



UPPER ST. CLAIR SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

Mr. Phillip J. Elias, President • Dr. Daphna Gans, Vice-President
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas • Mr. Patrick A. Hewitt • Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr.
Mr. Michael R. Mascaro • Mrs. Angela B. Petersen • Mrs. Jennifer A. Schnore • Dr. Danielle Z. Wetzel
Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent • Mrs. Jocelyn P. Kramer, Solicitor

SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 10, 2022 @ 7:00pm
High School Theatre

Notice having been advertised and posted and members duly notified, a Board meeting of the Board of School Directors was held on January 10, 2022 in the High School Theater.

School Board Members:

Mr. Phillip J. Elias, President (in-person)
Dr. Daphna Gans, Vice-President (in-person)
Mrs. Barbara L. Bolas (in-person)
Mr. Patrick A. Hewitt (in-person)
Mr. Louis P. Mafrice, Jr. (in-person)
Mr. Michael R. Mascaro (in-person)
Mrs. Angela B. Peterson (in-person)
Mrs. Jennifer A. Schnore (in-person)
Dr. Danielle Z. Wetzel (in-person)

School Personnel:

Dr. John T. Rozzo, Superintendent (in-person)
Dr. Sharon K. Suritsky, Assistant/Deputy Superintendent (in-person)
Mrs. Amy Pfender, Assistant Superintendent (in-person)
Mr. Ray Carson, Senior Director of Operations & Administrative Services (in-person)
Mr. Scott Burchill, Director of Business & Finance (in-person)
Dr. Lou Angelo, Director of Operations & Facilities (in-person)
Mr. Raymond Berrott, Director of Technology (in-person)
Dr. Judith Bulazo, Director of Curriculum and Development (in-person)
Mrs. Cassandra Doggrell, Director Special Education (in-person)
Dr. Lauren Madia, Assistant Director of Pupil Services (in-person)
Mr. Bradley Wilson, Director of Strategic Initiatives (in-person)
Mrs. Jocelyn Kramer, Solicitor (in-person)
Mrs. Sarah MacDonald, Board Stenographer (in-person)



R.J. Shontz, Student Board Representative (not in attendance)
Ashvita Saxena, Student Board Representative (not in attendance)

Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance

(Elias, School Board President)

Mr. Elias called the meeting to order at approximately 7:07pm.

Meeting Procedures

(Kramer, Solicitor)

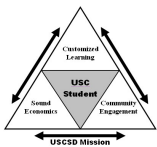
Mr. Elias asked that all residents stay quiet during resident's comments and refrain from booing or otherwise interrupting other resident's comments. He noted that the District has important business to do and the Board must get there intact.

Mrs. Kramer advised that the District has multiple viewing areas available for the public, including a separate area across the hall for residents who didn't feel comfortable in the Theater. She reported that there is only one opportunity for resident's comments, as there is only one Agenda item to be discussed. She noted that comments will alternate between rooms. She explained that the presentation will be given first, and then residents may give their comments, stating their name, confirming they are a resident, and keeping their comments to three minutes.

Reading of the Mission:

(Elias, School Board President)

Mrs. Bolas read the following Mission statement:



Developing lifelong learners and responsible citizens for a global society is the mission of the Upper St. Clair School District, served by a responsive and innovative staff who in partnership with the community provides learning experiences that nurture the uniqueness of each child and promotes happiness and success.

Reading of the Shared Belief Statement #1 from Strategic Plan:

(Elias, School Board President)

Mr. Mafrice read the following shared belief statement #1:

We Believe that:

Education is a shared responsibility and requires collaboration of the institution, the governing authority, the student, the family, and the community.



