



Jackson County School District

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ESSER III ARP)

As a requirement of the American Rescue Plan (ARP): Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) fund, the Jackson County School District has developed the plan outlined below for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. This plan incorporates public comments from members of the Jackson County School District community and ensures the continuity of services including, but not limited to, services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS:

Special Education - \$1,500,000

Addressing the emotional, social, and mental health needs of all students.

- Mental health counselors
- Psychologist
- Positive Behavioral Interventionists

Human Resources - \$60,000

Maintain continuity in services by managing staffing that supports students' academic/social/emotional/mental health needs.

- Additional HR staff member

Curriculum - \$3,602,264.00

Addressing learning loss and the implementation of evidence-based interventions during and after normal school hours.

- 3-year subscription to all existing curriculum programs
- 1 Instructional Coach (funded for 3 years)
- Summer Curriculum
- Summer Camp
- Summer Learning Transportation
- ACT Summer Tutors

Information Technology - \$1,301,400.00

Expansion and restructuring of the IT department to meet the increased demands in technology utilization and the implementation of technological activities/services

Revised on November 17, 2021



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Facilities Management (Contract or in-house) - \$320,000

Oversight of ESSER funded construction

Guidance/School Counseling-\$120,000

Implementation of activities/SEL curriculum to address the unique social and emotional needs of our students and staff

Career Technical Education- \$105,000

Addressing career/vocational learning loss to include Summer learning activities and supplemental after-school enrichment activities and the purchase of educational equipment

Food Service - \$608,659.91

Reimbursement for food and food service expenses during the long-term school closure for COVID-19

Business Office - \$1,990,250.86

Indirect costs related to personnel salary/benefits and supplies

Attendance Centers - \$8,191,745.23

School facility repair and improvements to reduce the risk of virus transmission and environmental health hazards to include HVAC improvements/replacement, window replacements, carpet replacement, classroom expansions, and other repairs, as needed.

ESSER III Federal Programs Admin Costs - \$212,000

ESSER III administrative grant oversight costs



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**SAFE RETURN TO IN-PERSON INSTRUCTION AND CONTINUITY OF SERVICES PLAN
GUIDING QUESTIONS WITH RESPONSES**

Academic Programming

1. How will the district ensure continuity of services for academic needs of students?

- *Jackson County School District will continue the existing program of academic services for students. The purchase of programs and services will ensure continuity of high-quality instructional resources.*

2. What is the school district's plan for safely scheduling face-to-face instructional delivery students when school opens? (prioritized content, accelerated learning opportunities, intensive tutoring, after-school learning opportunities, etc.)

- *Jackson County School District schools will provide all students prescriptive instruction based on results of individual students' i-Ready diagnostic assessments. In addition, all purchased programs will be utilized to maintain a wide variety of learning opportunities which will be customized based on academic needs of students, as well as to equip teachers with the resources and skills needed to deliver highly effective instruction. These resources will be available for prioritized content and intensive tutoring both during and after the scheduled school day.*

3. What is the school district's contingency plan for scheduling instructional delivery to students should the district or school(s) have to close due to an outbreak (i.e., COVID-19, influenza)?

- *All courses taught in Jackson County School District are housed in Canvas. Teachers and students have been trained to deliver and receive instruction remotely utilizing the resources found in the Canvas courses. Our district has enough Chromebooks for a 1:1 student to device ratio, and our students will be able to take these home and continue learning virtually. In the event that students do not have internet access at home, public wi-fi access points have been established at each attendance center in school parking lots.*



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4. How will the school district monitor student progress at the elementary, middle, and secondary level, for both in-person students and students who may be receiving virtual instruction due to an underlying medical condition?

- *Each school has developed a plan for closing COVID-19 learning gaps. Each student will complete an assessment at the beginning of the school year to determine skill weaknesses. Schools will address identified academic needs through the use of certified tutors, schedule adjustments, and careful monitoring of academic progress throughout the school year. The i-Ready diagnostic assessment will be given three times during the school year to both in-person and virtual students grades Kindergarten through 8th. Data from these assessments will be analyzed to monitor students' academic progress as well as to provide targeted, customized learning opportunities for all students. Students in high school will be monitored through a diagnostic or benchmark assessment that is appropriate for the courses in which they are enrolled. Some examples are Edgenuity, USA Test Prep, and TE21 (Certica) benchmark assessments.*

5. How will the school district ensure continuity of staff observation and feedback cycles, for both in-person and virtual instruction?

