



## **RESTART AND RECOVERY PLAN SUMMARY OF POLICY AND PLAN TEMPLATE REVISIONS**

### **P 1648 – Restart and Recovery Plan (M) (Revised)**

In an August 3, 2020 Memorandum, the Governor and the Commissioner of Education updated the June 26, 2020 New Jersey Department of Education, “The Road Back – Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” (NJDOE Guidance), revising the “anticipated minimum standards” under:

- Critical Area of Operation #3 – Transportation; and
- Critical Area of Operation #5 – Screening, PPE, and Response to Student and Staff Presenting Symptoms.

These revised “anticipated minimum standards” now require all students to wear face coverings subject to several exceptions, even if social distancing is possible. Policy Guide 1648 has been revised to incorporate the new face covering requirements of these two areas.

In addition, the reference to student face coverings in the following areas:

- Critical Area of Operation #2 – Classrooms, Testing, and Therapy Rooms; and
- Critical Area of Operation #4 – Student Flow, Entry, Exit, and Common Areas

of the NJDOE Guidance does not need to be included in this Policy Guide, but will require a revision in the Strauss Esmay Plan Template. This revised Policy Guide 1648 must be adopted by the Board and is available for download under the “Policy Alerts” tab – “Other Downloads” section of our website, [www.straussesmay.com](http://www.straussesmay.com).

Policy Guide 1648 is **MANDATED**

### **P 1648.03 – Restart and Recovery Plan – Full-Time Remote Instruction (M) (New)**

On August 13, 2020, the Governor of New Jersey signed Executive Order 175 indicating public school districts shall resume partial or full-time in-person instruction during the fall of school year 2020-2021. However, Executive Order 175 also indicates public school districts that are or become unable to satisfy the health and safety requirements for in-person instruction delineated in the NJDOE’s “Checklist for Re-Opening of School 2020-2021” and detailed in the “The Road Back – Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” (NJDOE Guidance), may provide full-time remote instruction to all students pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.



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School districts that determine they cannot provide in-person instruction must submit documentation to the Department of Education that includes, among other things, a date by which the school or school district anticipates the resumption of in-person instruction. Policy Guide 1648.03 has been developed to incorporate the full-time remote instruction option addressed in the August 13, 2020 Executive Order 175.

This new Policy Guide 1648.03 must be adopted by the Board and is available for download under the “Policy Alerts” tab – “Other Downloads” section of our website, [www.straussesmay.com](http://www.straussesmay.com).

Policy Guide 1648.03 is **MANDATED**

### **Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools – Template (Revised)**

On August 3, 2020, the New Jersey Governor and the Commissioner of Education published a Memorandum updating the June 26, 2020, “The Road Back - Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” (NJDOE Guidance), guidance document for reopening New Jersey schools in September 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Memorandum revises the NJDOE Guidance adding an “anticipated minimum standard” requiring all students to wear face coverings, except where doing so would inhibit the individual’s health or in accordance with an expanded list of exceptions listed in the Memorandum.

The Memorandum indicates this new “anticipated minimum standard” below shall be added to Critical Area of Operation #3 – Transportation and Critical Area of Operation #5 – Screening, PPE, and Response to Student and Staff Presenting Symptoms.

“Students are required to wear face coverings, unless doing so would inhibit the student’s health. It is necessary to acknowledge that enforcing the use of face coverings may be impractical for young children or individuals with disabilities.”

The Memorandum also expands the exceptions for a student wearing a mask.

1. August 3, 2020 Memorandum – Student Face Coverings Plan Template Revisions
  - a. Strauss Esmay’s Plan Template needs to be revised to incorporate the new face covering requirements under Critical Area of Operation #3 and Critical Area of Operation #5 as outlined in the August 3, 2020 Memorandum.
  - b. In addition, Strauss Esmay is also recommending school districts revise the Plan Template under Critical Area of Operation #2 and Critical Area of Operation #4 to require students to wear face coverings consistent with the August 3, 2020 Memorandum. These revisions will ensure all references to student face coverings in the Plan Template are consistent with the requirements of the August 3, 2020 Memorandum. In summary, these changes indicate students are required to wear face coverings even if social distancing is possible.



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2. July 24, 2020 Memorandum – Full-Time Remote Learning Options for Families
  - a. Strauss Esmay developed and made available to download a new Policy Guide 1648.02 in response to the July 24, 2020 Memorandum regarding Full-Time Remote Learning to be an option for a parent and designated an additional Appendix Q for the Policy Guide to be inserted into the Strauss Esmay Plan Template Appendices section. Strauss Esmay, at the time, did not recommend revising the language in the Plan Template as Appendix Q is part of the Plan Template. However, considering the Plan Template has to be revised to incorporate the new face covering requirement for students, Strauss Esmay is recommending the Plan Template language be revised at this time to reference Appendix Q – Remote Learning Options.

3. Revising the Plan Template

- a. When revising the Strauss Esmay Plan Template, the district should use the attached document titled “Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools – Template 2” in making the revisions noted above. Similar to a Policy Alert, the district is provided **bold** and ~~strike through~~ text which to highlight the revisions recommended by Strauss Esmay in accordance with the NJDOE’s supplemental guidance.

Also included is a document titled “Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools – Template 2” [Without Bold and Strike Through Text] for a district to easily revise the school district’s Plan.

- b. Copies of the updated Plan Template (Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools – Template 2) with and without bold and strike through text are available for download under the “Policy Alerts” tab – “Other Downloads” section of our website, [www.straussesmay.com](http://www.straussesmay.com).



Other COVID-19 documents previously made available for download on [www.straussesmay.com](http://www.straussesmay.com):

- P 1648.02 – Remote Learning Options for Families – Summary Statement [July 31, 2020]
- P 1648.02 – Remote Learning Options for Families [July 31, 2020]
- Appendix Q – Remote Learning Options for Families (Needed for P 1648.02) [July 31, 2020]
- Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools – Template [July 15, 2020]
- Restart and Recovery Plan to Reopen Schools – Memorandum [July 15, 2020]
- P 1649 – Federal Families First Coronavirus (COVID-19) Response Act (M) [June 16, 2020]