



STAFFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

Section 1: Introduction

The purpose of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) III Fund is to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impacts of COVID-19 on the nation's students by addressing students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. This plan describes how Stafford County Public Schools (SCPS) will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and division staff during and following the return to full in-person instruction. Questions about this plan should be directed to Joy S. Eure, Assistant Director of Accounting, at scpsesser@staffordschools.net.

The overall goal of SCPS is to create a safe, engaging environment for students and staff, where students can actively participate in learning, build positive relationships, and demonstrate academic gains while having their physical and social-emotional needs met.

Section 2: Maintaining Health and Safety

SCPS has taken and will continue to take actions to ensure the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and division staff during and following the return to full in-person instruction. A description of actions already taken and additional actions planned is below.

In addition, SCPS has adopted policies to address maintaining health and safety at school in collaboration with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) and the local health department.

- Masks can be worn and are available on request
- Encourage staff, students, and visitors to practice good hygiene.
- Remind staff, students, and visitors to stay home when sick
- Facilities will be cleaned at the end of each day or when determined appropriate.
- Air purifiers and air flow maintenance will be maintained in each building
- Outbreak reporting and notifications will occur when there are 3 or more linked cases.
- SCPS works with VDH and the local health department and recommends following VDH guidance on isolation and quarantine.

Section 3: Continuity of Services

SCPS has taken and will continue to take actions to 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. Addressing learning loss remains a priority with instructional personnel in schools to assist teachers and students as well as online programs to provide individualized adaptive student support in literacy and math. Additional social workers and psychologists help meet social, emotional and mental health needs along with monitoring the needs of the students using social emotional learning software surveys. Tutoring, intervention and enrichment opportunities also will continue to support student recovery.

Section 4: Opportunity for Public Comment

In developing the ARP ESSER Plan, SCPS sought public input and took such input into account as described below.

Parent, staff and community advisory groups had an opportunity to provide input in May 2022 through a survey. Opportunities for comment are also provided during regularly scheduled board meetings and digital public comment

Section 5: Periodic Review and Revision of Plan

During the period of the ARP ESSER award (until September 2023), SCPS will periodically review and, as needed, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and SCPS will seek and take into account public input during the review process. Plan revisions will address updated CDC guidance on safely reopening schools, if any are issued.

Section 6: Making the Plan Available to the Public

The plan is available at www.staffordschools.net/page/32560. If you need additional assistance to have the plan in another language or in another format to accommodate a disability, please email scpsesser@staffordschools.net.