



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

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Montessori Academy, Inc.

2. Entity ID Number*

80011

3. CTDS Number*

078977000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Julianne Newman

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

juli.newman@azma.academy

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

480-945-1121

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. *

09/01/2023

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.*

www.azma.academy

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.*

Taking into consideration CDC, ADHS, and MCHD guidelines, current school exposure and mitigation data, the school has a mask optional policy at this time. Visitors had to be appropriately masked until March 1, 2022; it is currently optional. The school provides KN95 masks for students and adults, as needed. CDC information regarding the correct wearing of masks and posters are in the office.

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).*

The school provides additional space for learning. Three additional rooms are currently provided to accommodate for physical distancing. Outdoor learning spaces were expanded in all program levels. Program levels were kept separate from one another.

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.*

Handwashing Requirements

Wash your hands with soap and water for 20 seconds upon arrival, before and after eating, after using the bathroom, whenever you come inside, and if you touch your face or cover a cough or sneeze.

Hand Sanitizer

If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol may be used. However, if hands are visibly dirty, always wash hands with soap and water.

Handwashing Procedure for Students & Staff

Children and staff members will wash their hands using the following method:

Turn on clean, running water to a comfortable temperature.

Moisten your hands with water and apply soap to your hands.

Rub your hands together vigorously until a soapy lather appears.

Once a soapy lather appears, take your hands out of the water stream and continue to rub them together vigorously for at least 20 seconds. It may help to sing a song in your mind that you know takes at least 20 seconds to complete.

Rub the areas between your fingers, around your nail beds, under your fingernails, around and under any jewelry, and the back of your hands.

Rinse your hands under clean, running water until they are free of dirt and soap.

Leave the water running while you dry your hands.

Dry your hands with a clean, disposable paper towel.

Turn off the running water using a disposable paper towel on any faucet or handles.

Throw the paper towel into a lined trash container.

Use a disposable paper towel to turn the doorknob to the bathroom door.

Throw the paper towel into a lined trash container.

Cough or sneeze into your elbow - then wash hands

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.*

When to Clean, Disinfect, or Sanitize Interior Surfaces

Cleaning: Cleaning will take place continuously throughout the day.

Disinfecting: Disinfecting will take place before school, after lunch/recess, after school and as necessary.

Sanitizing: Sanitizing will take place weekly and as necessary. (quarantine)

Interior Cleaning Procedures & Requirements

Wear disposable gloves to clean and disinfect, including handling trash and dirty laundry.

Clean surfaces continuously using Tough and Tender or designated cleaning products.

Practice routine cleaning of frequently touched surfaces.

Clean bathrooms between each use.

Clean materials before returning them to shelves.

Gloves will be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area. Always wash hands immediately after removing gloves.

Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol may be used.

Clean surfaces using soap and water or with cleaners appropriate for use on these surfaces.

Launder items according to the manufacturer's instructions. Use the warmest appropriate water setting and dry items completely.

Clean and disinfect hampers or other carts for transporting laundry with appropriate products for hard or soft surfaces.

UV Sanitation Technology will be used nightly.

Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces regularly and throughout the day. Examples include:

Tabletops

Desktops

Computer keyboards

Montessori materials (any hands-on learning items)

Light switches

Doorknobs

Chair backs

Sink faucet handles

Toilet handles

Clean materials before returning them to shelves. Examples include:

Works

Games

Lesson Materials

Interior Cleaning with Bleach

Keep surfaces wet with cleaning, sanitizing, or disinfecting products for the period of time specified by the product label or at least 1 minute, whichever is greater.

Take precautions, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation while using this product.

When handling a bleach product, check that the bleach solution is intended for disinfection and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening, may not be suitable for disinfection.

Bleach is proven to be effective against Corona Viruses when properly diluted.

Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

When to Clean, Disinfect, or Sanitize Outdoor & Exterior Surfaces

Cleaning: Cleaning will take place continuously throughout the day.

Disinfecting: Disinfecting will take place before school, after lunch/recess, after school and as necessary.