- *Administrators at each Jackson County School District school will follow JCSD and Mississippi School Board policies related to staff observation and feedback for all instructors, both in-person and virtual.*

6. How will the school district gather feedback from staff about instructional programming and needed supports?

- *Jackson County School District conducts an annual curriculum department survey which gathers feedback from all staff regarding the effectiveness and usage of instructional programming and supports. This will be a continued practice.*



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Operations

7. What is the school district's process for student arrival and dismissal?

- **All Schools:** *Students will arrive at and dismiss from their assigned school as normal as possible following all mandates handed down through official channels. Students will follow a traditional bell schedule ensuring that all students receive all of the state's required instructional minutes in-person.*
- **CTE:** *Students may be transported by parents or by district buses. The junior STEAM/STEM Summer CTE camps will take place from 8:00 AM until 11:30 AM and all-day camps will be held from 8:00 AM until 3:00 PM.*

8. How will the school district provide transportation? (include description of district protocols: windows, masks on bus, cleaning schedule, seating arrangement based on loading order / unloading order)

- **All Schools:** *JCSD will provide transportation and bus schedules will operate as normal as possible with a continued emphasis on cleanliness and safety, to include assigned seating. JCSD will not require students or adults to wear masks during transporting. Parents who are concerned are encouraged to transport their students. Each attendance center will issue bus-riding precautions and procedures to address seating arrangements, cleaning schedules, and loading/unloading order.*
- **CTE:** *There will be one to two buses from each attendance center. Based on the number of students being transported we will have a smaller number to allow social distancing on the bus. If the district requires masks starting in the Summer of 2022 they will be required on the bus too. The bus will be cleaned in between shifts and at the end of day.*



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9. Where will the school district provide meals to students?

- **All Schools**
 - **Indoors** – cafeteria dining rooms, classrooms and hallways
 - **Outdoors** – to-go carts for Grab N Go breakfast; Outdoor seating is provided for students to Grab their breakfast or lunch and eat outside
 - **“Parent Pick Up”** at enrolled site – provided for approved distance learners only
- **CTE:** Meals to the students will be provided by Child Nutrition during the summer feeding program. Students may eat in the Fab Lab or outside at the picnic tables.

10. What is the school district’s academic calendar for the 2021-22 school year?

- Please see the attached 2021-22 JCSD school calendar

Family and Community Support

11. How will the school district provide academic support to families?

- JCSD schools will provide instructional support through school-based activities such as “parent academies” and tutorial videos and resources embedded on school and district web pages and in Canvas.

12. How will the school district gather feedback from families of diverse student groups about instructional programming and needed supports?

- JCSD will continue to conduct an annual needs assessment and any additional surveys, as necessary, to gain feedback from families of all student groups about instructional programming and supports.



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Communications

13. How will the school district communicate regularly with families to promote healthy behaviors to reduce spread?

- *Both the schools and district will utilize the AIM callout system, newsletters, text blasts with School Status, Canvas communication, and both school and district social media sites.*

14. How will the school district communicate health and safety issues or necessary changes to the district's regular operating schedule?

- *Both the schools and district will utilize the AIM callout system, newsletters, text blasts with School Status, and both school and district social media sites.*

Health and Safety

15. What specific policies has the district adopted regarding CDC safety recommendations?

- *There are no specific policies adopted by the Jackson County School District (JCSD) regarding the CDC safety recommendations. JCSD are committed to providing students and staff an environment as close to normal as possible while following federal, state, and local mandates related to COVID-19.*

16. How will the district address the social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of students and staff?

- *The district will address social, emotional, mental health, and other needs of students and staff with an increase in nursing staff, behavioral specialists, mental health professionals, and social/emotional learning curriculum for all of JCSD schools.*

17. What specific steps has the school district taken to address air quality within school facilities?

- *Air quality is being improved through HVAC upgrades and both carpet and window replacements.*



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18. Does the school district plan to require daily health screening by families before students come to school?

