

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



LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

J.O. Combs Unified School District 44 - San Tan Valley, AZ

2. Entity ID Number*

4445

3. CTDS Number*

110244000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Julie A. Cook

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

jcook@jocombs.org

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

4809875302

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

Revision Timeline: January 2022-June 2022, July 2022-December 2022, January 2023-June 2023, and July 2023-September 2023

7. When did your LEA last review or revise your plan within the last six months? Please provide mm/dd/yyyy.*

10/28/2022

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 the LEA's Safe Return to In-Person plan located on the website (do not link directly to the PDF). The plan must be on the ADE template that was provided. The narrative verbiage on the template must be identical to the narrative verbiage provided on this online form. *

<https://www.jocombs.org/domain/116>

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.*

Policy aligns with new state laws. Information and signage provided to staff/students/community on correct wearing of masks.

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).*

Signage encouraging physical distancing placed at all school sites. Cohorting used to the extent possible.

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.*

Following CDC guidelines on handwashing and respiratory etiquette. Multiple opportunities to sanitize and wash hands throughout the day.

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.*

Frequent cleaning and disinfecting of high touch points. Nightly deep clean. All HVAC units upgraded to meet federal guidelines for safe air exchange in school buildings.

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.*

Any adult/child who is a close contact of a positive case is able to quarantine. Follow CDC guidelines for definition of close contact and quarantine requirements.

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.*

Policy aligns with new state laws regarding testing/vaccines. Symptomatic adults/children recommended for diagnostic 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 District had a testing/vaccination site located at Combs High School. The site was in partnership with Embry Women's Health center. The District continues to work with our community to inform them of vaccination opportunities.

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 in grades (7th-12th) with disabilities will be provided the option of in-person or virtual learning opportunities. In either option the IEP team will meet to review support services. The process to 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.*

Ongoing communication and collaboration will continue to take place with state and local health officials regarding best practices, guidelines, case reporting, etc.

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.

The District provides in-person learning for students and families in K-12th grade. The District will also provide virtual learning for eligible students and families requesting this form of education. Virtual learning will be provided through the District's online school. Eligible students needing specific services as part of their education will be provided these services in-person or virtually.

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

Students will be provided access to all courses needed to achieve educational goals. After School programs will be provided to help students with additional help to address loss of opportunity to learn due to the pandemic. Online courses will be offered 9th-12th for students who are credit deficient. The District has purchased 24-hour 365 day online homework help through the PAPER software. The software is designed to provide additional academic support for students.

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

The District has hired counselors and social workers at all district schools. A SEL Specialist position was created at the District level. This individual will coordinate with school personnel to implement a SEL curriculum throughout the District. The District is implementing an SEL curriculum for all students. Staff have received professional development on the SEL curriculum.

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

This may include student health and food services.

The District continued free meals for all students during the 2022-2023 school year in alignment with NSLP guidelines.

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

The District has a District Wellness Committee, established in 2015, which is committed to the physical and mental health wellness of staff. The committee meets throughout the school year to address a wide range of issues. Special emphasis will be placed this year on the social, emotional and mental health needs of staff. Resources, at the local, state and national level, will be shared with staff members throughout the year. In addition, information on resources to help in these areas will be shared through the District's healthcare benefits plan. Ongoing professional development to staff on social and emotional needs.

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

The District sought input via the provision of surveys to students, staff and community to collect input regarding the original Pandemic Response Plan. A District level committee developed this plan (Summer 2020) and the Governing Board approved the plan. Modifications to the plan were made throughout the year based on evolving federal and state guidance. The revised plan will be posted and opened for designated comment periods, in which students, staff and families have the opportunity to provide continued feedback. This feedback will be incorporated into future revisions of the plan which will be presented to the Governing Board, at a public meeting, for approval. This same process will be utilized for subsequent changes to the plan.

34. Did you make any revisions/changes to this plan from your last plan submission?*

Yes