



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

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

St. Johns Unified School District

2. Entity ID Number*

4153

3. CTDS Number*

010201000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Ginger Wiltbank

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

gwiltbank@staff.sjusd.net

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

928-337-2255

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. *

05/03/2023

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://drive.google.com/file/d/1RTKXIrPLVPwSQ4nYmfn80eyLObV5dCFR/view>

Navigate to www.sjusd.net. Click on "Menu". In the Menu, click on the arrow next to "School Information" and navigate to "Safe Return To In-Person Instruction Plan".

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.*

Parents may choose to have their child wear a mask to school, but it is not our intention to require a mask.

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).*

Student desks will continue to be arranged in rows, facing forward, and will be spaced as far apart as 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.*

Permanent hand sanitizer stations will be installed throughout each school. Sanitation and hygiene lessons and discussions will be incorporated as needed.

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.*

Classrooms and school grounds will be cleaned daily.
High-touch surfaces will be sanitized throughout the day.

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.*

Parents are responsible for determining their child's health status before arriving at school. Parents are responsible for keeping their child at home should they present with any COVID-like symptoms. Isolation and quarantine will be followed as per CDC guidelines. Parents and staff are notified if they have been exposed.

19. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on diagnostic and screening testing?*

No

20. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities?*

No

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.*

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety are made through individual IEPs.

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.*

SJUSD remains in communication with the Apache County Health Department. Should the current state of the pandemic change, we are prepared to modify the measures listed above in order to maintain safe environment for every child.

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.

SJUSD reopened school to in-person instruction during the 2020-2021 school year and has maintained that status moving forward. SJUSD will keep schools open for regular in-person instruction while implementing the use of adopted and recommended sanitizing procedures and social distancing guidelines in addition to other CDC recommended health and safety guidelines. PPE may be used, but according to Arizona State Legislative mandates, they may not be required. In-person instruction will be available for the same number of days per week and open the same hours offered during the prior school year before the COVID-19 closures or mitigation strategies took effect. ESSER funds are being used to pay retention stipends for teachers and staff to help ensure the return of school employees to assist in the continuity of services for the return to school and in-person instruction. SJUSD does have a dedicated Mental Health Counselor, who primarily services students with IEPs and 504s, but is also available to help support all students with SEL needs. Teachers also are receiving professional development and classroom support materials to help provide awareness and support for Social Emotional Learning.

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

In anticipation of addressing learning loss resulting from Covid-19, SJUSD is using ESSER funds for the retention of teachers and staff for continuity of services, to add additional teachers, paraprofessionals to help lower some class sizes to provide more targeted instruction for at risk students and to provide additional intervention opportunities to support at risk students of all subgroups. Additional Summer School teachers have been hired and the Summer school opportunities have been expanded to support a larger segment of the population to help bridge the learning gap and summer slide. ESSER funds are being used to purchase additional Chromebooks and software to provide greater equitable opportunities for all students to access to the appropriate technology that is used for instructional and intervention opportunities.

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

SJUSD does have a dedicated Mental Health Counselor, who primarily services students with IEPs and 504s, but is also available to help support students with SEL needs. Teachers also are receiving professional development and classroom support materials to help provide awareness and support for Social Emotional Learning.

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

This may include student health and food services.

Summer programs for high school students that provide additional learning and social opportunities, including a summer garden program, a summer weights class, and a summer woodshop program.

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

SJUSD is implementing staff gatherings and potlucks in safe socially distanced environments to encourage socialization, entertainment, and overall well-being. Games, professional development, and motivational speakers will be utilized to build and foster resiliency, friendships, and support district-wide.

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

Teachers will be receiving professional development and classroom support materials to help provide awareness and support for Social Emotional Learning.

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.*

SJUSD implemented a return to in-person instruction and health and safety mitigation plan in September of 2021 for the 2021-2202 school year. This plan has been updated with additional required information for the adoption and implementation of the 2022-2023 school year and will be reviewed and updated every 6 months as required by ADE and USEd. SJUSD held meetings with the Superintendent in October 2022 that were advertised on SJUSD's Facebook page for any parent or community member who wanted to give feedback on any of the District's policies and to address any of their concerns. No comments were received, but revisions were made based on current national and state guidelines and in accordance with the needs and standards for SJUSD students.

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.

32. Did you upload the completed EMAC form to your LEA website?*

Yes