



## 2021-22 Virtual or Remote Instruction Plan for Somerset Hills Learning Institute

In accordance with the requirements to deliver 180 days of instruction during the 2021-22 regular school year, Somerset Hills Learning Institute shall provide full-time, in-person instruction for all students during its usual school-day hours of 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:7F-9 and P.L. 2020, C.27, when students are excluded from school on the basis of NJDOH's COVID-19 exclusion criteria, or in the event of a public-health related school-wide closure, Somerset Hills Learning Institute will ensure continuity of instruction and fulfill its obligation to meet the 180-day requirement by providing students with remote instruction. If a student or classroom is required to quarantine due to meeting the New Jersey Department of Health's (NJDOH) COVID-19 exclusion criteria, or in the event of a public-health related school-wide closure, the Institute will ensure that all students excluded from school and eligible for fulltime remote learning are offered 4 or more hours per day of direct online remote instruction including standards-based learning activities under the teacher's guidance and direction. Furthermore, the Institute will ensure that the expectations for students participating in fulltime remote learning are the same in scope and quality as that of their counterparts receiving in-person instruction, including but not limited to, access to standards-based instruction, availability and use of technology, and implementation of IEP goals and objectives to the greatest extent possible.

We polled every family we serve and learned that 100% of our families have internet access and devices for the execution of our plan. The Institute utilizes Microsoft Teams for virtual instruction. On a routine basis during live-stream video sessions, instructional personnel will continue to identify and evaluate any technology needs that may cause a digital divide such as network access issues, insufficient access to devices, or any other concerns that prevent equitable access to instruction. In addition, Somerset Hills Learning Institute has sufficient resources available to execute its plan and will promptly address any needs as they arise including providing families with IT support and devices if necessary.

Since remote learning capabilities using Microsoft Teams were established with all families and students during the 2020-21 mandated public health-related school closures, and Microsoft Teams continues to be utilized by teachers with students as an instructional tool in various capacities during in-person instruction, Somerset Hills Learning Institute expects a quick and seamless transition to a virtual instruction model using Microsoft Teams in the event of a classroom or school-wide closure.

Somerset Hills Learning Institute does not participate in the national breakfast and/or lunch program as it is not a food service provider for students. Students receiving in-person instruction are required to bring their own lunches and adhere to the procedures specified in our policies. For any students receiving virtual instruction, parents/guardians are responsible for providing meals to their children. There are no families of students enrolled at Somerset Hills Learning Institute who are classified as food insecure. Should any families of enrolled students be re-classified as food insecure or qualify for the Federal free and reduced lunch program, they will be referred to their child's sending school district and applicable community resources for further assistance.

This Board-approved Plan for the 2021-22 school year was shared with all sending districts and is posted on Somerset Hills Learning Institute's website at the following URL address: <https://www.somerset-hills.org>.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**  
Kevin J. Brothers, Ph.D., BCBA-D

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES**  
Stephen J. Nicholl, CVO  
Director of Development  
Diocese of Trenton

William E. Beck, PE  
Senior Advisor  
Chirisa Investments

Gerry-Jo Cranmer  
Broker/Associate  
Turpin Real Estate

Adam S. Gentile, CTFA Managing  
Director  
Tiedemann Wealth Management  
Parent

Cynthia Entwistle  
Village Office Supply

Gary Rupert  
President & CEO (Retired)  
Scotia Capital USA

Rodney Smith  
Lieutenant Colonel (Retired)  
United States Army  
Parent

Carol Van Den Hende  
Trustee Volunteer

**TRUSTEE EMERITI &  
FOUNDERS**

John Sylvester

Florence Block

**PROFESSIONAL ADVISORS**

Shahla Alai-Rosales, Ph.D.  
Assistant Professor  
University of North Texas

Lynn E. McClannahan, Ph.D.  
Executive Director Emerita  
PCDI

**IN PERPETUITY**

Donald M. Baer, Ph.D.  
Roy A. Roberts Distinguished  
Professor of the Department  
of Human Development and  
Family Life  
University of Kansas  
1999\_2002

Don Bushell, Ph.D.  
University of Kansas

Barbara C. Etzel, Ph.D.  
Professor Emerita  
University of Kansas

Patricia J. Krantz, Ph.D.  
Executive Director Emerita PCDI

1810 Burnt Mills Road  
Bedminster, NJ 07921  
908.719.6400  
908.719.6401 Fax  
[www.somerset-hills.org](http://www.somerset-hills.org)