



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

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Florence Unified School District

2. Entity ID Number*

4437

3. CTDS Number*

11-02-01-000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Denice Erickson

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

derickson@fusdaz.org

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

5208663502

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. *

08/31/2023

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.*

Visit the FUSD website: <https://www.fusdaz.com/site/Default.aspx?PageID=2226>
Then click on "Safe Return to in Person"

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.*

According to Arizona Revised Statutes, all Arizona School Districts are prohibited from enforcing a mandatory face covering policy. Masks are recommended as a simple barrier to help prevent respiratory droplets from traveling into the air and onto other people when the person wearing the mask coughs, sneezes, talks or raises their voice and the decision to wear a mask will be up to individual students and staff members.

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).*

Physical distancing is a highly effective mitigation strategy. FUSD students and staff are asked to physically distance when available.

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.*

Proper hand hygiene is a highly effective mitigation strategy for reducing the spread of COVID-19 and other diseases. All students and staff are required to wash their hands throughout the day or use hand sanitizer when necessary to maintain a healthy environment.

All students will be required to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol at the following times:

- o upon arrival at school (use hand sanitizer if there is no sink in the classroom),
- o after being outside for physical activity,
- o before and after lunch,
- o prior to leaving school for home, and
- o after sneezing, coughing, or blowing the nose.

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.*

All buildings will be disinfected throughout the day and at night. Additional custodial staff will be provided by a contract company. Staff will be provided additional cleaning supplies to disinfect items and high touch surfaces throughout the school day and in-between use.

Addition of a day time custodian at each site 7:00am till 3:30pm. Spray bottles with disinfectant will be available in each classroom, front office and will be refilled as needed by custodial staff.

- Disinfecting will be completed each night using a BP 4/7 Hospital Grade misting system.
- Hand sanitizer will be available throughout the school sites and supplied in the district warehouse.

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 purpose of this data is to provide our Florence Unified School District families and staff with a transparent summary of COVID-19 cases by school resulting in exclusion from school

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activities. An active case indicates that a student or staff member participating in on-campus activities has tested positive for an active COVID-19 infection. (Please Note: Cases reported to us that have not been on campus or involved in campus activities are not reflected on this dashboard). Individuals who

test positive are excluded from participation in any in-person/on-campus activity until the registered nurse verifies

that the individual meets the return criteria set by state and local health authorities. Once the individual is cleared to return they are no longer considered an active case and their case is removed from the dashboard count.

The communication regarding positive, or potentially positive, COVID-19 tests falls within the FERPA/HIPAA guidelines and the privacy rights of students and staff must be protected. When a positive case is reported at any FUSD school it must be reported to Pinal County Health Department, first. After the Pinal County Health Department has investigated and confirmed the positive case the school will communicate in the following ways:

1. The school will notify every person that has been identified to have been in "close contact" with the positive individual. Close contact is defined as, "being within six feet for a cumulative of fifteen minutes during a 24-hour period or had physical contact with a person with COVID-19."
2. If the positive person is a student or teacher, all students in that class will be notified with a letter from school administration.
3. After all persons who have been in close contact have been notified, and the notification letter has been sent, the case is reported here on the FUSD COVID-19 Dashboard.

Parents/Caregivers

If you have questions about an exposure notification you received from your child's school and need further clarification of the guidelines we are following for COVID-19, please see Pinal County Public Health's informational webpage.

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 students attending school are visually screened for signs of illness. If they display these they are asked to report to the health assistant for further evaluation. If they have a fever or other major symptom, they will be sent home until symptoms resolve.
 Parents are required to attest to a daily health screening of their children following established protocols in this plan. Any signs of symptoms and students are encouraged to stay home until symptoms resolve.

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.*

Although FUSD no longer hosts a vaccination site at Poston Butte High School, we continue to work in conjunction with The Pinal County Health Department to provide stay safe stay connected events at which the community was offered vaccinations. This will continue through December 2023.

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.*

Children with disabilities are provided the option of in- person or virtual learning opportunities. In either option the IEP team will meet to review support services. The processto meet their needs will be in-person or virtual depending on the needs of the individual student.

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.*

FUSD participates in weekly discussions and communicates directly with the Pinal County Health Department to obtain guidance on COVID-19 updates, protocols, and responses.

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.

FUSD has leveraged ESSER funds to provide quality instruction, interventions, tools for at home learning, repairs to ensure proper ventilation of school facilities, safe transportation, and increase cleaning and sanitization.

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

FUSD will ensure a continuity of services for students' academic needs by increasing our professional development provided to teachers interventions, after school tutoring, additional courses for those who have failed a course, and intercession.

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

The Florence Unified School District will ensure continuity of services by providing a variety of learning models that will address learning needs for in person, during periods of quarantine, and for those who are not able to attend in person. In-person learning will require students to be on campus 5 days per week. The typical daily schedule will be used with modifications to limit flow of students in high traffic areas. Physical distancing and healthy behaviors will be enforced to mitigate any spread of the virus and to ensure a safe learning environment. The distance learning model is designed to provide students with curriculum and instruction directly aligned to the content they would learn in-person. Each student will be assigned a classroom teacher from their home school. Students will use Google Classroom as their primary means to receive and submit assignments. All teachers will communicate daily with students and provide a combination of online activities and instruction. This will require parents to be even greater partners in the educational process. Florence Virtual Academy provides full online instruction.

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

This may include student health and food services.

Students will be provided access to courses in person and virtually depending on their individual needs. After School programs will be provided to help students with learning loss as a result of the pandemic.

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

The district has hired three counselors, and is seeking out three additional counselors to work with students and ensure their social and emotional needs are met.

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

The district is working to procure a district nurse to oversee health and wellness of students.

Staff Needs:

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Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs The District has a District Social Worker and a District SEL Coordinator. The Social Worker works with families to ensure their physical needs are met and assists in connecting those families with local resources. Our SEL Coordinator is committed to the mental health wellness of staff and students and has started the implementation of a district wide SEL initiative. Additionally, a community engagement committee meets throughout the school year to address a wide range of issues. Of particular focus this year and next will be establishing connections with the community.

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.*

The District collaborated with students, staff and community members to gather input regarding the Safe Return to In-Person Plan. The Incident Command Team developed the plan in the summer of 2020, and the Governing Board approved the plan. As federal and state guidelines have changed, the plan has been updated.

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