

Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
79872	078947000	American Charter Schools Foundation d.b.a. Desert Hills High School

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	N	The State of Arizona has passed a law (located in section 12, title 15, chapter 3 of the Arizona budget) which prohibits policies that require universal masking on school property during school hours. Based on this legislation, the school has developed the following policy: Face coverings are <b>strongly recommended</b> for individuals but not required. Face coverings are <b>required</b> for passengers and drivers on a school bus. Face coverings will remain optional unless mandated by an Arizona executive order.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Classrooms will be arranged to maximize distance between students to the greatest extent possible. Physical distancing will be encouraged throughout the school campus.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Students will be asked to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol upon arrival at school, before and after meals, and after sneezing, coughing, or blowing their noses. Students will be encouraged to wash their hands with soap and water for at least 20 seconds or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol after outdoor/physical activity and prior to leaving school at the end of the school day.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	The school will conduct daily cleaning and disinfection of bathrooms, classrooms, and high touch areas using EPA approved virucide. Ventilation system filters are changed regularly with filters at the highest MERV rating indicated for the system.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	The school regularly consults the CDC, Arizona, and county health department protocols for reported cases. Cases reported to the school will be addressed on an individual basis in consultation with state and local health departments.  The school will notify students and staff of any potential exposure.  Quarantine may be advised by the state or local health department. If quarantined, students will

		be provided with technology and support to continue to participate in classwork and other services.
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	The school is not currently conducting diagnostic or regular screening testing for COVID-19. Staff will regularly monitor themselves and students for signs/symptoms of COVID-19.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	The school is not currently participating directly in vaccination campaigns. Information about COVID-19 testing and vaccination are provided to parents regularly.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Accommodations are determined on a case by case basis.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	The school regularly consults with the local health department and AZ Department of Health for guidance on mitigation strategies and the appropriate response to positive cases identified for the purpose of contact tracing and quarantine/isolation.

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?**

**Students' Needs:**

Academic Needs	The school will ensure that students affected by quarantine, isolation, or any recommended closures have access to technology to continue providing instruction, intervention, and other academic services remotely. The school will provide internet hotspots to families without reliable internet access.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Social and Emotional services will continue virtually, if needed. Additionally, the school will continue outreach to students and families to provide assistance to community resources and mental health services in the event quarantine or closure is indicated by the state or local health department.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Access to food service will continue for students affected by quarantine, isolation, or a school closure. In these situations meal service will be provided through a pick-up system.

**Staff Needs:**

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	The school provides free access to all employees and their family members to the Employee Assistance Program. This free service includes free emotional and work-life counseling. In addition to counseling, the Employee Assistance Program also provides financial information/resources, legal support/resources, and health/benefit services to support employees during major life events. The school's health plan provides virtual access to medical professionals to eligible employees, including mental health professionals.
Other Needs	Staff are provided with all PPE and supplies needed for them to safely perform their job. Staff are provided with all needed technology and supplies to perform their job satisfactorily in-person

	and in the event of a school closure. Employees may be assigned alternate duties in the vent of a school closure to maintain their employment status to the greatest extent possible.
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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**

<b>Date of Revision</b>	
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<b>Public Input</b>	
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Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	The school conducted a survey of parents and students. This data was superseded by state law when developing policies around mitigation strategies for the 21-22 school year.
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## 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