Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Addendum Guidance

2023

LEAs are required to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan every six months through **Sept. 30, 2023.** Each time, local education agencies (LEAs) must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. The purpose of the plan is to keep stakeholders informed.

Every LEA should complete the addendum and upload it to ePlan in the LEA document library and post it to the LEA's website **(March 1 and Sept. 15).** 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.

Please consider the following when completing the addendum:

- Ensure the LEA used multiple models of engagement offered to stakeholders. Examples may include surveys, in-person or virtual committee meetings, town hall meetings, or other inclusive engagement opportunities.
- LEAs should engage all applicable groups noted in meaningful consultation during the crafting of the plan and when making any significant revisions or updates to the plan.
- The number of stakeholders engaged should represent the composition of students. For example, if students with disabilities make up 15 percent of students, then 10-20 percent of respondents should represent this subgroup.
- Ensure the stakeholder engagement happened prior to the development/revision of the plan.
- The LEA must engage the health department in the development and revision of the plan. This is different from providing the health department with COVID-19 numbers.
- Plans must explicitly address every bullet point in Question 3 regarding district policies and strategies.
- Plans require local board approval and public posting.
- LEAs must update the *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan* at least every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, seek public input on the plan and any revisions, and take such input into account. All revisions must include an explanation and rationale of why the revisions were made.
- All revisions must include an explanation and rationale, with meaningful public consultation and in an understandable format. The American Rescue Plan (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.

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

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 3.0 (ESSER 3.0) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, was enacted on March 11, 2021. Funding provided to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) helps safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

In the fall of 2021, LEAs developed and made publicly available a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. All plans were developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups. LEAs are required to update the plan every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. LEAs also must review and update their plans and ensure they align with any significant changes to 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.

The following information is intended to update stakeholders and address the requirement.

LEA Name: Fayetteville

Date: 9-11-23

1. **Describe how the LEA has continued to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of the revised plan.**

Fayetteville City Schools created a survey that is shared on the district website to identify areas of concern based on stakeholder input. In addition, monthly meetings are held with various groups including FCS Director of Schools created committees such as the parent group (which included parents of children with disabilities), minority engagement group, business and industry group, FCS teacher system committee, FCS administrative committee, central office staff, and whole teacher groups within schools. Information is also presented monthly to the Chamber Board of Directors and Chamber Educational Committee via in person and webinar meetings. Spring semester 2023 the ESSER Director recorded a Google Meet which specifically detailed each of the ESSER documents including the ESSER Spending Plan amendments and modified Safe Return to School Plan. A survey link was then distributed to all teacher allowing for input on all documents including the Spending Plan and Safe Return to Schools Plan . It is important to note that the survey also had an open ended question which allowed for detailed input. This was considered effective because of the fact that 80% of professional personnel participated in the survey. Feedback from the surveys and minutes from engagement group meetings were considered as district administrators and school administrators met in a formal meeting to discuss use of funds based on needs at all schools. (Various stakeholders represented in the surveys and meetings included: parents, teachers, administration, central office personnel, students, civil rights organizations, and stakeholders representing the interests of students with disabilities.) Originally, a prioritized list of planned uses of funds was presented to the FCS School Board and their input was documented as well and the approved the plan. Any ongoing updates and changes are presented at monthly board meetings. All members of the teacher and staff group were in agreement that the prioritized list was insightful and appropriate. ESSER is a specific topic at each weekly FCS Supervisor meeting, and monthly Leadership Team Meetings (Supervisors and Principals). In addition, the open survey link with specific Re-	

Entry questions will remain open in an effort to allow continued stakeholder input. In addition, ESSER will continue to be on the agenda of the Director's parent, teacher, minority engagement and business and industry meetings from this point on in an effort to obtain up to date information.	

2. Describe how the LEA engaged the health department in the development of the revised plan.

The FCS Coordinated School Health Director convenes monthly with the Lincoln County Health Council which includes representative from the Health Department. One of the topics is current COVID numbers and COVID protocol (this is different from case notification). The FCS Coordinated School Health Director then meets weekly with the ESSER Director and monthly with the System Leadership Team which includes Central Office Director, Supervisors and Principals to discuss COVID Protocol and implementation strategies.

3. Provide the extent to which the LEA has updated adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies
Students going on Homebound who are medically fragile or simply by request are allowed to participate electronically with the homebound instructor and other teachers when applicable. Assignments and projects are submitted via google classroom as well in an effort to limit exposure and contact.
Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)
Currently, Fayetteville High School has continued the added lunch period which was implemented in the original protocol to allow for social distancing within the cafeteria. In mornings, students space every other seat prior to school starting.
Hand washing and respiratory etiquette
Posters are posted which show appropriate hand washing, and how to cover ones mouth when coughing.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation
Ionizers are used on a regular basis on buses and within buildings and classrooms. The amended building program at FHS, FMS and RAS under ESSER 2.0 includes improved central heat and air units for the FHS Cosmetology modified room which will be greatly improved from the current outdoor portable situation. In addition units and classrooms within FMS and RAS will receive updated ventilation and HVAC units.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine
At this time FCS is doing no contact tracing, isolation or quarantining. However, we do follow a policy of anyone with a fever must be fever free at least 24 hours prior to returning without medication. However, we do follow any instructions given by medical professionals concerning isolation and quarantine.
Diagnostic and screening testing
Currently, Fayetteville City Schools does not do in house diagnostic or screening, however information was posted on all of our social media with the link where individuals could order free home Covid testing kits.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible
Principals are flexible with teachers and students if they need to go during the day for vaccinations. This would be considered an excused absence for students and teachers would be able to have their class covered if requested.
Universal and correct wearing of masks
Currently we have not changed this protocol. Masks are optional for all individuals.

4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring continuity of services including but not limited to services that address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

Counselors are available to all students and personnel. In addition, all teachers and students have access to technology and platforms to communicate with counselors and nurses if anyone is quarantined or at home. It is

also important to note that FCS employes a full time social emotional counselor. We have also added social workers