

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



LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Blue Ridge Unified School District #33

2. Entity ID Number*

4397

3. CTDS Number*

09-02-32-000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Mr. Brad Pico

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

bpico@brusd.org

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

1-928-368-6126

Please submit your Safe Return to In-Person Learning Plan every six months from your prior submission date.

Revision Timeline: January 2023-June 2023, and July 2023-September 2023

7. When did your LEA last review or revise your plan within the last six months? Please provide mm/dd/yyyy.*

05/04/2023

All LEAs receiving ESSER III funds must make publicly available on their website, a plan for the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services. Please list the link where the plan/template is posted on the LEA's website.

8. Insert the link below with directions on how to find the LEA's Safe Return to In-Person plan located on the website (do not link directly to the PDF). The plan must be on the ADE template that was provided. The narrative verbiage on the template must be identical to the narrative verbiage provided on this online form. *

<https://www.brusd.org/site/default.aspx?DomainID=30>

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 policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

9. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on universal and correct wearing of masks?*

Yes

10. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on universal and correct wearing of masks.*

- BRUSD optional face masks for students, staff, visitors/volunteers on all BRUSD campuses, regardless of vaccination status are optional at this point in time and is subject to change
- Outdoors, masks will continue to be optional. This includes outdoor physical activity.
- Parents are able to request an accommodation for mask wearing for health or religious reasons
- The guideline for requiring face masks is based on federal, state, and county health guidance in conjunction with advisement from the Superintendent. The policy may be discontinued based on guidance from Navajo County Health Department and/or Arizona Department of Health Services and advisement from the Superintendent
- The district has provided education to students, staff and families about the importance of face masks and proper masking through school announcements, posters, and social media.

*The Arizona law (HB2989) which prohibits public schools from mandating that students and staff Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act) - Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act) wear masks during school hours and on school property, is not yet in effect

11. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)?*

Yes

12. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding).*

To integrate facilities planning with other aspects of planning in a comprehensive educational program for the safe return of students to Face to Face Instruction. To analyze the core facility as it relates to future CDC guidelines

13. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on handwashing and respiratory etiquette?*

Yes

14. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on handwashing and respiratory etiquette.*

To integrate facilities planning with other aspects of planning in a comprehensive educational program for the safe return of students to Face to Face Instruction. To analyze the core facility as it relates to future CDC guidelines

15. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation?*

Yes

16. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.*

To integrate facilities planning with other aspects of planning in a comprehensive educational program for the safe return of students to Face to Face Instruction. To analyze the core facility as it relates to future CDC guidelines as per cleaning regulations and Best Practices for Chemical based cleaners

17. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments?*

Yes

18. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.*

Any student with, or recovering from, a communicable disease will not be permitted in school until the period of contagion is passed or until a physician recommends a return, in accordance with A.R.S. 36-621 et seq., appropriate regulations of the State Department of Health Services, and policies of the County Health Department.

19. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing?*

No

20. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities?*

No

21. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies?*

Yes

22. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.*

The right of a student to participate fully in classroom instruction shall not be abridged or impaired because of race, color, religion, sex, age, national origin, and disability, or any other reason not related to the student's individual capabilities.

The right of students to participate in extracurricular activities shall be dependent only upon their maintaining the minimum academic and behavioral standards established by the Board, and their individual ability in the extracurricular activity.

23. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials?

*

No

Continuity of Services

Including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.

24. How will the LEA ensure Continuity of Services?*

Briefly describe an overview of the continuity of services and in the following questions you will provide more detailed information.

In order to continue providing educational programming during or after a large emergency event (COVID - 19) which may require school dismissal or closure, our district will identify essential functions of the school that must continue under any and all circumstances. These essential functions will likely involve teaching and learning, the physical aspects of buildings and the campus, business functions, and emotional and psychological recovery.

25. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' academic needs?*

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26. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' social, emotional, and mental health needs?*

At BRUSD, the most common approach to SEL is through structured programs which provide teachers with curriculum-based content for classroom instruction. There are many benefits of such SEL programs, as they provide clear structure and plans for teachers and are often backed up by empirical evidence showing their benefits. The drawbacks to this approach are often very brief, offered as mini-lessons in weekly half hour or hour-long blocks and may be shortened or skipped due to pressure on teachers to focus on academic content BRUSD will strengthen its commitment to Best Practices in educating our students during and after the pandemic.

27. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for students' other needs?*

This may include student health and food services.

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28. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for staff's social, emotional, and mental health needs?*

BRUSD teachers have been at the forefront of leading unprecedented, crucial, and oftentimes, uncomfortable conversations when students have asked tough, yet provocative and relevant questions, that merit discussion in regard to the unprecedented environment we live in as per "Post COVID-19". Teaching is a demanding profession; however, recent events and circumstances have increased the demands placed on teachers. Teachers must be able to quickly pivot lessons and instructional strategies to meet the needs of their community of learners. Now more than ever, it is critical school leaders not forget about their teachers' needs during the myriad of crises facing our nation. The LEA will continue to offer SE support to all staff members via the district's health officials.

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The LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services through September 30, 2023

30. Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan.*

BRUSD's COVID-19 Community Levels are a new tool we use to assist our community to decide what prevention steps to take based on the latest data. Levels can be low, medium, or high and are determined by looking at hospital beds being used, hospital admissions, and the total number of new COVID-19 cases in an area. Our task force believes students benefit from in-person learning, and safely returning to in-person instruction; this continues to be a priority for all community members. School Officials meet regularly to discuss risks and plans to prevent an additional school closure as per COVID - 19

31. Did you make any revisions/changes to this plan from your last plan submission?*

Yes