



SUMMARY STATEMENT

P1648 – Restart and Recovery Plan (M) (New)

On June 26, 2020, the New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) published “The Road Back - Restart and Recovery Plan for Education” (NJDOE Guidance), a guidance document for reopening New Jersey schools in September 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic. School districts are required to develop a Restart and Recovery Plan (Plan) for the reopening of schools for September 2020 that is consistent with the NJDOE Guidance. The NJDOE Guidance indicates each school district must develop, in collaboration with community stakeholders, the details of their Plan to reopen schools in September 2020. Strauss Esmay has developed a Plan Template a school district may use in developing their Plan.

The Plan Template includes items a school district should incorporate into their Plan referred to as “anticipated minimum standards” in the NJDOE Guidance and identifies those areas where the school district must develop protocols that best fit the district’s local needs. The Plan Template is designed to have a school district insert its locally developed protocols into an Appendices section of the Plan Template, which would complete the school district’s Plan.

Strauss Esmay has reviewed the NJDOE Guidance and identified those areas that require a Board Policy. In addition, we have identified areas in the NJDOE Guidance that indicate the school district “must” take specific action. Policy Guide 1648 – Restart and Recovery Plan is a Policy Guide that includes the areas in the NJDOE Guidance that *require* a Policy and areas in the NJDOE Guidance that indicate a school district *must* take specific action. **Sections of the Policy Guide reference Appendices that must be attached to this Policy. These Appendices are the same locally developed protocols school officials included in the school district’s Restart and Recovery Plan.**

The school district must attach Appendices C, E, F, G, K, N, and O from the district’s Restart and Recovery Plan to Policy 1648 in order to meet the Policy requirements of the NJDOE Guidance.

Strauss Esmay believes adopting one Policy that addresses the NJDOE’s Guidance and having to abolish just one Policy when this pandemic is over is preferred to revising six or seven policies now and then revising the same six or seven policies when this pandemic is over. This Policy Guide shall only be effective through the current COVID-19 pandemic and will take precedence over any existing district Policy or Regulation on the same or similar subject, unless determined otherwise by the Superintendent.

Policy Guide 1648 is **MANDATED**