



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARP 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*.

LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application.

By July 30, 2021, the LEA should submit in eGrants its preliminary, unapproved Health and Safety Plan, signifying when the board meeting for approval will occur, and the URL where the approved plan will be posted on the LEA's public website. Then, upon approval by the LEA's governing body, the LEA will submit the final approved Health and Safety Plan and URL no later than September 1, 2021.

The ARP 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 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.

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Northern York County School District

Initial Effective Date: August 25, 2021 (If Board Approved)

Date of Last Review: August 24, 2021 (Board Meeting)

Date of Last Revision: N/A

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 Northern York County School District provided safe and full in-person instruction for grades KG-6 for the entire 2020-2021 school year. Students in grades 7-12 began the year with partial face-to-face instruction and safely transitioned to full in-person instruction on March 22, 2021.

For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.

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?

All students, KG-12, have received a device from NYCS. Mobile hotspots have been purchased for students who do not have internet access at home. The LEA's instructional model plan includes the potential for remote learning.

School counselors, nurses, psychologists, etc. will continue to collaborate with families to meet the varied needs of our students, including those who are homeless or in foster care. Our food service department will continue to provide breakfast and lunch to all students during the 2021-2022 school year.

We are providing two learning options to Northern York families for the 2021-2022 school year: in-person learning 5 days a week or 5 days a week of online learning (NOLA). In addition, as stated in our Emergency Instructional Time application, Northern is prepared to offer full remote learning to all students.

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.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;</p>	<p>The Updated Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health requiring universal face coverings was lifted on June 28, 2021.</p> <p>Local data and feedback suggest that universal mask wearing has caused distraction and discomfort such that student attendance and participation in our instructional program is adversely affected.</p> <p>Face coverings will not be required for students and staff members. The school will support all individuals who prefer to wear a face-covering and will have a limited supply of masks available.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>The District’s goal is to resume pre-COVID measures in our schools, buses, and during school activities. Classrooms, as well as other district facilities, will be organized to allow for physical distancing where feasible.</p> <p>CDC physical distancing requirement will require density levels too low to sustain in-person instruction in existing facilities. The distancing requirements for buses would require the use of additional buses at a cost in excess of current budget allowances and at a staffing level that exceeds the number of available drivers.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;</p>	<p>We will continue to encourage the best practice of hand washing before and after meals, after using the bathroom, and after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing.</p> <p>The schools will stock appropriate supplies (e.g., soap, paper towels, sanitizer, tissue) to support these healthy hygiene practices.</p> <p>Signage indicating proper handwashing procedures will be posted in high-traffic areas throughout the building. Alcohol-</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>based hand sanitizer stations will be provided at strategic high-traffic areas throughout the building.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>Frequently touched surfaces within the school and on buses will be cleaned and disinfected daily. This includes, but is not limited to, door handles, sink handles, and drinking fountains. Extra cleaning attention will be given to areas where positive cases visited.</p> <p>Ventilation rates will be maximized during occupied times to the maximum extent possible. Outside air will be introduced (dampers, windows) if possible. HVAC units are regularly maintained and are serviced as needed.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>We will review any recommendations from the CDC and determine if/how we can implement prevention and mitigation measures, to the greatest extent practicable, based on our district and community needs.</p> <p>Records associated with visitors will be retrievable. Records of confirmed cases will be maintained.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</p>	<p>All students and staff will be asked to self-monitor for COVID symptoms each day prior to arriving at school.</p> <p>Communications will be made to ensure that students and staff members with symptoms know they should not report to school.</p> <p>Symptomatic students and staff will be sent to the nurse.</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>Our school nurses are available to answer any questions from students, staff, and families related to Covid-19.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;</p>	<p>Staff and students will not be required to be vaccinated in order to work at or attend our schools.</p> <p>Information related to vaccine locations will be shared with students and staff (https://www.vaccines.gov/search/).</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>The IEP or 504 Team will reconvene, case-by-case, to develop specially designed instruction, accommodations, or strategies that meet the health and safety needs of students with disabilities.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The District will coordinate with state and local health officials on an as-needed basis related to Covid-19 matters.</p> <p>For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor the ever-changing and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, we will review them, and update the plan accordingly.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Northern York County School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 24, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: August 24, 2021

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

(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.