



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

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Montessori Day Public Schools Chartered

2. Entity ID Number*

4359

3. CTDS Number*

078758000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Margaret Huffman

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

phuffman@mdpssc.org

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

6026165148

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.*

https://mdpsc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/August-2023_SAFE-RETURN-TO-IN-PERSON-INSTRUCTION-PLAN.pdf

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.*

MDPSC follows the most current CDC guidance and recommendations. Currently all school employees, students, parents and visitors are advised that wearing a mask when on campus is optional according to personal health considerations.

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).*

MDPSC has very large classrooms plus outdoor classroom patios to accommodate distancing, with use of cohorts/podding, following current CDC guidelines.

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.*

Students and staff observe CDC guidelines for handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

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.*

MDPSC has air purifiers in all classrooms and administrative spaces. All classrooms have direct outdoor access and – weather permitting – doors are kept open for air freshening. Staff follows CDC guidelines for cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities.

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.*

MDPSC follows the Maricopa County/AZ Dept of Health Services and CDC guidelines on contact tracing, isolation and quarantine.

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 MDPSC classrooms conduct a student health check, per ADHS guidelines, as students enter their classroom. Students demonstrating any sign of ill health are taken to the school office for further checking and phoning parents/guardians for pick up if needed.

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.*

MDPSC leadership actively provides vaccination information and strongly encourages vaccination for all eligible students, families and stakeholders to prevent spread of COVID and its variants.

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.*

IEPs are updated as necessary to provide accommodations for our 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.*

Per contact tracing explanations (above), MDPSC is working with both state and local entities to ensure compliance with directives.

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.

MDPSC Admin has built strong staff teamwork, including cross training and employment of classroom assistants, and developed a culture of cooperation and mutual support, such that staff members capably cover for each other in case of absences. Principals of our small communities have an open door policy with all stakeholders, to assure needs are heard and met appropriately and with ongoing communication. Additionally there is technology in place to allow for distance learning and/or dual distance/campus learning if/when mandated by the Governor's Office or higher authority.

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

Instruction is individualized as part of core Montessori practice. All classrooms have an assigned Lead Teacher and Assistant Teacher to implement instruction. Campus Directors and the Superintendent are actively involved in classroom observations and staff and level planning meetings to best assure student needs are noted and addressed. As part of the LEA's Title I program, push-in/pullout is used to assist students in the bottom quartile of benchmark testing targeting needs in ELA and math.

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

Noted and addressed individually, as above, to include parent conferencing with staff to determine needs. MDPSC has contracts in place to provide for social, emotional and mental health issues on an as identified basis. Teachers and admin staff are actively engaged in ongoing observation of student and staff actions in order to identify areas where further inquiry or intervention may be deemed appropriate.

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

This may include student health and food services.

Individualized, as above. MDPSC has always worked as a community to ensure students' nutritional needs are met despite the fact it does not operate a NSLP program.

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

Individualized; includes open door policy with Administration to discuss needs, plus insurance as part of staff benefits options.

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

Individualized, as above.

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.*

Open door policy with all stakeholders; strong outreach by admin team, board members and staff to stay current with, share and implement resources and guidance in the ever-changing dynamics of the pandemic via meetings, email, text, zoom, other. Administration has always taken stakeholder input into account as a component used in setting school policy.

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