- *It will be highly encouraged that parents screen their children each morning before school for symptoms of illness. Parents must keep students home who have a fever of 100.4 or higher and are feeling sick.*

19. Does the school district plan to conduct temperature checks for staff and students upon arrival?

- *JCSD will not conduct temperature checks upon arrival. However, the district will follow all mandates handed down through official channels.*

20. Does the school district plan to require masks of students and adults while being transported and on campus?

- *JCSD will not require masks of students and adults while being transported nor while on campus. However, the district will follow all mandates handed down through official channels.*

21. If requiring masks of students, what ages / grade levels will be required to wear a mask?

- *JCSD will not require masks of students at any age/grade level. However, the district will follow all mandates handed down through official channels.*

22. What is the school district's comprehensive plan for regularly cleaning the following areas?

- **All Schools:** *Custodial staff, bus drivers, coaches, teachers and all support staff will continue to receive guidance as to proper cleaning procedures to ensure student safety. Cleaning and disinfecting of all the areas listed below will be conducted on a daily basis.*
 - Buildings, classrooms, and common areas
 - Food and nutritional service areas
 - Transportation (buses, service areas, and equipment)
 - Areas associated with cocurricular or extracurricular events



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- **Food Services:**

- Food and nutritional service areas*

- *Staggered lunch periods to allow adequate time for cleaning the serving lines and cafeteria tables between classes*
 - *Additional lunch periods as needed to maximize space in dining facilities and to allow adequate time for cleaning the serving lines and cafeteria tables between classes*
 - *Grab N Go meals to maximize space in dining facilities with less capacity*
 - *Standard Operating Procedures for cleaning, sanitizing, handwashing, personal hygiene and food preparation*
 - *Enforce the Sick Worker Policy mandated by the local health department*
 - *Renewal of the service agreement for SFSPac Food Safety & Sanitation Program that provides:*
 - *In person monthly visits with on-site monitoring of personnel behaviors and practices. Monitoring and re-training reports are kept on file by site.*
 - *Comprehensive training on hand washing protocols and a robust disinfecting routine for high touch surfaces utilizing our EPA-registered SFSPac® Germicidal Cleaner. During the course of a year, SFSPac staff spend around 40 hours in our kitchens ensuring adequate supplies to properly clean and educating staff on important food safety concepts.*
 - *SFSPac offers a Web based learning portal with visual presentations for training personnel. As a part of this curriculum, new education modules specifically for COVID-19, including:*
 - *COVID-19 Transmission Prevention*
 - *Use & Care of Masks*
 - *Disinfecting High Touch Surfaces*
 - *Non-Congregate Pick Up of Meals & Non-Congregate Delivery of Meals*
 - *Hand Washing*
 - *Difference Between Sanitizer & Germicidal Cleaner*
 - *Glove Use*
 - *Safe Food Handling*
 - *Service Temperatures*
 - *Future Initiative – SFSPac “flipping book” that will serve as a reference guide for the complete line of products and services.*



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23. How will the school district identify and address the needs of students and staff with underlying health conditions?

- *Each school will work with individual students and staff to address needs on an as needed basis.*

24. Who is responsible for overseeing health and safety within the school district?

- *Both the Superintendent and the supporting administration staff will oversee health and safety with the support of school nursing personnel.*

25. How does the school district intend to ensure safety of students, staff, and spectators involved in cocurricular and extracurricular activities (athletics, band, choir, etc.)?

- *The district will follow all mandates handed down through official channels.*

Technology

26. How will the district utilize technology to enhance in-person learning and support remote learning for students as needed?

- *The district will provide access to Chromebooks for every student and a Windows laptop for every teacher that can be used on campus and remotely. Every classroom will have interactive boards that teacher can use to enhance the learning experience both with in-person and remote learning students. The district has also installed several outdoor wireless hotspots at every attendance center to accommodate students remote learning needs if they do not have home internet access. Technology also supports the Canvas Learning Management System that allows teachers to house lessons and assignments in an online medium so that learning can continue whether the student is on campus or remotely learning. The IT department supports all the hardware and software the district utilizes to provide learning whether it be on site or remote learning.*



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27. How will the district identify the professional learning needs of staff in utilizing technology to enhance in-person learning and support remote learning?

- *The district has identified the professional learning needs of staff in utilizing technology to enhancing in-person learning and support remote learning by compiling data from 2020-2021 school year comprehensive needs assessment and post training surveys. JCSD Instructional Technology Specialists have also conducted classroom observations to evaluate the level of technology knowledge and integration within the classroom. Feedback sessions were conducted with teachers to discuss the needs of the teacher and provide feedback on how to integrate technology to enhance learning for both in-person and remote. A beginning of the year base survey will be given to teachers and administration to update the technology professional learning plan for 2021-2022 school year.*