Sanitizing: Sanitizing will take place weekly and as necessary. (quarantine)

Outdoor & Exterior Cleaning Procedures Requirements

Outdoor areas, including playground equipment, will be cleaned before and after use.

Surfaces that are touched a lot and are made of plastic or metal, such as grab bars and railings, will be cleaned before and after use with a bleach and water solution.

Wear disposable gloves for all tasks in the cleaning process, including handling trash.

Cleaning and disinfection of wooden surfaces (such as play structures, benches, or tables) or groundcovers (such as mulch or sand) is not recommended.

Do not spray disinfectant, including bleach solution, on outdoor playgrounds. It is not an efficient use of supplies and is not proven to reduce risk of COVID-19 to the public.

Gloves will be removed carefully to avoid contamination of the wearer and the surrounding area.

Keep surfaces wet with cleaning, sanitizing, or disinfecting products for the period of time specified by the product label or at least 1 minute, whichever is greater.

Take precautions, such as wearing gloves and making sure you have good ventilation while using this product.

When handling a bleach product, check that the bleach solution is intended for disinfection and ensure the product is not past its expiration date. Some bleaches, such as those designed for safe use on colored clothing or for whitening, may not be suitable for disinfection.

Bleach is proven to be effective against Corona Viruses when properly diluted.

Follow manufacturer's instructions for application and proper ventilation. Never mix household bleach with ammonia or any other cleanser.

One bottle will be stored securely out of reach of children in both Toddler and Early Education bathrooms, and

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 is in partnership with AZDHS and Maricopa County Dept. of Health. We will not contact trace, unless there is an outbreak.
 If You Test Positive for COVID-19 (Isolate for 5 days, return with mask)
 If you have been exposed to COVID-19 and have no symptoms, have a negative Covid-19 test, you do not have to quarantine.
 You are encouraged to wear a mask around others.
 If you have a fever, continue to stay home until your fever resolves.
 We follow our strict Health Policy for any contagious disease:
 If you develop symptoms such as fever, cough, or difficulty breathing, stay home.
 The school provides Covid tests, as available.

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.*

The school provides information to all community members regarding diagnostic and screening testing. When available the school will provide Covid -19 self test kits to staff and families.

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 school provides information to all community members regarding vaccinations and encourages vaccinations. All staff was given opportunities to register through the school and receive Covid-19 vaccinations. They are not required.

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.*

The school continues to work individually with students with disabilities.

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.*

The school's administration works closely with Maricopa County Dept. of Health Services.

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 school originally provided continuity of service through online, hybrid, and on campus learning options. Currently, the school is all on campus learning, with online learning during isolation, quarantine, or for individualized educational plans. Programs include academic areas, social-emotional learning, arts, and health/wellness/physical activity.

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

Data analysis - standardized testing, dyslexia screenings, benchmark testing, observational and classroom data.
Action Plan - RTI in both ELA and Mathematics - RTI programming and tutorial began in 1st quarter
Weekly PLC
Monthly Education Committee meetings - review data, update plans, as needed.

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

The school implements the Sanford Harmony program K-6 and the Heroic Journey program for 7-8. We have found that the inclusion of health and wellness lessons directly into our PE program has seen greater gains than direct instruction. The formation of two competitive sports teams, with individual sport events, has truly made a difference. Those not on a team, have supported the teams in a variety of ways.

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

This may include student health and food services.

Hot lunch program restarted in Spring 2023 and is available to all students. Expanding school gardening program.

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

Monthly all staff meetings- PD for personal and professional growth

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

Monthly breakfast/coffee or lunch delivery. Classroom support, if absent. PTO extensions.

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.*

Summer 2021 - parent/guardian survey, teacher survey
June 2022 - parent/guardian survey, teacher survey
The Executive Board reviews all survey data regarding safety and health issues, compiles a plan for review, Governing Board comments, vote for policy and changes and necessary. Executive Board met 7-28-22
Quarter 1 SY23 : Quarterly Parent coffees - collected input from parents - all positive feedback, no negative feedback.
Monthly staff meetings - no changes requested. Continued for Q2 and Q3. Q4 - implement a Room Parent, Staff, and All Parent Survey. Continuing above practices for FY24.

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