Health and Safety Plan

(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

- a. The current Health and Safety Plan is revised immediately to include updated quarantine language and remove masking requirements for athletes during competition, per current guidelines. **The local mask requirements will remain unless additional revisions are approved by the Board.**
Immediate Revisions
- b. If directed by the Board, the Health and Safety Plan would be revised further to **remove the local mask requirements and update language to strongly recommend masking in K-12 school buildings no earlier than January 24, 2022.** Additional Revisions 1/24/22

Dr. Rozzo advised that a brief presentation would be given, as well as allowing for opportunity for Board questions and public feedback. Dr. Rozzo gave the presentation, which discussed the following points: Health and Safety Plan options for the Board to consider; Key changes in recent months; Current context; Isolation/Quarantine Revised Guidelines; Chart of revised guidelines; Immediate revisions; Additional revisions to consider; Maintain other mitigation; Educational model considerations; and Implementation timeline. Dr. Rozzo then opened the floor for questions from the Board.

Mr. Hewitt asked a question to Ms. Fisher and Dr. Madia – he asked them to confirm that the District currently has just under 100 students that either had cancer or have some time of autoimmune deficiency placing them in the high -risk category. Ms. Fisher and Dr. Madia advised that yes, that information was correct. Mr. Hewitt then asked if them if the District has 300 additional students that suffer from upper respiratory conditions, which places them at an enhanced risk. They confirmed that yes, that was correct information.

Mr. Mafrice asked a question regarding asymptomatic individuals, who makes the determination that they are asymptomatic and free to come back to school, and the length of time it takes for symptoms to show and the a positive test result to manifest. Ms. Fisher and Dr. Madia advised that it generally takes a few days to notify individuals, and that the District supports families decisions if they choose to keep their child home to observe to them.

Mrs. Petersen asked a question about those who have a medical challenge and if the District makes any special provisions for them – are they in the building every day? Ms. Fisher and Dr. Madia advised that if parents have any concerns about their child's safety, they can reach out to the building nurse or administrators. She noted that the District can create a plan to help the parents feel more comfortable sending their children to school. Mrs. Petersen asked if this planning was taking place pre-pandemic. They advised that yes, the District has been doing this in normal circumstances with all students, with various medical conditions.

Dr. Wetzel asked if Ms. Fisher and Dr. Madia could confirm that the District is in a better space to create educational options for compromised students? They advised that if they are protected students, the District has always worked with those students and families to make sure their needs are met regardless of the situation. Dr. Wetzel then asked if it is it possible to share the vaccination rate of students in the schools. They advised that while the District knows a handful of students who



have been vaccinated, it is not all encompassing number, as the District has not collected this information from families.

Mr. Elias asked if there were any further questions. There were no further questions at this time.

Residents' Comments - (Regarding Any Item)

(Elias, School Board President)

Note: As per Guidelines for Resident's Comments, please state your name and limit your comments to three minutes.

It was noted that there were a handful of residents across the hall in the LGI and that they would like to make comments via the Google meet. There were approximately 40 public comments:

1. Louis Oliverio – meeting location, masking recommendations
2. Brian Thomas – masking recommendations, risk mitigation
3. Caroline Martin – masking recommendations, choice, vaccine
4. Deb Allen – health and safety plan, covid cases
5. Jon Schecter – vaccination rates, health and safety plan
6. Kari Gresh – masking recommendations, health and safety plan, covid
7. Alliyson Feldman – thanks, health and safety plan, masking recommendations, protect immunocompromised.
8. Mike Gilkensen? –masking recommendations
9. Ian Thomas – thanks, masking recommendations, health and safety plan
10. Sid Mukajee – thanks, informed choice, masking recommendations, health and safety plan
11. David Murray – choice, masking recommendations, health and safety plan
12. Stephanie Harris – thanks, covid cases, masking recommendations and health and safety plan
13. Andrew Baldasare – parent choice, masking recommendations, health and safety plan
14. Jessica Divatis – vaccines, masking recommendations
15. Resident Name Unclear - masking recommendations, mask usage studies
16. Heather Shields – masking recommendations, health and safety plan, choices
17. Michelle Burgess – masking recommendations, health and safety plan, covid cases
18. Stephanie Cooper – covid cases, masking recommendations, choices, health and safety plan
19. Mandy Thomas – health and safety plan, masking recommendations, timeline
20. Jessie Enlow – masking recommendations, parent choice
21. Samantha Last Name Unclear – masking recommendations
22. Amy Baldasare – masking recommendations
23. Courtney Stetter – question
24. Kyle Pirnat – thanks, roll call vote, masking recommendations
25. Beatrice Shirley – masking recommendations, health and safety plan
26. Alexis Madden – roll call vote, learning loss evaluation, health and safety plan, parent choice
27. Dr. Whiteford – covid cases, masking recommendations, health and safety plan



28. Adam Mudrick – thanks, masking complications, parent choice, health and safety plan, masking recommendations
29. Jim Jones – masking recommendations, health and safety plan
30. Laura Hutter – covid
31. Bethany Salman – covid cases, thanks
32. Mary Lavezoli – masking recommendations, mask safety
33. Paul Zambri – masking recommendations, safety
34. Carrie Fick – health and safety plan, masking recommendations
35. Erin Shevock – masking recommendations, safety
36. Adam Last Name Unclear – thanks, masking recommendations, safety
37. Brittany Mudrick – students and gender, vaccination status
38. Jeff Moeslein – thanks, meeting venue, mask choice, covid
39. Eric Shillo – masking recommendations, safety, vaccines, accommodations, choice issues
40. Amanda Nuddley – masking recommendations, health and safety plan

Board Discussion and Approval of Revised Health and Safety Plan(s)

(Elias, School Board President)

Immediate Revisions

Additional Revisions 1/24/22

i. Board Discussion

Mr. Elias asked if there were any comments or questions from the Board.

There were no comments or questions at this time.

The first motion was brought to the floor.

Mrs. Petersen noted that for the public's clarification the current vote is for immediate revisions to the plan and the second vote is in regards to masking. Dr. Rozzo confirmed that yes, that is true.

Mrs. Petersen asked for clarification that this motion was regarding revisions that have to be made now. Mr. Elias confirmed that is correct and the motion for masking will be coming next.

- ii. MOTION: By Hewitt: I move that the Board approve revisions to the Health and Safety Plan as attached, effective immediately. Attachment - Immediate Revisions.
Seconded by Bolas and carried by unanimous roll call vote.

The second motion was brought to the floor.

Mr. Hewitt thanked the community for their participation. He also advised that in light of the post-holiday explosion of covid cases, the Board should entertain a motion to postpone the vote for two weeks.



Mrs. Kramer clarified that the motion is to postpone the masking vote until the next meeting, January 24, 2022.

Dr. Wetzel asked Mrs. Kramer a question regarding the jurisdiction and rules that Board is accountable for during their vote. Mrs. Kramer advised Dr. Wetzel about the Board's authority based on current the school code.

Mrs. Petersen asked Mrs. Kramer about the requirements in the school code regarding health measures. Mrs. Kramer answered her question, advising about the general language in the school code currently in regards to health measures.

Mrs. Bolas asked a question regarding the timing of the tabling of the motion. She asked if the vote was postponed if there would be a new two-week planning period starting from the 24th. Dr. Rozzo advised that yes, the two-week planning period would begin from the 24th, to allow the Administration time to plan for scheduling and staffing.

Dr. Gans asked Dr. Rozzo if it is possible to shorten the two-week planning period. Dr. Rozzo advised they could potentially shorten the period, but it would be a challenge to shorten it too much, as the two-week period will be used to plan for scheduling and staffing should students choose to a different learning model.

Dr. Wetzel asked that if the District waited to vote, if there could be any educational harm due to the delay. Dr. Rozzo advised that it would be more challenging for the high school, in terms of scheduling, the further the vote is removed from the start of the new semester.

Mr. Elias advised he is opposed to delaying the vote.

Dr. Wetzel and Mr. Elias asked questions about the rules for masking and quarantine. Mr. Elias noted that no matter the decision they make, it will be unpopular, as schools are being sued for mandating masks and schools are being sued for not mandating masks. Dr. Rozzo noted that schools are being placed in a position to make decisions they should have never have had to make.

