



# ARRP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

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Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARRP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARRP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*, hereinafter referred to as a *Health and Safety Plan*.

Based on ARRP requirements, 90 percent of ARRP ESSER funds will be distributed to school districts and charter schools based on their relative share of Title I-A funding in FY 2020-2021. **Given Federally required timelines, LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARRP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARRP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARRP ESSER application.**

Each LEA must create a Health and Safety Plan that addresses how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and which will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the period of the LEA's ARRP ESSER grant. The Health and Safety Plan should be tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and its schools and must take into account public comment related to the development of, and subsequent revisions to, the Health and Safety Plan.

The ARRP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;
2. How the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services;

3. 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 policy 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 State and local health departments;
  - f. Diagnostic and screening testing;
  - g. Efforts to provide COVID-19 vaccinations to school communities;
  - h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
  - i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The LEA's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website by July 30, 2021. \* The ARP Act requires LEAs to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

LEAs may use the template to revise their current Health and Safety Plans to meet ARP requirements and ensure all stakeholders are fully informed of the LEA's plan to safely resume instructional and non-instructional school activities, including in-person learning, for the current school year. An LEA may use a different plan template or format provided it includes all the elements required by the ARP Act, as listed above.

\* The July 30 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2020-2021 and intend to apply for and receive ARP ESSER funding.

## **Additional Resources**

LEAs are advised to review the following resources when developing their Health and Safety Plans:

- [CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy](#)
- [PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19](#)
- [PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders](#)
- [PDE Accelerated Learning Thorough an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

## **Health and Safety Plan Summary: Trinity Area School District**

**Initial Effective Date: June 17, 2021**

**Date of Last Review: January 6, 2022**

**Date of Last Revision: January 6, 2022**

1. How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning? The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. Plans will be presented to the governing Board for informational and approval if required, when changes are necessary. Facilities and practices will be adapted to the extent possible to ensure that appropriate prevention and mitigation processes are followed. Every effort will be expended to provide the best educational practices and student experiences in a safe, health educational environment.
2. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services? Educational models will be adapted to the needs of the students as appropriate including virtual if needed. The T ASD will provide in-person and remote learning options, (limited, partial/hybrid or full-time cyber school model.) Social, emotional, mental health and other needs will be monitored and provided by school health providers, social workers and other mental behavior specialists when needed. All resources will be exhausted to provide an effective educational experience for all students. Food service will be provided using various models as appropriate to the situation, including the availability of free meals for all students throughout the entire 2021-2022 school year.
3. Use the table below to explain 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LEA will monitor the latest mandates from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the mandates change.</li> <li>The district will no longer require face coverings for students or staff on school campuses, in schools or during extracurricular activities. Face coverings may be worn based on family preference. The district will be mindful of the most recent PDE, PADOH, and CDC guidance.</li> <li>Masks are mandatory on all district transportation (bus or van) whenever the students are being transported under supervision of the school entity for academic, curricular, co-curricular or extra-curricular activities.</li> <li>Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings or any other parts of the health and safety plans should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.</li> <li>As of June 28, 2021, the Pennsylvania Department of Health lifted the commonwealth's mask order requiring universal face coverings statewide. The wearing of masks or face coverings will be optional for all Trinity Area students and staff unless mandated by the PA Secretary of Health, Governor, or other governing authority.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the directives and recommendations change.</li> <li>Determine the maximum capacity for each room.</li> <li>Turn desks in the same direction.</li> <li>Balance class numbers as much as possible – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable).</li> <li>Limit physical interaction through partner or group work.</li> <li>Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums and outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing.</li> </ul>

· Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;

- The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the directives and recommendations change.
- Daily cleaning of schools with soap and water to decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure. Apply to frequently touched surfaces and objects including door handles, sink handles and drinking fountains.
- At least daily and throughout the day disinfecting schools and transportation vehicles using EPA- approved disinfectants against COVID-19 to reduce the risk.
- Use of routine cleaning practices for indoor areas that have not been used for 7 or more days or outdoor equipment.
- Follow standard protocols to clean surfaces that are not high touch.
- Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example by opening windows and doors. Do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety or health risk (e.g., risk of falling, triggering asthma symptoms) to children using the facility.
- Verify filters are installed correctly:
  - Develop schedule for frequency of filter replacement and type of filters to be utilized.
  - Select filtration levels (MERV ratings) that are maximized for equipment capabilities, use MERV 13 if equipment allows, while assuring the pressure drop is less than the fans capability.
  - See Filtration Upgrades.
  - Adjusting to maximize outdoor air or disabling operation of DCV if it will not adversely impact operation of overall system
- Mechanical systems should operate in occupied mode for minimum period of one week prior to students returning (may be completed at same time as teachers start returning to building) while assuring the outside air dampers are open.
- Maintain proper indoor air temperature and humidity to maintain human comfort, reduce potential for spread of airborne pathogens and limit potential for mold growth in building structure and finishes (refer to **ASFRAC**)

- **Standard 55.** Maintain recommended temperature ranges of 68-78 degrees F dry bulb depending on operating condition and other factors, recommend limiting maximum RH to 60%).
- Trend and monitor temperature and humidity levels in each space to the extent possible and within the capability of BAS.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <u>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from the Governor of the Commonwealth, PDE, PA DOH, and the CDC. The guidelines will change as the mandates change.</li> <li>· Work with school administrators and school nurses to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms.</li> <li>· School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission-Based Precautions when caring for sick people.</li> <li>· Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick home or to a healthcare facility.</li> <li>· Contact the local health authority before acting in response to a known or suspected communicable disease.</li> <li>· Contact the local health authority for further guidance if a parent/guardian/caregiver notifies the school of potential exposure by a student, staff member, or school visitor.</li> <li>· Fill out and submit the Weekly Aggregate Case and Close Contact Report provided by PDE and PADOH Joint Task Force for contact tracing through the FRCPP.</li> <li>· Send out notifications to parents, building staff and students with the appropriate information as needed.</li> <li>· Work closely with the community health center nurses to follow-up and complete contact tracing.</li> <li>· Develop policies and procedures based on CDC guidelines. Ensure that staff and students meet all requirements before returning to school safely.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <u>Diagnostic and screening testing</u>;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Parents are asked to continue health screens prior to sending students to school and to notify our school nurses if your child presents with symptoms, and/or a person in your household is getting tested or has tested positive, and your child is not fully vaccinated.</li> <li>· Check for signs and symptoms of students and staff daily upon arrival.</li> <li>· Consider a process to address privacy concerns of monitoring practices and the potential stigma associated with monitoring and confirmed exposure or cases.</li> <li>· <u>Develop a system for home/self-screening and reporting procedures.</u></li> </ul>



ARP ESSER Requirement

Strategies, Policies, and Procedures

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work with community health centers and hospitals to either provide on-site vaccinations or provide brochures and other information as to when and where staff and students can receive vaccinations at their sites.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings or any other parts of the health and safety plans should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Coordination with state and local health officials.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LEA will work together with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Governor's Joint Task Force, PA DOH, CDC, PDE, and community health agencies and County Emergency Management Agencies to coordinate resources in accordance with their health and safety plan.</li> </ul>

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Trinity Area School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **January 6, 2022**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 Yes  
0 No

Affirmed on: **January 6, 2022**

By:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature\* of Board President)

Jennifer Morgan  
\_\_\_\_\_  
(Print Name of Board President)

\*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

**Option A:** The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

**Option B:** If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.

January 6, 2022