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. 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 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 Thorough an Integrated System of Support
- PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania

Health and Safety Plan Summary: (Conneaut School District)

Initial Effective Date: (July 7, 2021)

Date of Last Review: (July 27, 2021)

Date of Last Revision: (July 27, 2021)

Jarrin Sperry	Superintendent	Conneaut SD
Susy Dressel	Assistant to Superintendent	Conneaut SD
Dorothy Luckock	Board Member	Conneaut SD
Becky Dawson	Epidemiologist | Associate Professor Global Health Studies & Biology, Allegheny College	Allegheny College
Allen Clark	Emergency Management Coordinator Crawford County Department of Public Safety: Parent: Community Member	Crawford County Emergency Mgmt
Rick Kelly	Technology Director	Conneaut SD
Rick Bridge	Transportation Director	Anderson Bussing
James Lucas	CEA Union President	Conneaut SD
Paul VanDusen	CESPA Union President	Conneaut SD
Wendy Andrews	School Nurse	Conneaut SD
Frank Kimmel	Maintenance Director	Conneaut SD
Adam Jardina	Principal – Conneaut Valley Elementary	Conneaut SD
Brenda Kantz	Director of Curriculum and Instruction	Conneaut SD
Edward Pietroski	Principal - High School	Conneaut SD
John Acklin	Director of Athletics and Activities	Conneaut SD

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 Conneaut School District has continually utilized the most recent guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, and our health partners at Meadville Medical Center (MMC) to inform our decisions for health and safety planning. We will continue to use State and/or local guidance to implement appropriate prevention and mitigation protocols in response to the level of community spread in our county and in our local community. Our goal has been and continues to be to maximize the amount of in-person learning for our students in the safest manner possible.

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?**

Educational models will be adapted to the needs of the students as appropriate including virtual instruction 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 as needed. Food service will be provided using various models as appropriate to the situation, including the availability of free meals if needed for students throughout the entire year.

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;	Tthrough June 27th, fully vaccinated individuals can resume activities without wearing a face covering. It is encouraged that a face covering be worn by all other individuals when 3ft social distancing cannot be maintained. Effective June 28th, face coverings are no longer required; however, any student or employee who prefers to wear a face covering will be permitted to do so. State orders, Federal orders and/or local data may result in modifications to the District's face covering practices.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	Students and employees will be encouraged to maintain physical distance to the maximum extent feasible and appropriate.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;	Guidelines for hand-washing and other best practices. Posting of signs in highly visible locations that promote everyday proactive practices.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	Ongoing communication and collaboration with families regarding elements of the local health and safety plan including ways families can practice safe hygiene at home. Frequent hand washing with students and employees will be encouraged throughout all schools. Hand sanitizer readily available and/or children may bring individual bottles of hand sanitizer to keep on desk or in a backpack. FDA hand sanitizers
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;	Sanitization Requirements Clean and sanitize each classroom, restroom, hallway, transportation vehicles and touch points per CDC recommendations. Classrooms Nightly cleaning including sanitizing and disinfecting per CDC recommendations. Ventilation Increased ventilation through extending occupancy times and exhaust ventilation. Classrooms and common areas will be ventilated with additional circulation of outdoor air when possible
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	Each case (or possible case) will be handled on an individual basis as each case may have different factors that impact the decision making process. All stakeholders should not come to school and should notify school officials if they have COVID-19 symptoms, are diagnosed with COVID-19 symptoms, are waiting test results, or have been exposed to someone with symptoms or a confirmed case. In general, if a student or staff member is identified with COVID symptoms while in school or prior to attending school the district will follow the prescribed DOH "Self-Reporting" and "Line-List" protocols.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	We will immediately separate individuals with symptoms and contact family members immediately for patient transport. Areas used by the sick will be closed off and areas will not be used until after a thorough cleaning/disinfection. Advise sick individuals and family that they should not return to school until they have a physician's excuse and have followed all CDC/DOH guidelines. The health department will also take the lead on guidance and contact tracing, isolation/quarantine of ill students and staff, and any further actions needed to contain the spread of COVID-19. We will notify the school community of cases of COVID-19 while maintaining confidentiality. All new procedures will be evaluated regularly and may be adjusted as needed.
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	All individuals should still closely monitor their own symptoms and should stay home if symptomatic. It is critically important for employees and students to stay home regardless of whether their symptoms are indicative of COVID, influenza, or other infections that are more commonly transmitted through close personal contact. Employees are required to report positive diagnosis of COVID-19 to their school nurse. Parents/Guardians of students are required to report positive diagnosis of COVID-19 to their school nurse.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;	The District will collaborate with their health partner, Meadville Medical Center, and/or other providers to provide vaccination opportunities to the school community.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Students with disabilities will have access to the same programs and opportunities as non-disabled peers, as well as accommodations detailed within their IEP or 504 plan based on their individual needs.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The District will collaborate with state and local health officials by: directly contacting them as needed or directly through known contacts; or through our continued participation in the established Emergency Preparedness Council through the Tri County Intermediate Unit 5.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **(Conneaut SD)** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **(August 11, 2021)**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

    _____ Yes

    _____ No

Affirmed on: **(August 11, 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.