Rising Stars Academy Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan

Address of School District: 23855 Lawrence Ave., Center Line, MI. 48015

District Code Number: 50915

Building Code Number(s): 01849

District Contact Person: Deborah Prentiss

District Contact Person Email Address: dprentiss@rsaonline.org

Local Public Health Department: Macomb County: Kathy Parrott

Local Public Health Department Contact Person Email Address: Kathy.Parrott@macombgov.org

Name of Intermediate School District: Macomb Intermediate School District

Name of Authorizing Body: Center Line Public Schools

Date of Adoption by Board of Directors: September 17, 2020
Assurances

- The Academy will administer an approved benchmark assessment, or local benchmark assessment, or any combination thereof, to all pupils in grades K to 8 to measure proficiency in reading and mathematics within the first nine weeks of the 2020-2021 school year.

- Within thirty days after the approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter, the Academy, at a meeting of its board of directors, will re-confirm how instruction is delivered during the 2020-2021 school year and will solicit public comment, at a public meeting, from the parents or legal guardians enrolled in the Academy.

- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will expose each pupil to the academic standards that apply for each pupil’s grade level or courses in the same scope and sequence as the Academy had planned for that exposure to occur for in-person instruction.

- If delivering pupil instruction virtually, the Academy will provide pupils with equitable access to technology and the internet necessary to participate in instruction.

- The Academy will ensure that students with disabilities will be provided with equitable access to instruction and accommodation in accordance with applicable state and federal laws, rules and regulations.

- The Academy, in consultation with a local health department, and district employees, will develop guidelines concerning appropriate methods for delivering pupil instruction for the 2020-2021 school year that are based on local data that are based on key metrics. A determination concerning the method for delivering pupil instruction shall remain at the Academy Board’s discretion. Key metrics that the Academy will consider shall include at least all of the following:
  - COVID-19 Cases or Positive COVID-19 tests
  - Hospitalizations due to COVID-19
  - Number of deaths resulting from COVID-19 over a 14-day period
  - COVID-19 cases for each day for each 1 million individuals
  - The percentage of positive COVID-19 tests over a 4-week period
  - Health capacity strength
  - Testing, tracing, and containment infrastructure with regard to COVID-19

- If the Academy determines that it is safe to provide in-person pupil instruction to pupils, the Academy will prioritize providing in-person pupil instruction to pupils in grades K to 5 who are enrolled in the Academy.

- The Academy will ensure that two (2), 2-way interactions occur between a pupil enrolled in the Academy and the pupil’s teacher or at least one (1) of the pupil’s teachers during each week of
the school year for at least 75% of the pupils enrolled in the Academy. The Academy will publicly announce its weekly interaction rates at each Academy Board meeting where it re-confirm how instruction is being delivered, beginning 30 days after approval of its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan, and every 30 days thereafter. The Academy will make those rates available through the transparency reporting link located on the Academy website each month for the 2020-2021 school year.

- The Academy will create and make available on its transparency reporting link located on the Academy’s website, a report concerning the progress made in meeting the educational goals contained in its Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan not later than February 1, 2021, for goals its expected would be achieved by the middle of the school year and not later than the last day of school of the 2020-2021 school year for goals the Academy expected would be achieved by the end of the school year.

President of the Board of Directors

[Signature]

[Date]
Introduction and Overview

On March 12, 2020, Governor Whitmer closed all Michigan schools for in-person instruction. At this time Rising Stars Academy immediately change our 100% hands on instruction to remote learning for all of our students. On March 17, 2020 we began what turned into our Continuity of Learning Plan. We provided instruction via zoom class meeting and/or individual one-to-one contact with all of our students. Our staff learned many things about this method of delivery and made continual changes to enable us to meet the needs of each of our students.

The 2020-2021 school year presents challenges for everyone across our state and nation, while we all understand that learning needs to continue, there is a much greater focus on the social emotional needs of our students and realize that our continued learning plan needs to take those needs into consideration in all that we do.

The Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan will ensure that Rising Stars Academy is meeting our mission of:

“To be a place for intellectually and developmentally disabled adults to belong, and develop the necessary skills to participate at their full potential within the community”.

To this end our students will be engaged in learning opportunities virtual and face to face that will address each individuals IEP goals, and promote healthy social emotional learning to promote success. Our lessons will be constructed to meet these needs weather we are:

- Blended (M, T, Th, F, F2F – W Remote);
- F2F;
- 100% Virtual Learning.

We began our school year early (August 17, 2020) Virtually. Our reasoning for this early start was to use the first 4 weeks of lesson delivery in a Virtual setting mainly to gather information about the social/emotional levels of our students. From there, we then offered options to all families of Blended Learning or Virtual Learning for the next 10 weeks of school.
Educational Goals

Rising Stars Academy is a Post-Secondary, 100% IEP transition school. Since we are a unique school with equally unique demographics, we do not have state standards to which we measure our students' progress. All lessons and teaching encompass MARSE standards, and are focused on the individual students IEP goals. All students are expected to make marked progress towards those IEP goals, and IEP hearings are conducted on a yearly basis to present an individual’s data to all stakeholders. Progress reports are sent home quarterly, to report progress to parents. All IEP goals are transitional goals that focus on the student’s success in life skills or employment skills and promote success upon completion of the program. Competency based assessments are used based on IEP goals and students are expected to master those competencies “3 times based on 5 times” presented in order to move to the next skill. Every students IEP are individualized as well as their Competency assessments.

Our two goals that we will be measuring this year are:

All students will (3 out of 5 times presented) progress learning to meet their IEP goals.
All students will (3 out of 5 time presented) gain knowledge and master skills while in attendance at internal/external jobsites.

We will work towards 25% of students showing growth monthly and a culmination of 75% showing growth by end of first semester of school.

Instructional Delivery & Exposure to Core Content

Students who choose the Virtual Option for learning will have lessons delivered via zoom platform in synchronous and asynchronous project-based units. A box of project materials will be delivered to the student for five weeks of instruction. Lessons will be delivered via group zoom meetings, learning about the task at hand, and later work with instructions to assemble, build and create the project. Each lesson will take multiple classes to complete. Teachers will be available during off instruction time for individual virtual coaching.

F2F instruction will take place in small cohorts in the classroom. Students will work in synchronous and asynchronous project-based units that will focus on individual IEP goals. Students will rotate (in cohorts) into internal/external jobsite for hands-on real-world job skill growth.
Equitable Access

Since we are a 100% school for special needs students, we provide equitable access for each individual student in our program comply with all MARSE and Office of Special Education state and federal mandates regarding equitable access for all students.

Our students IEP goals have been amended with Contingency Plans that will enable equitable access to education while in each of our three types of schedules, Virtual, Face to Face, and Blended learning.
The Rising Stars Academy Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan was approved by its Board of Directors on September 17, 2020 and was submitted to its authorizer, Center Line Public Schools, on September 23, 2020.

A copy of the plan including this signature page will be made accessible through the reporting link on the district’s/PSA’s website by no later than October 12, 2020. Additionally, the district/PSA understands that it must meet the following Reconfirmation Meeting Requirements:

- Every 30 days after the school district’s Extended COVID-19 Learning Plan has been approved, the school district must reconfirm the manner in which instruction is going to be delivered during the 2020-2021 school year.

- Reconfirmation must occur at a meeting of the school district’s board or board of directors, and the school district must solicit public comment from the parents or legal guardians of students enrolled in the district during the reconfirmation meeting.

- The school district must publicly announce its weekly 2-way interaction rates at each reconfirmation meeting.

Deborah Frenter
Rising Stars Academy Superintendent

10/7/20
Date

CLPS Superintendent/Authorizer

10/7/20
Date