

LEHIGHTON AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

Christina Fish, Superintendent
Edward Rarick, Business Administrator
1000 Union Street, Lehigh, Pennsylvania 18235
Telephone: 610-377-4490 Fax: 610-577-0032

"Partnering with students, families, and community to provide opportunities for life-long success through academic excellence and individual growth in a safe and supportive environment."

Health and Safety Plan Summary 2022-2023 School Year

Initial Effective Date: July 2020
Date of Last Review: July 2021, August 2021, January 2022, March 2022
Date of Last Revision: July 25, 2022, August 22, 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 District will review guidelines and recommendations from the CDC, PA Department of Health, local health officials and PDE in an effort to safely open our schools for in-person learning. The goal is to keep transmission as low as possible to safely continue school activities. The Lehigh Area School District was able to safely provide in-person learning for grades Pre K-8 for the 2020-2021 and Pre K-12 for 2021-2022 school years. The mitigation strategies will continue to be part of the 2022-2023 Health and Safety Plan listed below. Our goal, again for this school year, will be to maximize the amount of in-person learning for all students throughout the District. This plan was developed in consultation with staff and local health officials to meet the unique needs of the Lehigh Area School District. The plan may be revised and updated as federal, state and local health data is received throughout the school year.

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?

The Lehigh Area School District was able to operate summer programs in a safe and healthy environment to address learning loss for students in grades K-8 due to the impact of COVID-19. The students who participated were provided meals through ESSER Grant Funds. Professional and Support Staff offered educational opportunities

for students during the summer months. In addition, the Lehigh Area School District conducted summer Title I Reading and Math Programs for students who qualified. Our School Counselors, Social Worker and Nurses were available as a resource during the above listed programs.

The District will continue to offer support throughout the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. The supports include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS)
- b. Remediation and recovery programs to combat COVID-19 associated learning loss
- c. School Counselors and Social Workers
- d. School Psychologists
- e. Behavior Interventionists
- f. Third Party Health and Safety Providers

3. 2022-2023 Athletics Procedures

LASD Athletics will follow the guidelines/procedures as recommended from our current health/athletic provider (Lehigh Valley Health Network).

4. Transportation 2022-2023

Lehigh Area School District will follow all recommended safety procedures for transportation of students and COVID-19.

5. 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.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>A. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</p>	<p>Employees and students will comply with CDC/PA Department of Health (DOH) masking requirements. At this time, masks will be optional. Students will not be required to wear masks in school related outdoor activities. Masks may be required during visits to the school nurse. Masking is optional during District contracted transportation. Local & State data will be reevaluated upon updated information from CDC to determine universal masking requirements. Siblings of positive cases /close contacts, if symptom free, will be recommended to wear a mask for 10 days following contact.</p>
<p>B. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>Students and employees will be encouraged to maintain physical distance to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate when eating and drinking. Instruction and activities may occur outside if weather permits.</p>

<p>C. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></p>	<p>Lehigh Area School District employees will be/have been trained on proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette. Teachers will teach and reinforce proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette to their students. Additionally, the District will ensure access to adequate supplies including soap and hand sanitizer. Posting of visual signs in high-traffic locations that promote good hygiene.</p>
<p>D. <u>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</u></p>	<p>Lehigh Area School District will follow standard practices and appropriate regulations for cleaning and disinfection. Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting will be performed in accordance with current CDC and PA DOH recommendations/guidelines. Additionally, EPA approved products will be used in accordance with labeling requirements. Furthermore, the District will routinely clean high-touch surfaces and objects. District will occasionally place Halo Machines in classrooms and other areas throughout the buildings for additional cleaning purposes, when necessary. HVAC system/equipment and monitoring will be maintained by our service provider.</p>
<p>E. <u>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</u></p>	<p>Lehigh Area School District will continue to notify the PA DOH of confirmed cases of COVID-19, as required. District will follow the quarantine/isolation guidelines as recommended by the CDC with positive COVID-19 cases.</p>
<p>F. <u>Diagnostic and screening testing;</u></p>	<p>School nurses will advise students, teachers, and staff to stay home if they are sick or if they test positive for COVID-19. Additionally, school nurses will encourage symptomatic individuals to talk to their healthcare provider about getting a COVID-19 test. All parents/guardians should still closely monitor their children and keep them home if symptomatic. All employees should still closely monitor their symptoms and remain home if symptomatic. Parents and guardians of students are required to report positive diagnosis of COVID-19 to their child's school nurse. If any LASD student or community member five years of age or older would like to receive a vaccination, please contact your local provider.</p>
<p>G. <u>Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</u></p>	<p>Lehigh Area School District has facilitated employee vaccination efforts with our local health facilities and IU. Lehigh Area School District will continue to share vaccination clinic information.</p>
<p>H. <u>Visitors to school</u></p>	<p>Please be aware we will follow the guidelines listed below to provide a safe working environment for our students and employees.</p> <p>All Visitors:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • are recommended to use the hand sanitizer provided when they enter a school office area. • must remain in the front office areas until authorized by the principal or designee.
<p>I. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>With regard to health equity considerations in prevention strategies, Lehigh Area School District will implement an individualized approach for each student with disabilities consistent with the student's IEP or Section 504 plan. The District will also consider adaptations to prevention strategies while maintaining efforts to protect students, teachers, and staff from COVID-19.</p>
<p>J. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The District will work collaboratively with the PA DOH/PDE staff on matters related to risk assessment, isolation and quarantine recommendations, and other infection control recommendations.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for the Lehigh Area School District reviewed and approved the above Health and Safety Plan on Monday, **August 22 , 2022**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 Yes

0 No

1 Absent

0 Abstained

Affirmed on: **Monday, August 22 , 2022**

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Joy R Beers

(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.