Ms. Schnore stated that this is the first time that the Administration has not made a recommendation to the Board. She asked Dr. Rozzo if he thinks children will move out of the District if mask-optional passes. Dr. Rozzo advised that movement will be seen both ways depending on the vote, and that those numbers will drive staffing decisions.

Mr. Mascaro advised that he agreed with Mr. Elias. He sees the concerns on both sides and that if a decision is not made now, the District is just kicking the can down the road. He advised that the Board needs to make the vote tonight.

Mrs. Bolas advised how much she appreciated the comments from the public. She reported that she will not support the motion to postpone the vote, as the Board needs to give the staff the best opportunity to plan for all options.



Mr. Mafrice thanked everyone for participating in the meeting. He noted that the arguments were compelling from both sides and the he would not mind having more time to digest the discussions and would not have a problem waiting a few more weeks to vote on the motion.

Dr. Gans questioned that if the Board was to wait two more weeks, what additional information would be available to help the Board make their decisions. She noted it is not an easy decision to make and she doesn't believe there will be that much more additional, helpful information and data to make an more-informed decision. She advised that she is just sharing her concerns, specifically about delaying the vote.

Dr. Wetzel noted that she liked the question about data and was not optimistic about more being available. She advised that she believed the Board is just kicking the can down the road and does not support the decision to postpone the vote.

Ms. Schnore advised that the timing right, with the spike in cases, concerns her and that any mitigation that the school can use to help keep students in school is something that she supports. She noted that she was hoping that to postpone the vote for two more weeks would give her more data to make an informed decision.

Mrs. Petersen called the motion to postpone the vote to the floor.

iii. MOTION:	By Hewitt: I move that the Board Postpone the agenda item to vote on masking until a date certain, January 24, 2022. Seconded by Schnore. The motion to postpone the vote failed to pass, seven to two, via a roll call vote.
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Mrs. Bolas reported that each Board member comes to the table with various life experiences. She noted that her experiences have helped shape her belief in choices, and she will be supporting the county's recommendation, so that each family can make their own choice.

Dr. Gans advised that she agrees and will make the decision to change the health and safety plan wording to read: strongly recommending masks.

Mr. Mafrice echoed Dr. Gans statements. He advised that he will support the motion as written.

Mrs. Petersen reported that the welfare of children has been the guiding light of the Board and that the decision is a personal one for her, noting that even within her own family feelings are split on masking. She noted that as a parent of grown children, she believes in parent choice and will be supporting the motion.

Mr. Hewitt advised that the Board is nine ordinary, random members of the community who are trying to give back to the community. He noted that the pandemic seems to be peaking right now and that it seems counterintuitive to change the current strategy. He noted that he is concerned about the high-risk students if masks are removed and that he will not be supporting the motion.



The final motion was brought to the floor for roll call vote.

- iv. MOTION: By Petersen: I move that the Board approve additional revisions to the Health and Safety Plan as attached, effective on January 24, 2022. Attachment - Additional Revisions 1/24/22. Seconded by Hewitt. The motion passed, seven to two, via roll call vote.

Matters of Information/Other
(Rozzo, Superintendent of Schools)

Dr. Rozzo advised there were no matters of information at this time.

Announcement Regarding Executive Session
(Elias, School Board President)

Mr. Elias announced the following Executive Session:

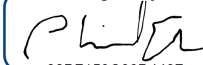
- a. An Executive Session was held on December 20, 2021 for Personnel, Litigation, and Bargaining.

Adjournment
(Elias, School Board President)

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:16pm, on a motion from Mr. Hewitt.

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Submitted by: Sarah MacDonald
SCHOOL BOARD STENOGRAPHER

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Philip J. Elias, President
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS

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Scott P. Burchill, Secretary
BOARD OF SCHOOL DIRECTORS



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*.

