

**Covington Exempted Village School District**  
**Safe Continuation of In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan**  
**Effective August 1, 2021**

The recently passed American Rescue Plan (ARP) provides substantial federal resources to support states and local school districts. As a result, local school districts are required to develop a plan that details the safe return to in-person instruction and ensures the continuity of services. This plan is accessible to our stakeholders, and will be monitored and revised as necessary based on ongoing review through September 30, 2023.

The Covington Exempted Village Schools successfully operated in-person throughout the 2020-2021 school year, and are committed to returning to most pre-pandemic practices during the 2021-2022 school year. Should health conditions dictate, the District will re-assemble its Building Leadership Teams to review conditions and mitigation strategies to make necessary revisions. The Building Leadership Teams include administrators, the school nurse, and other staff and community members. The teams work in close collaboration with the Miami County Health Department.

**Mitigation Strategies**

**Physical Distancing:** The District will return to pre-pandemic protocols. Physical distancing will be recommended in some settings, but not required.

**Face Coverings:** Unless it is mandated by local authorities, face coverings will not be required for students or staff. If a parent, student, or staff member chooses to wear a face covering, they may do so.

**Handwashing/Respiratory Etiquette:** Handwashing and/or sanitizing will continue to be emphasized throughout the school day. Hand sanitizing stations will remain available throughout the building. Students will be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands when they enter or exit the classrooms, when they enter the cafeteria, when they go to and from recess, and when they enter or exit the school busses. Proper cough and sneeze etiquette will continue to be taught and modeled.

**Facilities:** High touch and high traffic areas will continue to receive additional sanitation. General cleaning protocols will return to pre-pandemic practices. Additional sanitizing will take place during times of increased illness among staff and students.

A Bipolar Ionization system has been added to the district-wide ventilation/HVAC units to purify the air and eliminate bacteria and viruses.

**Contact tracing:** District staff will assist with contact tracing when directed by the Miami County Health Department.

**Diagnostic/Screening Testing:** COVID testing supplies are available upon request from the Miami County Educational Service Center and the Miami County Health Department.

**Vaccinations:** Vaccinations are available throughout Miami County and the surrounding counties. The Miami County Health Department can assist with locating vaccination sites. All CEVSD staff members have been given the opportunity to receive a vaccine through our partnership with the Miami County Health Department and the Kroger Corporation. All students and staff who are eligible to receive the vaccine are encouraged to do so, but the District understands that this is a personal/family decision.

### **Continuity of Services**

**Safety Accommodations for Students with Disabilities:** The district will provide health and safety accommodations in accordance with each student's Individual Education Plan. The district will make every effort to collaborate with families regarding individual special needs and will work closely with families to provide safety protocols that address their unique circumstances.

**Student Academic Needs:** The vast majority of the Covington Exempted Village School District's students and staff returned to full in-person instruction in August of 2020. Teachers formally and informally assessed students throughout the 2020-2021 school year in a variety of ways to identify and address any learning loss that occurred as a result of school closures. Some of those assessment measures included, but were not limited to, the following: KRA for Kindergarten, K-3 Third Grade Reading Guarantee diagnostic, MAP in reading/math for grades K-10, ACT for juniors, State assessments/End of Course Exams, CoGat, local measures from a textbook series and/or teacher-developed assessments. Assessments began early in the 2020-2021 school year, and continued frequently. Teachers provided intervention for those students who showed any signs of learning loss or gaps. Those interventions included, but were not limited, to: Title I Reading services, 504 Plans, IEP services, Reading/Math intervention programs, Literacy intervention programs, PBIS tiered supports, and summer school. Administrators, teaching staff, and classroom aides will analyze data and continue to address the learning needs of all students as we carefully monitor the effects of the pandemic closure from the spring of 2020. Increased attention, assessment and interventions will be provided to the small percentage of students who are transitioning from virtual instruction back to our buildings.

**Student/Staff Social, Emotional, Mental Health Needs:** The Covington Exempted Village School District will continue to closely monitor and assess the social, emotional, and mental health needs of our students and staff, as we have done throughout the 2020-21 school year during in-person instruction. Our guidance counselors, nurse, school resource officer, teachers, administrators, and classified employees will remain vigilant to the needs of all students. Additional programming, surveys, and/or outside services will be utilized to address any SEL issues. PBIS, building level and Intervention Assistance teams will continue to play a vital role in assessing and communicating the needs of students. Services offered include: New Creations Counseling Services, Tier II PBIS mentoring, Employee Assistance Program, Employee Wellness Program, and RTI.

**Student Health and Nutritional Needs:** The Covington Exempted Village School District has a full time RN on staff to address student health needs and conduct health screenings. Close collaboration and partnerships will also continue with our local emergency responders, law enforcement, and agencies who provide vital health/safety services to our families.

The Covington Exempted Village School District will continue to offer daily food service that meets all federal requirements. All students are eligible to eat free breakfast and lunch at school through June of 2022. Families who are known to struggle with food insecurity will be confidentially directed to local organizations for help during the summer. We also conduct a “Friday Food Program” to ensure that students have access to breakfast and lunch on weekends and over breaks.

### **Reviews and Input**

**Periodic Reviews:** The Covington Exempted Village School District will review the plan regularly and will make modifications as necessary. Continued collaboration and guidance will be sought from the Miami County Health Department. Input will also be sought from local Stakeholders as needed.

### **ARP ESSER III Use of Funds**

As part of the American Rescue Plan, Covington Exempted Village Schools intends to use the American Rescue Plan Elementary and Secondary School emergency Relief (ARP ESSER III) fund allocation award of \$1,182,350 for the following purposes for past and future expenses between March 13, 2020 and September 30, 2023.

The District will use approximately \$150,000 of ESSER III funds for payroll associated with maintaining in-person learning for the entire 2020/2021 school year and use \$85,000 in ESSER III funding for expenses incurred for online learning and Chromebook replacement. The District also plans to use approximately \$100,000 for expenses incurred for capital improvements to the HVAC system that improved air quality and \$20,000 for drinking fountain upgrades and cleaning supplies. The District has budgeted \$75,000 over the grant

period to renovate the High School library to add additional learning space and \$100,000 over the next two school years for school safety personnel. Approximately \$650,000 of the ESSER III allocation will be used towards personnel expense and diagnostic tools during the 21/22 and 22/23 school years to address learning loss. The plan includes using the grant money to fund personnel such as a full-time substitute, a HS intervention specialist, elementary intervention staff, and personnel to support summer school.

Covington Exempted Village Schools plan is to utilize funds over the course of three years for allowable expenses that have been, or will be, incurred through the 2022-2023 school year. This plan will be continually evaluated and adjusted to address the needs of the district.

Please call the Covington Board of Education office with any questions.