



PHILIP D. MURPHY  
Governor

SHEILA Y. OLIVER  
Lt. Governor

**State of New Jersey**  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
Sussex County Office of Education  
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Sparta, NJ 07871  
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Angelica Allen-McMillan, Ed.D.  
Acting Commissioner

DR. GAYLE CARRICK Ed.D.  
Executive County Superintendent

November 2, 2021

Mr. Michael Ryder, Superintendent  
Hardyston Township School District  
183 Wheatsworth Road  
Hamburg, NJ 07419

Dear Mr. Ryder:

My office has reviewed your district's plan for virtual or remote instruction for the 2021-22 school year as per P.L. 2020 c.27 (A3904) and has found it to be compliant with the required checklist elements.

You must post the approved plan on your LEA website. If revisions are made to this plan, please resubmit it to this office accompanied by the board approval and another attestation, which can be found at: [Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Programs \(nj.gov\)](https://www.nj.gov/education/remote-virtual-instruction)

Thank you and best wishes for a successful school year.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gayle Carrick".

Gayle Carrick, Ed.D.  
Executive County Superintendent



## LEA Guidance for Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan Attestation for the 2021-2022 SY

### Contact Information

County: Sussex

Name of District, Charter School, APSSD or Renaissance School Project: Hardyston Township

Name of Chief School Administrator or Lead Person: Michael Ryder

Chief School Administrator or Lead Person Contact Number: 973-823-7000 extension 1080

The New Jersey Department of Education (Department) is providing the following guidance pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9(c) to assist districts in the development of their 2021-2022 virtual or remote instruction plans. The Department encourages LEAs to reflect on the previous school year to improve elements of the prior year’s plan to provide the most substantive education, including related services, to their students in the event of a district closure.

For each of the three areas below, the chief school administrator or lead person will either mark “yes,” confirming that the information is in the plan and list the corresponding plan page number, or mark “no” if the information is not contained in the plan. The chief school administrator or lead person is expected to provide an explanation to the county office of education for all areas marked “no.”

By October 29, 2021, the chief school administrator or lead person must submit a board-approved LEA Guidance for Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan for 2021-2022 along with this form to their county office of education. At the time of submission to the county office of education, the plan must be posted on the LEA’s website. Plans will be reviewed in each county office of education on a rolling basis with an electronic response communicated within two business days of receipt.

### The plan outlines how virtual or remote instruction will be provided to students who may not have access to sufficient broadband, or to any technology required for virtual or remote instruction.

The program should account for measuring and addressing any ongoing digital divide that exists, whether it be network access or lack of sufficient access to devices.

Page Number: 2

District Confirmation: Yes  No

County Confirmation: Yes  No



**The plan addresses the impact of virtual or remote instruction on the school lunch and school breakfast programs.**

The plan should contain how the LEA will provide continued safe delivery of meals to eligible students.

Page Number: 2

District Confirmation: Yes  No

County Confirmation: Yes  No

**The plan contains the required length of a virtual or remote instruction day.**

The minimum hours of instruction for a virtual or remote day is four hours excluding lunch and recess.

Page Number: 2

District Confirmation: Yes  No

County Confirmation: Yes  No

**Plan Posted on LEA Website**

Is the plan posted on your website? Yes  No

Website link: www.htps.org

**APSSD Only**


Was your plan shared with all sending districts? Yes  No

**Board Approval**

Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 10/12/2021

**Name and Signature of Chief School Administrator or Lead Person**

Chief School Administrator or Lead Person Name: Michael Ryder

Chief School Administrator or School Lead Person Signature: 

Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 10/12/2021

**Date of Submission to County Office**

Date (mm/dd/yyyy): 10/13/2021

# Virtual Instruction Plan

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## **Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program for 2021-2022 School Year**

**Hardyston Township Schools  
Board of Education**

# Virtual Instruction Plan

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## Fall 2021

### Virtual or Remote Instruction

All parts of the Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Program will be followed according to Strauss Esmay Policy 2425. Additional requirements pertaining to the LEA Guidance for Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan Attestation are addressed below:

- a. Outline how virtual or remote instruction will be provided to students who may not have access to sufficient broadband, or to any technology required for virtual or remote instruction.
  - The district will provide a Chromebook to any student who does not have a device at home and would be otherwise unable to receive remote instruction.
  - The district will provide a wireless hotspot to any student who does not have Internet access and would be otherwise unable to receive remote instruction.
- b. Address the impact of virtual or remote instruction on the school lunch program.
  - The district will provide lunch to any student who does not have access to an adequate lunch at home during remote instruction.
  - Lunch will be able to be picked up at the middle school during school hours, or delivered to their home if transportation to the school is unavailable.
- c. Plan the required length of a virtual or remote instruction day.
  - The minimum hours of instruction for a virtual or remote day will be four hours excluding lunch and recess.
- d. Plan for the minimal amount of virtual instruction possible, and re-evaluate every three days.
- e. Post the Virtual Learning Plan on the website.
  - The Virtual Learning Plan will be posted on [www.htps.org](http://www.htps.org)

# POLICY GUIDE

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[See POLICY ALERT No. 225]

## 2425 EMERGENCY VIRTUAL OR REMOTE INSTRUCTION PROGRAM

The Board of Education is committed to providing a high quality educational program, virtually or remotely, in the event a school or the schools of the district are required to close for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure. The district's virtual or remote program of instruction shall be in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.

In the event the school district is required to close a school or the schools of the district for more than three consecutive school days due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, the Commissioner of Education shall allow the district to apply to the 180-day requirement established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9, one or more days of virtual or remote instruction provided to students on the day or days the schools of the district were closed if the program of virtual or remote instruction meets such criteria as may be established by the Commissioner Education.

The Superintendent of Schools shall submit, with Board approval, the school district's program of virtual or remote instruction to the Commissioner of Education by no later than October 29, 2021 and annually thereafter.

A day of virtual or remote instruction, if instituted under the district's Commissioner of Education's approved program of virtual or remote instruction, shall be considered the equivalent of a full day of school attendance for the purposes of meeting State and local graduation requirements, the awarding of course credit, and other such matters as determined by the Commissioner of Education.



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Any district program of virtual or remote instruction implemented for the general education students shall provide the same educational opportunities to students with disabilities. Special education and related services, including speech language services, counseling services, physical therapy, occupational therapy,

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and behavioral services, may be delivered to students with disabilities through the use of electronic communication or a virtual or online platform and as required by the student's Individualized Education Program (IEP), to the greatest extent practicable.

In the event the State or local health department determines it is advisable to close or mandates closure of the schools of the district due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure, the Superintendent shall have the authority to implement the school district's program of virtual or remote instruction. The Superintendent shall consult with the Board prior to such decision, if practicable. The Superintendent shall ensure that students, parents, staff, and the Board are informed promptly of the Superintendent's decision.

Nothing in N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9 and this Policy shall be construed to limit, supersede or preempt rights, privileges, compensation, remedies, and procedures afforded to public employees or a collective bargaining unit under Federal or State law or any provision of a collective bargaining agreement entered into by the school district.

In the event of the closure of a school or the schools of the district due to a declared state of emergency, declared public health emergency, or a directive by the appropriate health agency or officer to institute a public health-related closure for a period longer than three consecutive school days:

1. District employees shall be entitled to compensation, benefits, and emoluments pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(1) and (2).



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2. The district shall continue to make payments of benefits, compensation, and emoluments pursuant to the terms of a contract with a contracted service provider in effect on the date of the closure as if the services for such benefits, compensation, and emoluments had been provided, and as if the school facilities had remained open pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(3).

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3. The district shall be obligated to make payments for benefits, compensation, and emoluments and all payments required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:6-51 et seq., to an educational services commission, county special services school district, and a jointure commission, and under any shared services agreement and cooperative contract entered into with any other public entity pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(4).
4. An educational services commission, county special services school district, and a jointure commission shall continue to make payments of benefits, compensation, and emoluments pursuant to the terms of a contract with a contracted service provider or a shared services agreement in effect on the date of the closure as if the services for such benefits, compensation, and emoluments had been provided, and as if the school facilities had remained open pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(4).

The provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(1) through (4) shall not apply to any employee whose weekly hours of work are reduced, and to whom unemployment benefits are provided, pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq. A contracted service provider, educational services commission, county special services school district, or jointure commission shall notify the district with which it has entered into a contract to provide services of its intent to reduce the hours of work of its employees pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq.





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1. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(3), if a contracted service provider reduces the amount that it pays to its employees providing services to a school district, and that reduction is the result of a reduction of workhours of those employees made pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq., then the amount paid by the district to the contracted service provider shall be reduced by the same amount.

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2. Notwithstanding the provisions of N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9.e.(4), if an educational services commission, county special services school district, or jointure commission reduces the amount that it pays to its employees providing services to a school district, and that reduction is the result of a reduction of workhours of those employees made pursuant to a shared work program approved pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 43:21-20.3 et seq., then the amount paid by the district to the educational services commission, county special services school district, or jointure commission shall be reduced by the same amount.

This Policy may be revised as necessary by the Superintendent in accordance with N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9. The school district's emergency virtual or remote instruction program shall be available on the school district's website.

N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9



# Hardyston Township Board of Education

183 Wheatsworth Road  
Hamburg, New Jersey 07419  
www.https.org

Rich Rennie  
School Business Administrator/Board Secretary

Telephone: 973-823-7000, Ext 1120  
Fax: 973-823-7010

**EXTRACT FROM THE MEETING MINUTES OF THE HARDYSTON TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, SUSSEX COUNTY, NEW JERSEY, AS RECORDED IN THE OFFICIAL SET OF MINUTES**

The Hardyston Township Board of Education in the County of Sussex, NJ convened the regular meeting on October 12, 2021 from the Cafeteria of the Hardyston Middle School in Hamburg, NJ.

The following members of the Board of Education were present: Board President Ron Hoffman, Board Vice President, David Van Ginneken, Donna Carey, Brian Drelick and Nick Demsak

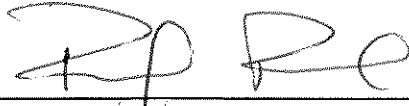
Absent was: Jennifer Cenatiempo, Catherine Maksymiuk, Susan Lucarelli and Michelle Van Allen.

**C/P-5**

Motion to approve the Emergency Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan as attached.

Motion to adopt: D. Carey		Seconded By: N. Demsak		
<u>MOTION</u>	<u>YES</u>	<u>NO</u>	<u>ABSTAIN</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Carey	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Cenatiempo	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Demsak	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Drelick	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Hoffman	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>
Lucarelli	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Maksymiuk	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Van Allen	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>  X  </u>
Van Ginneken	<u>  X  </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>

I, Rich Rennie, Secretary of the Hardyston Township Board of Education, in the County of Sussex, State of New Jersey, hereby certify that the foregoing extract from the minutes of the Board of Education meeting of said district duly called and held as stated above has been compared by me with the original minutes as officially recorded in my office in the minute book of said Hardyston Township Board of Education, and is a true and complete copy thereof and of the whole of said original minutes so far as the same relate to the subject matter referred to in said extract in witness I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the corporate seal of said Board of Education this 13th day of October 2021.

  
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Rich Rennie, Board Secretary

State of New Jersey  
County of Sussex  
Township of Hardyston