and in small groups before and after the school day to assist students in any learning gaps that took place during the school year. We will also have an intensive summer remediation program for identified students. Food service has and will continue to be offered.

3. Public Comment

A. Describe how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comment 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). This document was reviewed at the June 14, 2021 Board of Trustees meeting and again on December 12, 2021. Updates were again made at the February 14, 2022 Board Meeting to reflect mask and temperature changes. Updates were made to this document to reflect the CDC and state guidelines and shared with the public at the December 12, 2022 Board of Trustees Meeting. Time will be provided for input from members of the public who are in attendance at the meeting. Input from the parents and community will be considered and if necessary, changes to this plan will be made.

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 Sussex County Charter School for Technology will assist any parent or community member with reviewing this document whether in a different language or reading the document verbally.