

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
92980	11-87-21-000	ARCHES 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)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	Y	Correct usage of masks is taught, however masks are optional for both students and staff.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	No modifications to the facility were needed.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Students are taught proper handwashing techniques and respiratory etiquette and steps are taken to ensure routine handwashing throughout the day.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Ventilation of facilities was already sufficient. Facility is deep cleaned, including ventilation ductwork and filters. Staff and students take additional cleaning/sanitation steps throughout the day. Additional cleaning support is available daily.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Reported exposures are recorded and those exposed are expected to self-quarantine. Staff cooperate with all state, local, and tribal authorities.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Exposed persons are expected to provide evidence of negative result before returning to the school. No testing is done at the school site.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Staff will distribute vaccination information to families as requested.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	All students with disabilities requiring assistance to adhere to health and safety policies are provided with all assistance needed.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	All school staff are expected to cooperate with all health officials in following all school policies and procedures as well as governmental requirements.

How the LEA will ensure 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

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

LEA policy requires the school to be open and provide all school services on all days regularly scheduled according to the school's approved calendar unless specifically required to close due to state or local government requirements.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	All regular school activities, including instruction and assessment, will be provided on all school days. Modifications and accommodations will be provided as needed by any student or staff with the intention to remain as close to regular operation as possible
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	given the specific needs. The school already provides for extensive flexibility in meeting student academic needs. This will continue, taking into consideration the additional academic struggles brought on by the pandemic and responses to it.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	The school is already dedicated to maintaining a focus on individual needs of students and this will continue. Each student has a staff member mentor whose responsibility it is to check in on social, emotional, and mental health needs. Additionally, all staff are expected (and taught how) to identify these needs within the whole student population and report any needs observed. Additional services are offered to students and families whenever any need is suspected. Instruction is provided in both targeted lessons and embedded within content that teaches balance and social, emotional, and mental health principles students can use to stay healthy.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	All staff are trained in basic health and safety practices and model these throughout the school day. A Health Aide is designated and on campus at all times when students are present to meet any needs students may have during school hours or at school activities. A food service program has been put into place in the 2021-2022 school year and serve meals consistent with the National School Lunch Program guidelines. Free breakfast and lunch are provided to all students and siblings. Any other needs identified are addressed in cooperation with families and local business leaders on a case-by-case basis.
Staff Needs:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	School culture promotes balance and is based on principals of resilience and connection. Staff cooperation and collaboration results in a team that can rely on one another and who help one another meet life's challenges. School administration meets regularly with all staff and checks in routinely to ensure that social, emotional, and mental health needs are being met. Counseling is provided for any asking for this service.
Other Needs	Regular check-ins provide opportunities to assess for any other staff needs. Assistance is provided whenever possible for any needs identified. The same resources available through community partnerships to enrolled families are available to staff families for meeting their 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**

Date of Revision	11/1/21
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Feedback from enrolled families was sought through surveys and in-person interviews at the conclusion of the 2020-2021 school year. Staff members asked local community members for input on possible needs and ways to meet them, including asking for assistance with free or reduced-price goods or services for families in need. Community non-profits were also contacted to determine how they may be of assistance to families and for permission to refer. Enrolled families and community members were asked to provide feedback on current policies for direction on possible revision. Board



members looked at practices at other schools and districts within the state to see what actions were being taken and the applicability for our situation. All input was considered by staff who put together recommendation to the Board. Board discussed recommendations and voted on revisions as needed.

U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

(1) LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

- (a) An LEA must describe in its plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services—
 - (i) how it 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 CDC:
 - (A) Universal and correct wearing of masks.
 - (B) Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (*e.g.*, use of cohorts/podding)
 - (C) Handwashing and respiratory etiquette.
 - (D) Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation.
 - (E) Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.
 - (F) Diagnostic and screening testing.
 - (G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
 - (H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
 - (I) Coordination with State and local health officials.
 - (ii) how it will ensure 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.

- (b)(i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section Start Printed Page 212022001(a) of the ARP Act, an 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.
 - (ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account
 - (iii) If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any such policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations.

- (c) If an LEA developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address all the requirements in paragraph (a), the LEA must, pursuant to paragraph (b), revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds to meet the requirements in paragraph (a).

- (d) An LEA's plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must be—
 - (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
 - (ii) To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent; an
 - (iii) Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent

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