



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

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Country Gardens Charter Schools

2. Entity ID Number*

79074

3. CTDS Number*

078513000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Jennifer Burge

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

jennifer.burge@cgcsaz.com

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

623-900-2230

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. *

07/31/2023

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.*

<https://cgcsaz.com/>

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.*

Masks are optional for all students and staff. Reminders are given to staff and students if they are wearing masks, to wear them properly covering their mouth and nose.

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).*

Keep classes together including seating at lunch. Reminders are provided on mitigation strategies to help prevent COVID-19 in on-going staff and parent emails and communications.

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.*

All sink areas have signs posted with appropriate 20 seconds handwashing techniques with pictures. We taught students a singing jingle that takes 20 full seconds to complete while using words to guide them through the proper handwashing techniques. Hand sanitizer is available in all classrooms and areas throughout the campus for students and staff.

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.*

Installed all new AC units with halo UV air scrubbers, which improved filtration and ventilation. Installed touchless drinking fountain water bottle fill stations, with filtered water and are touch-free. All classrooms, campus areas and contact areas are cleaned thoroughly every evening and contact surfaces are cleaned throughout the day. Hand sanitizer stations were installed throughout the campus. Campus and transportation staff are given sanitizer and cleaning supplies for cleaning throughout the day. Seating on buses was assigned with appropriate distancing. Carpet sanitizing techniques are utilized daily after hours.

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.*

Continual contact tracing, and quarantining of persons with or suspected of Covid19, as per the CDC, all local and state agencies and Maricopa County Health Dept. guidelines. Isolation guidance and Quarantine guidance documents from Maricopa County Health Dept. are also provided to staff and families for positive COVID-19 cases on campus. We offer guidance for both close contacts and if a student or staff is positive with COVID-19.

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.*

Require staff to get tested if possibly sick or near a contagious person.

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.*

We have constantly provided our school community with sites where vaccinations are being given.

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.*

All accommodations per their IEPs are in place. If requested, this plan will be provided in an alternative format accessible to the parent.

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.*

Our School Administration continues to follow guidelines from Maricopa County Health Dept. and other state and Federal officials.

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.

We are providing all in-person learning. When students must be quarantined or are out sick, we provide them with make-up work to complete at home. We have created new Outdoor Learning Labs to reduce inside exposure, plus gave teachers training in how to teach lessons outside when weather permits.

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

We are providing all in-person learning. When students must be quarantined or are out sick, we provide them with make up work to complete at home. We have created new Outdoor Learning Labs to reduce inside exposure, plus gave teachers training in how to teach lessons outside when weather permits.

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

We have created the Outdoor Learning Labs, and new outdoor Specials, as well as outdoor activities that can be carried out safely and provide mental breaks for students, while integrating academics. We have counselors to provide extra special animal therapy with our Barnyard Program as well as Art therapy, gardening, etc. for students who need extra emotional support.

We increased learning games in our classroom learning centers to increase social interaction and enjoyment of academic skills in a fun learning environment (Of Course with safe distancing.). Time is available daily for staff to teach Social and Emotional Learning.

We also installed a new, larger outdoor playground so when students came back to school, they would have a larger more expansive outdoor play area. This included lots of shade trees throughout the playground and other areas of the school. Research has shown the positive emotional benefits of being in and around trees, which then translates into boosted productivity when people feel better.

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

This may include student health and food services.

We provide needed uniforms, school supplies and food when needed to families. This plan will be orally translated as needed for any family who requests this in their home language. Teacher and Staff trainings are taken periodically on all Health and Safety Precautions necessary to maintain as safe and healthy environment as possible.

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

We held two Teacher Retreats in the White Mountains just before school started for school year 21-22. These was designed to help teachers be prepared for teaching more activities outdoors and integration of all subjects with these activities. It was also designed to help teachers bond, get to know each other, and enjoy a much needed mental break from the first year of COVID ending May 2020. It rejuvenated everyone, and set everyone up for a positive year ahead. (All expenses were paid for by the school, including the log cabins, kayaking and meals, etc.) All staff were placed into teams to earn points for all sorts of items throughout the year. Teams winning at the end of the year are rewarded monetarily. This boosts morale and keeps groups working together to help each other throughout the year. Trainings on outdoor learning and SEL integration techniques are implemented every year, as well.

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

All PPE supplies and masks, etc. were provided to students and staff on a regular basis as needed as well as access to Binax home tests for COVID19, for as long as the Health Dept. will provide them.

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.*

We are listening to our Parents/Guardians ideas and concerns and considering all their requests. Staff and administration are also consulted to create the best outcome for our students, their families and our staff. Governing School Board Meeting Agendas are posted on our website as well as in the front lobby. These Agendas contain any and all pertinent items that pertain to our Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan(ARP Act).

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