



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

### LEA Information

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

Ethos Academy

**2. Entity ID Number\***

92379

**3. CTDS Number\***

078254000

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

Tamara Salko

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

tsalko@ethosacademy.school

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

6236061906

**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. \***

08/23/2023

**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://ethos.cfacademy.school/>

The Safe Return to In Person plan is located on the home page for review.

**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.\***

Given the updated CDC and MCDPH recommendations, we are no longer requiring masks. We informed our community that public health recommends that schools encourage masking for those at high risk or wish to wear a mask. Masks are optional.

**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).\***

With the exception of Middle School PE Classes, our students remain in the same cohort throughout the day to include lunch and recess.

**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.\***

We have installed hands free sinks in the restrooms and a 5 stall foot pedal sink in the multipurpose room for class handwashing. Handwashing is built into the schedule for each cohort three times a day and as needed individually.

**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.\***

Additional custodial staff was hired and cleans and maintains the building to include high touch areas. We also invested in repairs and upgrades to the HVAC to improve ventilation.

**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.\***

The School Director is the point of contact for all COVID cases and reports to Maricopa County Public Health as directed

**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.\***

All school community members are encouraged to stay home when they are sick and seek the advice of their health care professional regarding testing.

**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 entire Ethos community has been informed of vaccination opportunities and the message from the CDC to encourage vaccination for people 5 years of age and up has been shared. Testing sites and School Pod information was distributed to all staff when given the priority testing option in phase 1B beginning in January 2021.

**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.\***

We make all necessary accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies. We also follow all IEPs and 504 plans and necessary accommodations. We abide by the Americans with Disability Act.

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

Yes

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

School Director attended webinars presented by Maricopa County Public Health Office of Preparedness and Response and follows all protocols regarding COVID 19 with regards to communicating and reporting. We are also in compliance with all directives from the Arizona Department of Education and the Arizona State Board for Charter Schools.

## 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.

Ethos Academy is 100% open for in person learning. Should a student/class need to quarantine for any length of time, we will include any academic assignments in a packet for make up work following the same policy for regular absences. Parents will complete a daily attestation form for attendance to verify daily minutes of instruction for each day absent. Teachers are also available for working 1 on 1 with students upon returning to school. Free Breakfast and Lunch will be available to all students, parents may pick up meals for absent students. Special Education service minutes that are missed due to student absences will be made up in a timely manner and consistent with individual student IEPs.

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

Along with returning to in person learning for our strategic academic programs, we are bolstering our academic interventions in both math and reading for all K-8 students. We hired three paraprofessionals dedicated to math and science interventions in the Math & Science Lab. We also have three ELA paraprofessionals dedicated to reading and writing interventions for all K-8 students in the Literature Lab. These interventions will be diagnostic and prescriptive. These interventions will also be in addition to daily remediation and enrichment offered in the classroom. We have also added new curriculum to help fill the learning gaps to include systematic and explicit phonics instruction as well as the Step up to Writing Program. We not only use NWEA for benchmark assessments but we also have additional assessment tools for both math and reading for progress monitoring. All K-6 ELA teachers participated in LETRS professional development for two years to better equip them with tools to fill the learning gaps in reading, spelling and writing.

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

We participate in the Mindfulness First Program which also includes understanding Trauma training. Scientific studies show it has unprecedented outcomes for students. In addition we have added a social worker/counselor to our staff to teach relevant lessons in the classroom and also meet with students in need. We are also returning to participating in a sports program and field trips which enrich the social experiences of our students.

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

This may include student health and food services.

We are implementing a school wide attendance improvement plan to get students back in the classroom for daily instruction. We also have free breakfast and lunch for all students. We also have before and after school care available again this year.

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

We participated in the Mindfulness First Program which also includes understanding Trauma training. Scientific studies show it has unprecedented outcomes for staff. In addition to this program, we completed our professional development training with a Gallup certified coach on Strengthsfinder. This development not only helped each member of our staff better utilize their individual strengths, but also builds community and respect among the school community members. All Professional development is scheduled during the contracted work day for staff to allow for individual and family needs of each staff member.

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

We have a personnel manager and school director with an open door policy to discuss the individual needs of all staff members. We make accommodations as necessary and appropriate to be of service to our staff. We also have the School Director, Dean of Academics, and the Dean of Students as academic coaches for teachers to assist their development as well as offer support for ongoing classroom needs.



**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 have taken into account staff and parent concerns and recommendations through emails, surveys, phone conversations and in person meetings as well as the input of the School Board. We also follow what is recommended by MCDPH, the CDC and the Governor's orders.

**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