

CEA SCHOOL AT SOUTH HUNTERDON
Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan 2025-26
September 2, 2025



How decisions to move to virtual instruction will be made:

The CEA School places the safety of students and staff first based on information and with guidance from:

- South Hunterdon Regional School District
- Centers for Disease Control (CDC)
- State of New Jersey
- The NJ Department of Education
- Hunterdon County Department of Health
- CEA School Staff representatives

Vaccinations

- CEA School will keep current vaccination records as provided by parents and guardians. Our school nurse will maintain those records.
- Students will be considered “up to date” when they are fully vaccinated against Covid 19 and have received all recommended additional doses, including booster doses when eligible. While not mandatory, we will encourage our students to vaccinate.

Masking

CEA School will follow protocol of our host district, South Hunterdon Regional. They and we will remain a mask-optional district to start the school year. Students/staff are welcome to wear a mask if it makes them feel more comfortable coming to school/work.'

Guidance

The strategies found in the new guidance are based on research and expertise CDC gained from decades of working to prevent disease transmission in school settings. They include:

- Stay up to date with immunizations.
- Practice good hygiene by covering coughs and sneezes, washing or sanitizing hands often, and cleaning frequently touched surfaces.
- Take steps for cleaner air such as bringing in more fresh outside air, purifying indoor air, or gathering outdoors.

When individuals may have a respiratory illness, they should:

- Use precautions to prevent spread.
- Seek health care promptly for testing and/or treatment if they have risk factors for severe illness; treatment may help lower the risk of severe illness.

Guidance

Students and staff with symptoms* of a respiratory illness should stay home and away from others until:

- The individual is fever free for 24 hours without fever reducing medication AND
- Symptoms are improving, which means the individual is no longer feeling ill and able to participate comfortably in educational and other activities as they did before they were ill. Any remaining symptoms, such as cough or runny nose are mild or infrequent.

Individuals can then return to normal activities, but they should take additional precautions for the next five days when they are around other people indoors. These precautions include:

- Wearing a well-fitting mask
- Taking steps for cleaner air
- Practicing good hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette
- Physical distancing when around others
- Testing for respiratory illnesses to determine next steps such as treatment.
 - Using at-home COVID-19 tests for screening before being around persons at risk for severe disease.

*Symptoms can include fever, chills, fatigue, cough, runny nose, and headache, chest discomfort, chills, cough, decrease in appetite, diarrhea, fatigue (tiredness), fever or feeling feverish, headache, muscle or body aches, new loss of taste or smell, runny or stuffy nose, sneezing, sore throat, vomiting, weakness, wheezing. The following illustrations¹ are examples of scenarios that may occur. If illness activity is elevated, schools can consider implementing additional strategies as part of a layered approach to prevention. These additional strategies depend on several considerations, but include actions such as: wearing masks, increasing space and distance between students and using cohorts, conducting illness screening, and testing to screen for illness.

School Emergency Operations Plan

While The CEA School defers to South Hunterdon's protocol for most outbreaks, epidemics or pandemics, we are also prepared to make adjustments to ensuring a safe and healthy environment for our students and staff beyond our partnership with SHRS. Our team includes CEA's CEO, CEA's HR Director, CEA School's Principal, and CEA School's Lead Social Worker. Together, in conjunction with current CDC recommendations and with our local county department of health team, we will move to remote operations, if appropriate.

Parent Guidelines

The following strategies will help prevent the spread of illness:

- Staying home when sick
- Knowing when to return to school
- Using personal protective equipment for staff caring for sick children

More information can be found at the following link:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/outbreaks/respiratory_virus_guidance_for_schools.pdf

Preventing the Spread of Illness

Additional strategies include:

- Masking and respiratory protection
- Increasing distance and cohorting
- Illness monitoring
- Testing
- Managing exposure

Source:

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/outbreaks/respiratory_virus_guidance_for_schools.pdf

Maintaining School Operational Status

While we remain prepared to move forward with remote learning in the event of an emergency, this will be used as a last resort and in cooperation with our partners in education and in the healthcare community.