Based on ARP requirements, 90 percent of ARP 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 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.**

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 ARP 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 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. 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 Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Upper St. Clair SD**Initial Effective Date: June 28, 2021, First Revision August 18, 2021****Date of Last Review: January 10, 2022****Date of Last Revision: January 10, 2022, effective on January 24, 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 School District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidance. The School District will maintain proper cleaning, disinfecting, and ventilation strategies. Students and staff will review daily screening criteria to self-assess their health. Those individuals who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 will complete a return to school/work process. The School District will encourage and provide for the hand hygiene of all students, staff, and visitors. The School District will continue to partner with local health officials to complete contact tracing and identify individuals for quarantine and/or isolation.

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 School District will provide instructional and non-instructional staff to ensure all students have access to quality learning opportunities and services as determined by the students' individualized education program or individual service agreements. Asynchronous cyber courses developed and supervised by certified District teachers will be an option for students who choose not to attend in-person.

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
a. Universal and correct wearing of <u>masks</u>;	The District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines regarding face coverings. Per CDC guidance, the District strongly recommends face coverings for all students, staff, volunteers, and visitors indoors in all District K-12 schools regardless of vaccination status. ~~Masks are required for all students, staff, volunteers, and visitors indoors in all district K-12 schools. Masks must be~~

~~should be~~ well-fitting, properly worn, and in line with CDC mask recommendations.

~~Students improperly/inconsistently wearing masks or wearing masks that do not meet CDC recommendations may be required to quarantine if exposed.~~

A mask is required for all individuals while on school buses per current CDC mandate.

~~Students may remove masks in the following conditions:~~

- ~~• When outside~~
- ~~• When eating / drinking at least six feet from others~~
- ~~• During a mask break (outside of classroom and at least 6 ft. of distance)~~

~~Staff may remove masks in the following conditions:~~

- ~~• When outside~~
- ~~• When alone in work spaces~~
- ~~• When eating / drinking at least six feet from others~~
- ~~• When wearing a mask creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.~~

~~Student athletes participating in indoor sports must be masked, unless it would be unsafe for them to do so. Students who are engaged in high intensity activities, like running or wrestling, may be permitted to temporarily remove their mask if it causes difficulty breathing, creates or exacerbates a medical or respiratory condition, or creates a safety concern.~~

~~The Superintendent is authorized to modify the masking policy based on local conditions and applicable quarantine requirements.~~

~~The District will continuously monitor local conditions and may modify masking at~~

	~~any time upon written notice of the update from the Superintendent. If masking requirements are modified or removed, the Superintendent will communicate any changes for students, staff, and visitors within K-12 buildings.~~ The District will comply with any local, state, and/or federal requirements for face coverings/masks, as applicable.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines. Schools may use cohorts to the extent possible while providing for the educational needs of students. Schools may implement physical distancing measures whenever feasible to limit exposure between individuals. In classrooms, students are distanced at least 3 feet apart to the maximum extent possible. Schools may use staggered release between instruction and at arrival and dismissal to the extent possible with the aim of minimizing contact between groups of students. At the high school, students with free mods may be directed to a particular location. In all schools for all classes and times of the day, teachers and staff must keep accurate seating charts with attendance notes needed for possible contact tracing.
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u>	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines. Students and staff are encouraged to sanitize/wash their hands upon entry to the building as well as exiting the building. Students and staff are also be given time to sanitize and/or wash their hands at the

	following times: before and after lunch, before and after mask removal, after using the restroom, upon changing location in the building throughout the day, after recess and/or gym, and as needed if hands become soiled including but not limited to after sneezing and coughing. Current hand sanitizers and soap dispensers have been replaced with touchless equipment, the number of sanitizers within the district has been increased.
d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines. Cleaning: Daily cleaning by custodial staff Nutrition centers utilize a timed cleaning schedule in all food preparation areas. Cleaning supplies are provided for use by school staff as desired. Ventilation: Use MERV 13, 14, and 15 filters in HVAC units. Adjust air turnover rates to exceed ASHRAE standards and increase outside airflow into the buildings. Change all filters. Run exhaust fans continuously during winter months.
e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines. District follows all quarantine and contact tracing directed by the ACHD/DOH. In all schools, teachers and staff keep accurate seating charts with attendance notes needed for possible contact tracing. To the extent feasible, the District will notify known close contacts of ACHD quarantine guidelines and/or provide exposure notices. The District recommends that all students and staff

