

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
92983	078216000	Pathways In Education-Arizona, Inc.

How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	The State of Arizona has passed a law (located in section 12, title 15, chapter 3 of the Arizona budget) which prohibits policies that require universal masking on school property during school hours. Based on this legislation, the school has developed the following policy: Face coverings are strongly recommended for individuals but not required. Face coverings will remain optional unless mandated by an Arizona executive order. Masks are made available to students and staff upon request.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Classrooms will be arranged to maximize distance between students to the greatest extent possible. Physical distancing will be encouraged throughout the school campus.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Students will be asked to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol upon arrival at school, before and after meals, and after sneezing, coughing, or blowing their noses. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol after outdoor/physical activity and prior to leaving school at the end of the school day.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Staff clean shared surfaces at the end of each day. The school has cleaning crews scheduled to come in throughout the week to disinfect bathrooms, classrooms, and high touch areas.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	The school regularly consults the CDC, Arizona, and county health department protocols for reported cases. Cases reported to the school will be addressed on an individual basis in consultation with state and local health departments. The school will notify students and staff of any potential exposure. Quarantine may be advised by the state or local health department. If quarantined, students will be provided with technology and support to continue to participate in classwork and other services.

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Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Parents are encouraged to keep student(s) home who has(ve) a temperature and COVID19 like symptoms.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	The school is not currently participating directly in vaccination campaigns. Information about COVID-19 testing and vaccination are provided to parents regularly.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Accommodations are determined on a case by case basis.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Administration tracks policy updates from local and national health departments and follows the recommended protocols.

How the LEA will ensure **continuity of services**, including but not limited to services to address **students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs**, which may include **student health and food services**

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

The LEA will ensure continuity of services to students by resuming all instruction and programming as it was prior to transitioning to distance learning. In the event of classrooms or an entire school quarantine the distance learning plan will be implemented.

Assessments –

Benchmark assessments are administered according to the assessment calendar. Assessments are computer-based and can be administered to students in the classroom or in a remote location if needed.

Instruction -

In-person instruction resumes as it was prior to transitioning to distance learning. In the event of individual students or whole classrooms being quarantined, distance learning modalities will be utilized to ensure there is no delay in providing instruction to students.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	In-person learning will be similar to classroom instruction prior to school closures to COVID. This includes whole group and small group instruction. Intervention will be provided to students to address learning gaps due to lost instructional time. Instructional resources include digital components that allow students to access lesson material from home in the event a student or classroom is quarantined. Teachers use Google Classroom for communication, instruction, and assignments for individual student and whole classroom instruction in the event a student or classroom is quarantined.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Social and Emotional services will continue virtually, if needed. Additionally, the school will continue outreach to students and families to provide assistance to community resources and mental health services in the event quarantine or closure is indicated by the state or local health department.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Information provide to students and parents in need.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Staff are provided with all PPE and supplies needed for them to safely perform their job. Staff are provided with all needed technology and supplies to perform their job satisfactorily in-person and in the event of a school closure. Employees may be assigned
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	alternate duties in the event of a school closure to maintain their employment status to the greatest extent possible.
Other Needs	Address by administration on an as-needed basis.

The LEA must **regularly, but no less frequently than every six months** (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), **review and, as appropriate, revise its plan** for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services **through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision	8/23/23
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Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	School staff and teachers have continuously communicated with students, parents and other relevant school and community stakeholders regarding the schools in-person and distance learning educational options. Feedback is considered/incorporated into any plans moving forward.
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U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

(1) LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

- (a) An LEA must describe in its plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services—
 - (i) how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff and the extent to which it has adopted policies, and a description of any such policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC:
 - (A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.
 - (B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (*e.g.*, use of cohorts/podding)
 - (C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
 - (D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.
 - (E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.
 - (F) Diagnostic and screening testing.
 - (G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
 - (H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
 - (I) Coordination with State and local health officials.
 - (ii) how it will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.
 - (b)(i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section Start Printed Page 212022001(a) of the ARP Act, an LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.
 - (ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account
 - (iii) If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any such policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations.
- (c) If an LEA developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address all the requirements in paragraph (a), the LEA must, pursuant to paragraph (b), revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds to meet the requirements in paragraph (a).

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- (d) An LEA's plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must be—
 - (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
 - (ii) To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent; an
 - (iii) Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent