



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

### LEA Information

**1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)\***

Buckeye Elementary School District #33

**2. Entity ID Number\***

4269

**3. CTDS Number\***

070433000

**4. Plan's Primary Contact Name\***

Chad Lanese

**5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address\***

clanese@besd33.org

**6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number\***

6239253407

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

Revision Timeline: May 2023-September 2023

**7. Since your last submission date, when did your LEA last review and/or revise your plan? Please provide the updated mm/dd/yyyy of your review/revision. This date should be updated from your last submission. \***

07/01/2023

**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 your LEA's Safe Return to In-Person plan located on your LEA website (do not link directly to the PDF). The plan must be on the ADE template that will be downloaded from EMAC after completing your responses.\***

Below is the direct link to the landing page that includes the BESD's Safe Return to In-Person plan. The link to the plan is located at the bottom of the page.

<https://www.besd33.org/link-1/emergency-preparedness>

**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.\***

Face Coverings

- Student wearing of face coverings is optional for all individuals during the 2023-24 school year.
- CDC continues to recommend masking and physical distancing as key prevention strategies.
- The BESD Face Covering Protocol for students can be accessed as a resource on face coverings and is meant as a resource for Buckeye families.
- For parents scheduling appointments for registration masks are optional for unvaccinated individuals, but not required.

**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).\***

School Campuses and Classrooms

- As much as possible, students will remain with the same groupings and the same staff throughout the day and limit mixing between groups as much as possible.
- Where possible, student seating will be arranged to maintain social distancing. Extra furniture should be removed from classrooms.
- All teaching staff will maintain an accurate/up-to-date seating chart and provide it to site administration.
- Desks/tables will be faced in the same direction, rather than facing each other, or students will sit on opposite ends, only one side of tables, spaced apart. Student seating may be grouped together in pods of three-four desks and distanced 3 feet from other pods.

\*\*Teachers of students in younger grades may want to consider maintaining rows until students are comfortable navigating routines and procedures associated with effective mitigation strategies.

- Traffic flow patterns will be established in the classroom, hallways, and between buildings.
- Students will be encouraged to bring their own water bottles to minimize touching of water fountains.
- Water fountains may be used, but students should be taught appropriate strategies to minimize contact (use elbow to depress fountain, do not place mouth directly on the fountain, wash hands after use).
- Each student's belongings will be separated from others' and in individually labeled containers, cubbies or other classroom areas.
- Students will use their own writing utensils and supplies and not share them.
- Minimize contact with materials resistant to cleaning and disinfection, including stuffed animals, rugs, and other soft touch items.
- Countertops, hard surfaces, tables, desks, tops of bookshelves, cabinets, etc. should be clutter free and left clear to facilitate cleaning and disinfection.

Departmentalized Classes (Middle School classes)

- Schools will determine the best method of maintaining safety precautions while still ensuring that students regularly attend departmentalized classes using the following parameters:
  - o Students may remain in the classroom and content (reading/writing, math, social studies, and science) teachers will move to different classrooms in order to deliver instruction, minimizing student movement.
  - o Students may attend class in the content area teacher's classroom as long as regular disinfecting takes place between class changes
  - o Staggered passing periods are established to avoid overcrowding in hallways

**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.\***

Hand Hygiene

- Frequent handwashing at regular intervals throughout the day will be encouraged by teachers:
  - o Upon arrival at school and after being outside for physical activity
  - o Restroom use
  - o Before and after breakfast and lunch
  - o Prior to leaving school for home
  - o After sneezing, coughing, or blowing nose
- Instructions will be given to wash with either soap and water for at least 20 seconds, use paper towels to dry hands, turn sink handles, and open doors, and then safely discard paper towels; OR use hand sanitizer.
- Hand washing posters will be displayed in each restroom or the entrance to each restroom.
- Hand sanitizing stations will be available at various locations throughout the campus. Hand sanitizer will be provided in every classroom.

**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.\***

Enhanced Cleaning

- Thorough cleaning of classrooms including desk tops, countertops and similar surfaces.
- Thorough cleaning of shared building spaces including offices, restrooms, common areas, high touch areas.
- Teachers will disinfect student desk tops prior to students at the start of the day.
- Additional cleaning routines will be scheduled and assigned at each campus for interval cleaning of restrooms, lunchrooms, hallway trash pickup, and other common areas throughout the school day.
- All staff will use EPA approved disinfectant applied to high touch surfaces daily and as needed.

**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.\***

Close Contacts

Students identified as a close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 may not be required to quarantine. Parents of the identified student will no longer be notified by the school and asked to monitor their student for any symptoms consistent with COVID 19. Click here to view a list of symptoms. Parents who wish for their child to isolate/quarantine shall call the school to excuse the child's absences. Students identified as close contacts and who are excused from school will not be adversely affected by any associated absences.

Response to Reported Cases

- Each school site has an assigned COVID point of contact.
- Inform and advise those who are identified as a close contact with the individual in classrooms with medically fragile students to self-monitor for symptoms and to refer to their health care professionals for guidance on symptom development.
- School health aides will follow established MCDPH screening protocols, and will consult with the site COVID point of contact/public health officials to determine how best to handle students and staff who display COVID-19 symptoms.
- Isolation rooms will be used within health offices for students or staff who may be sick.
- A student with symptoms will be removed from the group setting and parents/guardians will be contacted for pick-up of the student.

Response to Reported Cases (Family Members/Cases in the home)

- Public Health states that all household members of someone confirmed or suspected to have COVID-19 should not physically attend school and quarantine at home for 5 days as long as symptoms have improved and no fever is present for 24 hours without the use of medication.
- Should a student become sick, families should notify the schools of any household contact.

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

Yes

**20. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing.\***

As the need for COVID testing arises, BESD wants to ensure that families are able to access testing locations. Below is information related to COVID testing locations within the greater Buckeye area.

Testing Locations:

- All COVID-19 testing sites in Arizona can be found by clicking here (type in 85326 to identify specific locations in Buckeye).
- Saliva-based testing sites, for your reference, can be found by clicking here.
- o Pre-registration is required. Results are typically received in less than 48 hours
- Rapid-test sites are offered through NextCare Urgent Care, a list of locations and an explanation of eligibility can be found by clicking here.

Buckeye Testing Locations

Please visit <https://embrywomenshealth.com/testing-blitz/> in order to identify testing locations and schedule appointments at Buckeye Elementary School District Office (Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10am - 7pm - 25555 W. Durango St.), Buckeye Union HS, Youngker HS and Estrella Foothills HS. Contact information for Embry Women's Health can be accessed on this site. Please do not contact the schools as the testing is coordinated through Embry Women's Health.

Walmart

1060 S Watson Rd, Buckeye AZ

Registration Information

Pre-Registration Required? Yes

800-635-8611

Website

The Little Clinic Buckeye

1300 S. Watson Rd., Buckeye AZ

Registration Information

Pre-Registration Required? Yes

Website

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

Yes

**22. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.\***

The Buckeye Elementary School District, Buckeye Family Resource Center and Southwest Behavioral are working together in order to provide community-based vaccination events during the course of the school year. Vaccination event locations will be determined by positive cases within the schools as well as community transmission in an effort to support families who are in need of vaccinations. Dates, times and locations will be communicated by schools and the district via multiple platforms in order to ensure that those in need are able to access events and details.

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

Yes

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

Those with a disability that prevents them from comfortably wearing or removing a face covering, those with certain respiratory conditions or trouble breathing, those who are deaf or hard of hearing and use facial and mouth movements as part of communication, those advised by a medical, legal, or behavioral health professional that wearing a face covering may pose a risk to that person, and those who have religious reasons for not wearing face coverings may be exempt from this requirement or may consider alternative methods of protection.

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

\*

Yes

**26. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials.\***

The Chief Academic Officer attends regular COVID-19 webinars offered through the Maricopa County Department of Public Health in order to ensure that the most recent guidance on COVID-19 response is accessed. Additionally, all student and staff positive cases are reported using the online system to ensure that we are in regular contact with public health regarding contact tracing and school outbreak management.



## 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.

### 27. 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.

BESD 33 will continue to maintain healthy and safe schools in order to remain open and accessible to students. In BESD, the safety and well-being of students, staff and families is our number one priority. Meaningful teaching and learning for all students is critical and implementation of mitigation strategies that support healthy school environments will be consistently followed to ensure that students are able to attend school on a regular basis and services remain intact. Community transmission and school transmission of COVID will be regularly monitored in order to make decisions and adjustments to a layered approach to mitigation.

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

BESD 33 provides a virtual (AOI) learning opportunity in order to meet the needs of students and parents who feel unsafe attending school in person. However, we know that in-person instruction is most effective when addressing the academic needs of students.

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

Each school in BESD 33 is staffed with a school counselor who is responsible for supporting student needs. The BESD Support Guidance for Stakeholders (Students, Parents and Staff) is also available to assist in identifying resources for families in need.

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

This may include student health and food services.

Other Needs (which may include student health and food services) BESD works closely with local food banks to support families who may have food insecurities in order to provide regular support. This involves distribution of weekend food boxes as well as connecting families with the local food bank. BESD maintains a Family Resource Center which supports with referrals to outside sources/supports (including but not limited to medical, dental, immunization referral, mental/health behavioral supports, substance abuse, nutrition classes, domestic violence, employment board, utility/rental/mortgage assistance).

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

School counselors also provide support for staff at each school. Additionally, Human Resources provides a variety of supports for staff through Health/Wellness newsletters as well as through a comprehensive benefits package offering such supports as crisis counseling and health screening.

**32. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services for staff's other needs?\***

BESD will continue to focus staff input and needs as they arise when identifying a means for support.

**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**

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

BESD holds regular Health/Safety task force meeting in order to provide updates to the district’s mitigation plan as well as to create a space for gathering input on the plan. Task Force membership includes parents, classified staff, certified staff, site administrators, and district administrators.

The tentative ESSER III Plan, inclusive of the BESD Mitigation Plan, was presented at both a July and September Governing Board Meeting. During the September meeting we were able to share community survey results. Results were gathered from a survey open from 8/13 until 8/23, which was sent to the community after school started in order to elicit as many responses as possible. The survey focus was on components of the plan and gathering input on the strength of the plan. 89.6% of respondents shared that this was at least an acceptable plan, while 62.7% shared that his was either a strong plan or a very strong plan.

**After completing all responses in EMAC, save your information. Then, use the red download button to create a copy of your completed form to be uploaded to your LEA website. Once your form is uploaded to your LEA website, log back into EMAC to click the blue submit button and submit your form to be reviewed by your specialist. Your EMAC submission will not be approved unless this updated form is on your LEA website.**

**34. Did you upload the completed EMAC form to your LEA website?\***

Yes