	follow the most current ACHD quarantine guidelines, even if asymptomatic. A student or staff member who is quarantined by ACHD following close contact with a case may not return to school until cleared to do so by ACHD/DOH guidelines. The District excludes symptomatic students and staff and positive COVID cases. The District follows the most updated ACHD/DOH/CDC isolation guidance for return to school/work following a positive COVID test or symptom onset. This is coordinated through HR (staff) and school nurses (students) in consultation with ACHD and/or medical providers.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	Using the symptom/exposure screening tool, parents/guardians are asked to complete a daily health check on students prior to leaving the house for school. School staff are available to assist with symptom/exposure screening upon arrival to school (due to varying home circumstances) when needed. Staff members, including contracted services & substitutes, review symptom/exposure screening prior to coming to work. Staff members who do not pass the symptom/exposure screening do not report to work. Students/Staff not attending school/work due to symptom screening results / symptom presentation must stay home until asymptomatic and/or cleared by a physician to return to school per ACHD/DOH/PDE guidelines and verified by school nurse (student) or HR personnel (staff). The District will follow any local, state, or federal orders regarding required testing

	and/or quarantine after travel for all students and staff.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;	The School District has hosted vaccination clinics for school staff and students 16 and older. School nurses provide information to any family seeking access to vaccination.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	The School District will review additional mitigation options for staff members and students who are at higher risk for severe illness, including necessary accommodations under the ADA, Section 504, or the IDEA.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The School District will continue to communicate any known cases with the Allegheny County Health Department and/or PA DOH and will partner to provide needed contact tracing information. The School District will continue to seek consultation as needed from local health officials and appropriate medical experts.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Upper St. Clair School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **January 10, 2022, effective on January 24, 2022.**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

Affirmed on: **January 10, 2022**

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.

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ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

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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 ARP 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 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. 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 Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Upper St. Clair SD**Initial Effective Date: June 28, 2021, First Revision August 18, 2021****Date of Last Review: January 10, 2022****Date of Last Revision: January 10, 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 School District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidance. The School District will maintain proper cleaning, disinfecting, and ventilation strategies. Students and staff will review daily screening criteria to self-assess their health. Those individuals who exhibit symptoms of COVID-19 will complete a return to school/work process. The School District will encourage and provide for the hand hygiene of all students, staff, and visitors. The School District will continue to partner with local health officials to complete contact tracing and identify individuals for quarantine and/or isolation.

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 School District will provide instructional and non-instructional staff to ensure all students have access to quality learning opportunities and services as determined by the students' individualized education program or individual service agreements. Asynchronous cyber courses developed and supervised by certified District teachers will be an option for students who choose not to attend in-person.

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
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;	The District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines regarding face coverings. Masks are required for all students, staff, volunteers, and visitors indoors in all District K-12 schools. Masks must be well-fitting, properly worn, and in line with CDC mask recommendations. Students improperly/inconsistently wearing masks or wearing masks that do

not meet CDC recommendations may be required to quarantine if exposed.

A mask is required for all individuals while on school buses per current CDC mandate.

Students may remove masks in the following conditions:

- When outside
- When eating / drinking at least six feet from others
- During a mask break (outside of classroom and at least 6 ft. of distance)

Staff may remove masks in the following conditions:

- When outside
- When alone in work spaces
- When eating / drinking at least six feet from others
- When wearing a mask creates an unsafe condition in which to operate equipment or execute a task.

~~Student athletes participating in indoor sports must be masked, unless it would be unsafe for them to do so. Students who are engaged in high intensity activities, like running or wrestling, may be permitted to temporarily remove their mask if it causes difficulty breathing, creates or exacerbates a medical or respiratory condition, or creates a safety concern.~~

Competing athletes are not required to wear masks, but masks will continue to be required while not actively participating in a practice or contest.

