



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

LEA Information

1. LEA Name (one LEA per form)*

Union Elementary School District

2. Entity ID Number*

4277

3. CTDS Number*

070462000

4. Plan's Primary Contact Name*

Melanie Block

5. Plan's Primary Contact Email Address*

mblock@uesd.org

6. Plan's Primary Contact Phone Number*

623 4785020

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. *

08/28/2023

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://www.unionesd.org/families/community_resources
Directions Family to Community Resources and link is at the bottom of the Crisis section.

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.*

Mitigation revised to make masking optional while on school or District property, this aligns with HB 2616 & 2453. Union ESD will continue to provide face masks free of cost for any individual who wants to continue wearing a mask for close contacts and return from isolation.

11. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)?*

☐ No

12. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on handwashing and respiratory etiquette?*

☐ No

13. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation?*

☐ No

14. 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?*

☐ No

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

☐ No

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

☒ Yes

17. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.*

To remain current on communicating about vaccination benefit events to support our community with getting vaccinated.

18. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies?*

☒ Yes

19. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.*

We have reasonable accommodations through chronic medical forms available through school policy, reasonable accommodations as a part of a 504, and/or an IEP.

20. Has the LEA adopted a Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials?

*

☒ Yes

21. Please describe the LEA's Governing Board policy on coordination with State and local health officials.*

UESD coordinates with Maricopa County health officials.

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.

22. 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.

Student: To ensure continuity of services, students have access to counselors, health partners and develop skills through skills/expectation activities in the classroom aligned with Positive Behavior Intervention Supports (PBIS). For our students' academic success and student well-being, Union ESD offers students In-Person learning model for the 2023-24 school year.

Resources: Union ESD provides families and students with vaccination information and resources such as masks to return after 5 days of isolation. We partner with Valley of the Sun United Way (VSUW) to provide access to early childhood care, Pre-School services for students as families. We partner with Lifeline PCS for behavioral health services

for students and families. 21st Century which includes tutoring.

Staff: To ensure our essential workforce and continuity of services staff with mental health we have Employee Assistance Program which is ComPsych through Union Elementary School District medical benefits of Kairos. Union ESD

also uses substance abuse and mental health service administration (SAMASHA) resource for our staff. Staff that are deemed a close contact can perform their duties while non-symptomatic with use of the heightened screener.

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

Safety, student well-being needs, and accelerating learning were the top three concerns of our families. In response to our student

achievement and through the strategic focus of creating opportunity to learn for all students. We have emphasized our focus on accelerating learning for all children through lower class sizes and our new English Language Arts adoption for our Pre-School through

8th grade students. Breakfast will be served in the classroom between arrival time and school start time. To ensure we maximize learning opportunity, school will begin promptly at school start time. Elementary K-6 Instructional Minutes

Skills/Expectations 30 minutes

English Language Arts (Reading, Writing, Language) 2.5 hours

Mathematics 1.5 hours

Social Studies & Science 1 hour

Specials 40 minutes

Lunch 40 minutes

Total 7 hours

Middle School 7-8 Instructional Minutes by Content

Skills/Expectations 30 minutes

English Language Arts (Reading & Writing) 60-75 minutes

Mathematics 60-75 minutes

Social Studies 60-75 minutes

Science 60-75 minutes

Specials 40 minutes

Lunch with Socialization 30 minutes

Total 7 hours

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

All schools have a student support team consisting of a school counselor, interventionist, and access to Lifeline PCS support to address skills/expectation instruction of students. Skills/Expectations are built into the daily schedule for all students. Union Elementary School District has school counselor/social worker at each site assisting with behavioral health needs & to connect families to community resources.

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

This may include student health and food services.

Breakfast & Lunch Services
• Food & Nutrition Services will provide meals or students may bring their lunch to school.

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

UESD partners with ComPsych for Employee Assistance Program and Behavioral Health Services to help support staff's emotional or behavioral health needs and to connect staff to community resources.

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

Employee protocols are established based on community monitoring that reveals increased levels of community spread of COVID19.
These practices are put in place as part of a general scale-up of operations.

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

28. Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan.*

UESD offered the public two opportunities for input and information regarding UESD's COVID19 response. Originally UESD offered 3 Town Halls 2 In-Person and 1 Virtual in July of 2020. For the 2021-22 school year in-person town hall was held on June 29, 2021. A virtual town hall was held on July 1, 2021.

The primary input from families through town halls and surveys focused on the health and safety of students and staff, student well-being, and accelerating learning. The UESD Back to School Plan is a proactive approach which reflects the input received from the public. Union ESD provides updates in our Governing Board Meetings with an opportunity for public comment and our Board to revise our plan.

Public Board Meeting provided opportunities for engagement on March 14, 2023, and September 14, 2023.

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.

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

☒ Yes