

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



LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

La Tierra Community School Inc.

2. Entity ID Number*

90900

3. CTDS Number*

138503000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Julie Jongma

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

julie@latierracommunityschool.org

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

(928)445-5100

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.*

10/31/2022

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://latierracomunityschool.org/covid-19-notice/>
Follow this link and click on the linked document titled Safe Return to In-Person Instruction.

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.*

LTCS students and staff will be encouraged to wash or sanitize their hands often throughout the day. Not only is this an effective method to slow the spread of COVID-19, but it is also effective at preventing other illnesses that can become prevalent in our school. Students may be offered hand sanitizer by school staff at certain points throughout the school day, such as before and after lunch, before and after recess, upon returning from the restroom, and before using devices.

LTCS will encourage proper respiratory etiquette. Covering coughs and sneezes are an important way to stop the spread of germs. Students will be encouraged or reminded to cover their mouth and nose with a tissue when they cough or sneeze and immediately throw used tissues away. If no tissue is available, students will be asked to sneeze or cough into their elbow, not their hands. Students should wash or sanitize hands immediately after blowing their nose, sneezing, or coughing.

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.*

Cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting guidelines from public health agencies encourage institutions to consider the important differences between cleaning, sanitizing, and disinfecting, and recommend the best chemicals to use and how to apply them. La Tierra's plan includes frequent cleaning of high touch areas, daily sanitation measures, and deep cleanings as needed. We will continue to use the CDC guidelines, along with other occupational and environmental recommendations, to learn the safest and most current practices in school facilities. Classroom staff will continue to be provided sanitizer and clean rags to sanitize desks and high touch areas periodically during the school day.

LTCS will improve ventilation as much as possible to increase circulation of outdoor air, increase the delivery of clean air, and dilute potential contaminants.

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.*

When notified of a student or staff member who has tested positive for COVID-19, LTCS school administration will send an exposure letter home to the class that was affected notifying them of possible exposure. The letter encourages parents to use heightened monitoring of their student for a 10 day period following exposure. Per updated guidance from the AZDHS there is no longer a recommendation of quarantine for close contacts of a positive individual. Current guidance recommends the close contact wear a mask for 10 days from the date of exposure. While there will not be a requirement for students who are close contacts to wear a face covering, it will be recommended to families. LTCS will provide flexibility and support to students who are absent due to COVID-19 and will work with families to keep their student caught up in their class(es).

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.*

We do not provide testing but may provide information regarding where testing is available. LTCS will monitor for COVID-19 symptoms in students by doing visual screenings and sending any student who appears to be ill or complains of illness to the office. Per LTCS health and wellness policy any student with a temperature of 100 degrees or higher will be sent home immediately.

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.*

Any person 6 months of age and older is now eligible to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. Children ages 5-11 are eligible to receive a booster shot 5 months after their initial vaccination. La Tierra encourages families to get vaccinated to protect themselves and others from contracting COVID-19.

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.*

LTCS continues to provide accommodations for children with disabilities, and has been following the guidelines in our mitigation plan, student IEPs, and 504 plans.

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.*

LTCS will continue to operate under the guidance of Yavapai County Community Health Services (YCCHS), Arizona Department of Health Services (AZDHS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Arizona Department of Education (ADE), Yavapai County Education Service Agency (YCESA), and other governmental agencies.

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.

At this time, LTCS will be offering full In-Person learning for all students. La Tierra will NOT be offering any form of Distance Learning at this time. Any decision to move to an instructional model other than full in-person will be made in consultation with YCCHS and approved by the LTCS Governing Board.

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

At this time, LTCS will be offering full In-Person learning for all students. Teachers and administrators regularly assess and monitor the academic progress of each student to identify students in need of extra support provided through Tier II and Tier III interventions.

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

At LTCS, social and emotional supports have always been a critical component of our education vision. Our highly qualified counselor and other dedicated staff are ready to help students with social and emotional needs. However, as families, staff and community members face many new challenges throughout this pandemic, LTCS is very aware of the uncertainty and trauma that COVID-19 is creating for our students and staff. We believe that social and emotional learning and support (SEL) should be a top priority.

Since the start of the pandemic in 2020, LTCS staff noticed many social emotional needs of our students including anxiety, grief, fear, self regulation, and difficulty adjusting to on-campus procedures. Therefore, LTCS will continue to have our Counselor on campus 2 days per week to work with students.

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

This may include student health and food services.

Disposable masks are available to students as needed. LTCS has resources available to families seeking additional information and support.

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

Multiple avenues are used to check in on staff members social, emotional, and mental health, including weekly PLC, staff, and leadership meetings and one on one meetings with administrators.

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

Staff are supported by school leaders on a case by case basis when needs arise.

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.*

LTCS holds regular governing board meetings, stakeholders are involved in the planning and revision process for health and safety measures. Member of the public are welcome to provide input and are given multiple avenues to do so, including public comment, surveys, and direct contact with administration.

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

Yes