The Superintendent is authorized to modify the masking policy based on local conditions and applicable quarantine requirements.

The District will continuously monitor local conditions and may modify masking at

	any time upon written notice of the update from the Superintendent. If masking requirements are modified or removed, the Superintendent will communicate any changes for students, staff, and visitors within K-12 buildings. The District will comply with any local, state, and/or federal requirements for face coverings/masks, as applicable. The School District posts information in schools about proper wearing of masks. School nurses provide education about proper wearing as needed for individuals wearing masks.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines. Schools may use cohorts to the extent possible while providing for the educational needs of students. Schools may implement physical distancing measures whenever feasible to limit exposure between individuals. In classrooms, students are distanced at least 3 feet apart to the maximum extent possible. Schools may use staggered release between instruction and at arrival and dismissal to the extent possible with the aim of minimizing contact between groups of students. At the high school, students with free mods may be directed to a particular location. In all schools for all classes and times of the day, teachers and staff must keep accurate seating charts with attendance notes needed for possible contact tracing.
c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines.

	Students and staff are encouraged to sanitize/wash their hands upon entry to the building as well as exiting the building. Students and staff are also be given time to sanitize and/or wash their hands at the following times: before and after lunch, before and after mask removal, after using the restroom, upon changing location in the building throughout the day, after recess and/or gym, and as needed if hands become soiled including but not limited to after sneezing and coughing. Current hand sanitizers and soap dispensers have been replaced with touchless equipment, the number of sanitizers within the district has been increased.
d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines. Cleaning: Daily cleaning by custodial staff Nutrition centers utilize a timed cleaning schedule in all food preparation areas. Cleaning supplies are provided for use by school staff as desired. Ventilation: Use MERV 13, 14, and 15 filters in HVAC units. Adjust air turnover rates to exceed ASHRAE standards and increase outside airflow into the buildings. Change all filters. Run exhaust fans continuously during winter months.
e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	District reviews PDE, DOH, and CDC guidelines. District follows all quarantine and contact tracing directed by the ACHD/DOH. In all schools, teachers and staff keep accurate seating charts with attendance notes needed for possible contact tracing.

	To the extent feasible, the District will notify known close contacts of ACHD quarantine guidelines and/or provide exposure notices. The District recommends that all students and staff follow the most current ACHD quarantine guidelines, even if asymptomatic. A student or staff member who is quarantined by ACHD following close contact with a case may not return to school until cleared to do so by ACHD/DOH guidelines. The District excludes symptomatic students and staff and positive COVID cases. The District follows the most updated ACHD/DOH/CDC isolation guidance for return to school/work following a positive COVID test or symptom onset. This is coordinated through HR (staff) and school nurses (students) in consultation with ACHD and/or medical providers.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	Using the symptom/exposure screening tool, parents/guardians are asked to complete a daily health check on students prior to leaving the house for school. School staff are available to assist with symptom/exposure screening upon arrival to school (due to varying home circumstances) when needed. Staff members, including contracted services & substitutes, review symptom/exposure screening prior to coming to work. Staff members who do not pass the symptom/exposure screening do not report to work. Students/Staff not attending school/work due to symptom screening results / symptom presentation must stay home until asymptomatic and/or cleared by a physician to return to school per ACHD/DOH/PDE guidelines and verified

	by school nurse (student) or HR personnel (staff). The District will follow any local, state, or federal orders regarding required testing and/or quarantine after travel for all students and staff.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u>;	The School District has hosted vaccination clinics for school staff and students 16 and older. School nurses provide information to any family seeking access to vaccination.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	The School District will review additional mitigation options for staff members and students who are at higher risk for severe illness, including necessary accommodations under the ADA, Section 504, or the IDEA.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The School District will continue to communicate any known cases with the Allegheny County Health Department and/or PA DOH and will partner to provide needed contact tracing information. The School District will continue to seek consultation as needed from local health officials and appropriate medical experts.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Upper St. Clair School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **January 10, 2022**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

Yes

No

Affirmed on: **January 10, 2022**

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.