

## Health and Safety Plan Summary: Avella Area School District

**Initial Effective Date: June 23, 2021**

**Date of Last Review: January 19, 2024**

**Date of Last Revision: August 5, 2024**

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?

Avella will monitor the latest recommendations from PDE, PADOH, and CDC and update their Health and Safety Plan as needed. Board policies will be reviewed and adjusted as needed to assure compliance with the health and safety plan. The plan will be presented to the governing Board for approval when changes are necessary. Facilities and practices will be adapted to the extent possible to ensure that appropriate prevention and mitigation processes are followed. In addition to practicing standard preventative measures such as handwashing, cleaning practices, and the use of PPE when required. Avella will continue to practice standard mitigation efforts to include reducing close contact when feasible.

1. 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?

Educational models will be adapted to the needs of the students as appropriate, including virtual if needed. Social, emotional, mental health and other needs will be monitored and provided by school health providers, social workers and other mental behavior specialists when needed. Food service will be provided using various models as appropriate to the situation.

2. 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
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Universal and correct wearing of <a href="#">masks</a>;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Avella Area School District will develop mitigation plans in line with the most recent PDE, PADOH, and CDC guidance with plans being updated every six months as needed.</li> </ul>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine the maximum capacity for each room.</li> <li>• Balance class numbers as much as possible – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable).</li> <li>• Establish distance between the teacher’s desk/board and students’ desks.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</u>;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings when required.</li> <li>• Provide hand soap, hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol, cleaning wipes/disinfectant spray, tissues, and paper towels in all classrooms and frequently trafficked areas.</li> <li>• Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread, COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, proper respiratory etiquette and school/district specific protocols.</li> <li>• Perform hand hygiene after having contact with respiratory secretions and contaminated objects or materials.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Daily cleaning of schools with soap and water, disinfectants and sanitizers to decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure. Provide additional cleaning to frequently touched surfaces and objects including door handles, sink handles and drinking fountains.</li> <li>• At least daily and throughout the day disinfecting schools and transportation vehicles using EPA-</li> </ul>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>approved disinfectants against COVID-19 to reduce the risk.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of routine cleaning practices for indoor areas that have not been used for 7 or more days or outdoor equipment.</li> <li>• Follow standard protocols to clean surfaces that are not high touch.</li> <li>• Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example by opening windows and doors. Do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety or health risk (e.g., risk of falling, triggering asthma symptoms) to children using the facility.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work with school administrators and school nurses to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms.</li> <li>• School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission- Based Precautions when caring for sick people.</li> <li>• Contact the local health authority before acting in response to a known or suspected communicable disease.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Check for signs and symptoms of students and staff daily upon arrival.</li> <li>• Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home.</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures.</li> </ul>



ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Coordination with state and local health officials.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Avella will work together with the Joint Task Force, PADOH, community health agencies and County Emergency Management Agencies to coordinate resources in accordance with their health and safety plan.</li></ul>

## Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Avella Area School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 7, 2024**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

8 Yes

0 No

Affirmed on: **August 7, 2024**

By:

Emanuel A. Paris IV

(Signature\* of Board President)

EMANUEL A. PARIS IV

(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.