Slides 10-20 outline what we would do in such an event.

https://www.nj.gov/health/cd/documents/topics/outbreaks/respiratory_virus_guidance_for_schools.pdf

Remote Instruction

When a student has been diagnosed with a positive Covid Case, instruction will be offered remotely. We provide our students with chromebooks and access to all necessary resources on Google Classroom. In addition, we will offer support in an individualized capacity, virtually, as deemed necessary to avoid learning loss.

Based on a student's specific needs as outlined in their IEP, we will provide all necessary accommodations, including one to one aide access. Students will have access to chromebooks and worksheets as appropriate. Web based learning tools are used to enhance student learning.

Students will participate in teacher assessments and any other baseline testing throughout the school year to track progress and areas for improvement.

If internet access is an issue in a student's home, our school will provide either alternate instruction or access to a hot spot depending on the need.

Tracking Implementation of IEP's during Virtual Instruction

- Teachers will fill out remote instruction checklist
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1w1GVmes8Msw27vzEjiHBzM0wwPo7DiLsmtnl4IYw5Bo/edit?usp=sharing>
- Social worker will remain in contact with families to ensure appropriate services are offered (counseling, speech & language, OT, PT if possible)
- If necessary during time of virtual instruction, IEP and eval meetings to be held virtually to remain in compliance.
- When appropriate, accommodations will be made for ELL, including translators or interpreters for communication with students and families.
- Attendance is expected by students unless illness prevents them from attending. If avoidance is an issue, families will be contacted by the social worker and /or principal and a behavior modification plan beyond our school wide program will be created.

ELL, when applicable

- When appropriate, accommodations will be made for ELL students, including translators or interpreters for communication with students and families.
- As partners with South Hunterdon, we have access to inclusion opportunities, if a student enters our program with English as a Second Language or Bilingual needs.
- Professional Development will be offered and expected by staff when necessary.

Meals during Remote Instruction

- In instances when we must move to virtual instruction, lunch will be provided to students. CEA School will drop off supplies to students homes to complete a group cooking activity as part of remote learning.
- When earned, students will order and obtain delivery of a chosen fast food to their home.
- Students will then join a Google meet to eat with their peers and staff.

Social and Emotional Learning

- Students will continue to receive group and individual counseling when pivoting to remote instruction. They have access to our social worker when needed.
- Staff are encouraged to participate in team building activities when planned.

Community Learning Opportunities

- If allowed by community partners, our students will continue off site learning in job sites, shopping centers, college courses, etc.
- Our CDL drivers may continue to transport students when appropriate.
- Opportunities for students to earn credits toward graduation and beyond will be created when possible in order to ensure seamless learning when moving to remote learning. Projects are part of our program and will meet these needs.
- If any students participate in extracurricular activities, through their home district or with our host district, South Hunterdon, students have the opportunity to continue these activities with support from our staff.

Essential Staff for Remote Instruction

- Principal, Tara Vargas
- Lead Social Worker, Kara Nemeth
- Academic Teacher, Wendy Callahan
- Transition Teacher, Janine Carratura

Additional aides and service providers will be directed by above staff.

In School Class Schedule

Daily Schedule	Time
Student Arrival	8:50 am
Student Prep	8:55 am – 9:05 am
Block 0	9:05 am – 10:05 am
Block 1	10:10 am – 11:10 am
Block 2	11:15 am – 12:15 pm
Mindfulness Break	12:15 pm – 12:25 pm
Block 3	12:30 pm – 1:30 pm
Block 4	1:35 pm – 2:30 pm
Dismissal	2:30 pm

Remote Schedule

Time	Activity
8:00 am - 8:40 am	Academics
8:40 am -9:25 am	Academics
9:30 am - 10:15 am	Academics
10:20 am - 11:05 am	Academics
11:10 am - 11: 55 pm	Academics
12:00 pm - 12:30 pm	Lunch

Healthy Schedules

- Desks/chairs will be cleaned before each class period (classes outside is an option weather permitting).
- Deep cleaning by custodial staff when scheduled by host district, South Hunterdon.

Healthy Activities

- Time will be provided in the schedule to get students outside as much as possible.
- Students will wash or sanitize hands if outside and using high touch equipment.
- Physical education will be done either outside or health lessons taught in the classroom.