District Recovery Plan

This template can be used to guide the development of a recovery plan following a crisis incident or an incident that substantially impacts a school. The timeframe for recovery will vary but districts should develop a plan that encompasses at least 12-24 months. Each of the key areas noted should be addressed and may be more significant based on the intensity of the incident. This plan should be outlined soon after re-opening to guide recovery efforts.

Steps for Developing and Implementing a Recovery Plan

Step 1: Identify the District Recovery Leadership Team

This team may be an existing leadership team that is specifically tasked with guiding and monitoring recovery efforts or a new team that includes needed expertise and skills. Recovery team members should include a school administrator and dependent on the intensity of the incident may also include district-level participation, and should include as appropriate based on the incident, expertise in mental health, behavior, and wellness of students and staff, trauma-informed practices, differentiating instruction and supports, data systems, analysis and use, human resources, professional development, community service providers.

Step 2: Review existing data to determine:

- Who was most impacted? Make a plan to closely support individuals directly impacted. (e.g, witnessed event, knew victim, close proximity to event)
- How widespread was the impact?
- What existing data (e.g., student and staff attendance) can be easily used to monitor initial recovery
- Verify adequate data systems exist to monitor long-term recovery efforts.

Step 3: Identify a vision and specific goals for recovery.

What does recovery look like for this school community? Consider school community strengths
and specific needs. This vision will be used to help prioritize key actions below. Three to five
goals should be developed aligned with the vision and focused on key recovery priorities. The
plan should be written in a way that both guides school/district recovery and can be shared with
the community.

Step 4: Identify key action steps for each phase of recovery in each relevant content area.

• What are key activities for recovery? Who will be responsible? How will activities be funded and supported?

Step 5: Implement the plan and use self-checks between phases to guide plan adjustments.

 How will recovery progress be measured? How will decisions about needs be made? How will stakeholder opinion be assessed (teachers, students, families, community). How will decisions to withdraw support or increase learning expectations be made?

Content Considerations

The following table lists key content areas and items teams should consider in the development of the plan. Self-check questions can be used to guide adjustments to the plan and should be used at a minimum between each recovery phase. Districts should use these considerations to prompt conversation and assess the need for action items in each area. Not all considerations will apply in all contexts and this list is not intended to be comprehensive of all possible considerations.

Key Area	Considerations and Examples	Self-Check Questions		
District Leadership Team	 Membership: Recovery coordinator Administrators School Safety Coordinator Mental health leaders School Nurse Physical health leaders Communications director Transportation director Food Service director After school coordinator External supports (e.g., SEA or Regional Response Teams including community, regional, state, or federal partners) 	 Do we have the right people on the team to guide recovery? Who might we need to add to guide key elements of our plan? What are the fiscal implications for recovery? Have we established boundaries for our work (e.g., ability to say no to political/public pressure) 		
Recovery Goals	 Restore the learning environment Restore a sense of community and safety Support student wellness and instructional needs Support staff wellness and recovery 	 Are these goals aligned with district and community priorities? Is there agreement/understanding/buyin on the recovery goals (administration of school and district, school board, families, community) How do we know if we are making progress toward these goals? What changes might we need to make to these goals to meet emerging needs in our district? 		
Physical and Structural Recovery				
Physical Repairs & Improvements	 Repair damage Alternate learning space or mobile classrooms. 	 Can temporary repairs be made to hasten re-opening? Is there an alternate instructional space? Portables? 		

