



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

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Gilbert Unified School District

2. Entity ID Number*

4239

3. CTDS Number*

70241000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Cheryl Pollack-Neuser

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

cheryl.pollackneuser@gilbertschools.net

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

480-497-3342

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. *

08/17/2023

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://www.gilbertschools.net/Page/1>

It is on the left side, scroll down below the "Common Sense District" logo

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?*

☐ No

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

☐ No

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

☒ Yes

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

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette have been enhanced through education, signs, and ensuring the availability of supplies.

Each campus has:

Signage and education on handwashing, sanitizing of hands, and proper respiratory etiquette.

Hand soap (classrooms with sinks), hand sanitizer and tissues in each classroom.

Protocols for hand washing/sanitizing at specific intervals (before/after lunch, after recess etc).

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

☒ Yes

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

Air Filtration (as it relates to COVID-19 concerns)
Maintaining a minimum of 20%-30% outside make up air with manual dampers
Continuously operating OAU and unit fans to allow for constant air changes
Utilizing MERV 8 pleated filters in both the AC units and the OAU
Monitoring of space health based on outside air quality and comfort level (ability to maintain acceptable temperatures during the late summer months)
Continuously reviewing the possible Implementation of air purification systems for high congregation areas such as gyms, auditoriums, cafeterias, and lecture halls.
Ensuring procedural processes are in place to contain and isolate air circulation in the event of possible COVID-19 exposure
CINTAS Laundry Service
Weekly pick up and drop off of laundered microfiber cloths, mop heads and dust mops
Color coded microfibers, Blue (common surfaces), Orange (restrooms), Gray (teachers, windows and mirrors)
Teachers will be provide 1 clean microfiber each day, strictly for classroom use
Custodial staff will pick up all used/soiled cloths each night
Chemical Utilization
All disinfectant standardized at GPS are on the EPA-N List, certified in the use against Coronavirus
3 main disinfectants, Re Juv Nal (10 min. dwell time), #19 non-acid (10 min. dwell time), QT3 (3 min. dwell time)
Each teacher will be supplied with a bottle of disinfectant that will be replenished as needed
Utilizing #19 non-acid in cases where a hypoallergenic substitute is needed
Ensure raw or saturated materials are never left in an occupied space
Disinfectants are used regularly but do not replace regular cleaning.

15. 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**16. 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.***

Gilbert Public Schools continues to follow MCDPH and ADHS and guidelines in regards to:
Enforcing Isolation
Providing education regarding length of isolation and use of masks upon the return to campus.

17. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing?*☒ Yes**18. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing.***

Gilbert Public Schools has dedicated resources to families in order for them to locate free and timely testing throughout our communities. We also provide free antigen (rapid) test kits to any families or staff who request them.

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

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

Gilbert Public Schools in fiscal year 2022 hosted two large scale Vaccination PODS for staff and surrounding communities. We also continue dedicating resources for families and staff alike to locate outside opportunities to become vaccinated.

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.*

Additional precautions (including PPE) employed for those who work closely with children with disabilities and health needs to include related service providers. Additionally an AOI option is available for students whose IEP teams determine that FAPE can be provided in an online setting.

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

*

☒ Yes

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

GPS Health Director continues to receive communication on a regular basis from MCPDH. Meetings with ADHS are made as needed and can be coordinated with relatively short notice.

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.

25. 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.

Gilbert Public Schools will employ strategies and program options to ensure students are able to participate in high quality learning experiences regardless of the delivery model.

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

Gilbert Public Schools provides learning experiences that ensure all students' academic needs are met by providing the following:

Administration of universal screeners (reading and math), benchmark assessments and summative semester assessments to identify skill gaps and proficiency of academic standards to better inform instruction in the classroom and for intervention.

Extension of the school day and year to include before/after school intervention and support, summer school (both in person and online), intersession support and summer bridge transition activities for incoming 7th and 9th graders.

Credit recovery options (in-person and online)

Intervention and tutoring support during the school day.

Review of district curriculum maps, creation of curriculum crosswalks and identification of priority standards.

Embedded time for teachers to engage in instructional conversations with professional learning community (PLC) colleagues and campus administrators.

On-demand tutoring (24/7) in both English and Spanish for 7-12 students.

Laptops for all brick and mortar 7-12 students and all K-12 online students.

Implementation of instructional framework to support administrators, teachers and students.

Additional after-school bus transportation for students to participate in after-school programs.

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

Students will receive tiered onsite, in-person support based on individual need as determined from a variety of indicators, to include: social worker/mental health counselor referral forms; self referrals; family referrals; behavior assessments and threat assessments.

GPS will utilize all mental health support staff K-12 to assess and prioritize needs.

Service delivery may include individual support, small group facilitation, and/or family outreach and referral based on need for resources to support safety and learning (food, supplies, shelter, behavioral health care); outreach/family engagement; home visits; collaboration with campus/district employees.

Social, emotional and mental health needs will be addressed and provided by the school site (or designated) Social Workers/Mental Health Counselor for students identified as in need. This will be done in collaboration and coordination with families and community agencies. Determination for additional social, emotional and mental health supports will be discussed in collaboration and coordination with each school site's Behavioral Health Team.

GPS will provide students and families with resources and contact information for mental health supports, as well as community support agencies.

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

This may include student health and food services.

As GPS moved into the normal NSLP fiscal operations for the 2023 school year, breakfast and lunch meal prices have been maintained at the 2020 school year levels.

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

Strong employee/employer relationships are vital to the success of our employees. We are committed to investing in and fully supporting our employees by providing a positive work environment, a sense of belonging, and avenues to support mental health.

GPS educates and supports staff on identifying signs that an individual is suffering from anxiety, depression, or lack of coping strategies.

We provide staff with resources and contact information for crisis response as well as wellness information through email communications, social media, school and District websites, and through both mandatory and optional professional development.

In addition to ADA accommodations and FMLA, GPS health insurance provides mental health services. The GPS Governing Board has approved the hiring of flexible site substitutes at every campus to help cover absences in order to help reduce stress in employees who would otherwise be required to take on additional duties.

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

Staff may also access wellness resources which focus on promoting a healthier and happier whole person. GPS wellness program (Be Well) supports mental and physical health and includes a variety of resources such as health care management, exercise programs, and health fairs.

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

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

Ongoing feedback is collected at both district and site levels.
Parents provide feedback at quarterly superintendent meetings and monthly Governing Board meetings.
Revisions are made based on CDC and county health department guidelines.
At all meetings, the feedback gathered focused on the student to include specific hands-on learning opportunities, intersession and summer school supports as well as the spend on assessment tools and analytics to assist the teacher in determining instruction to support the learning of each individual student.

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.

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

☒ Yes