	Visual memorial considerations	 What are long-term reconstruction How well did we implement each identified action? What data do we need to identify the impacts of these actions? 	
Security Measures and Protocols	 Controlled building access Classroom locks Limit visual access to classrooms Provide additional support for front office staff Ensure anyone working in the school has a badge who can override the lock system (substitute teachers, short-term MH staff, community-based providers) Consider pausing emergency drills. Once reinstated, pair with high levels of prompting and support 	 What immediate changes can happen? What changes require additional funds and implementation? How well did we implement each identified action? What data do we need to identify the impacts of these actions? 	
	Business Services Reco	very	
Funding	 Donation management State, Federal, or private grants Flexible use or reallocation of existing resources 	 Are these action items aligned with our district recovery goals? 	
Human Resources	 Additional staffing needs (Mental health providers, substitute teachers, etc.) Staff Retention Recruitment and hiring needs Flexible use or reallocation of existing FTE 	 Are identified items aligned with a clear need in our district? How well did we implement each action item? Who is benefiting from these items? 	
Scheduling and Policy	 Reduced schedules Avoid unannounced visitors or schedule disruptions. State Testing Attendance waivers Contract flexibility 	 Who needs more support? What existing data can we use to answer these questions? What new data sources might we need to consider? 	

Public and community relations	 Communications point person Communication across levels school board, community, SEA, regional, federal Community engagement and partnerships Talking points for staff 				
Additional Technical Assistance to facilitate recovery	 Process for vetting offers of support Federal resources including U.S. Department of Education Response and Recovery National organization supports 				
	Health Social Emotional and Behav	vioral Recovery			
Student wellness supports	 Additional access to in-school MH support and services Psychological first aid-Psychological triage-stepped care Trauma-informed practices 	 Are these action items aligned with our district recovery goals? Are identified items aligned 			
Staff wellness supports	 Psychological triage-stepped care Additional access to MH supports and services (all, some, few) Additional classroom support 	 With a clear need in our district? How well did we implement each action item? Who is benefiting from these items? 			
Staff Professional Development	 During phase one, focus on strengthening existing skills and supports and building confidence rather than significant new content During phases 2-3 provide differentiated options with coaching support 	 Who needs more support? What existing data can we use to answer these questions? What new data sources might we need to consider? 			
	Academic Recovery				
Academic Supports	 During phase one, re-introduce academic routines at an independent instructional level Instruction during recovery should include added opportunities for engagement 	 Are these action items aligned with our district recovery goals? Are identified items aligned with a clear need in our district? 			

- and movement. Ensure opportunities for physical movement so the brain can neurologically integrate. This will help the pre-frontal cortex to retain and process information.
- In phase 2, slowly increase academic content and challenge level. Monitor student response and either increase support or decrease rigor or rate as needed to maintain recovery progress
- In phase 3, use multiple types of data to identify groups of students needing more support
- Provide a full continuum of integrated academic and emotional supports
- Upon re-opening and throughout recovery – instruction and academic supports may need to be differentiated across impacted groups
- An inventory of available practices and supports organized within a MTSS framework is useful to teachers and staff

- How well did we implement each action item?
- Who is benefiting from these items?
- When can we begin to withdraw additional support for all students?
- What students need continued support?
- Who needs additional support?
- What existing data can we use to answer these questions?
- What new data sources might we need to consider?

Table 1: General Considerations and Self-Check

District Recovery Plan Template

Key Area	Phase 1: Initial Recovery Goal: Stabilize Learning Environment	Phase 2A: Intermediate Recovery Goal: Differentiate based on data	Phase 2B: Intermediate Recovery Goal: Differentiate based on data	Phase 3: Long Term Recovery Goal: Culture of Wellness Timeline: 12-24
	Timeline: 1-3	Timeline: 3-6	Timeline: 6-12	months
	months Reopening	months	months	
	next significantbreak in schooling			
District				
Leadership				
Team				
Recovery Goals				
	Phy	 vsical and Structural R	ecovery	
Physical				
Repairs &				
Improvements				
Security				
Measures and				
Protocols				
		Business Services Reco	overy	
Funding				
Human				
Resources				
Scheduling and				
Policy				
Public and				
community				
relations				
	Health Soci	al Emotional and Beha	avioral Recovery	ı
Student				
wellness				
supports				
Staff wellness				
supports				
Staff				
Professional				
Development		A and such Burn		
A cadamaia		Academic Recover	y I	
Academic				
Supports Framework to				
organize		<u> </u>	l	<u> </u>

support for all,		
some, few		
Process to		
accelerate and		
differentiate		
instruction for		
students		