



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*, hereinafter referred to as a *Health and Safety Plan*.

Based on ARP requirements, 90 percent of ARP ESSER funds will be distributed to school districts and charter schools based on their relative share of Title I-A funding in FY 2020-2021. **Given Federally required timelines, LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application.**

Each LEA must create a Health and Safety Plan that addresses how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and which will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. The Health and Safety Plan should be tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and its schools and must take into account public comment related to the development of, and subsequent revisions to, the Health and Safety Plan.

The ARP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;
2. How the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services;
3. 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 policy 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 State and local health departments;
- f. [Diagnostic](#) and screening testing;
- g. Efforts to provide COVID-19 [vaccinations to school communities](#);
- h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
- i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The LEA's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website by July 30, 2021.* The ARP Act requires LEAs to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

LEAs may use the template to revise their current Health and Safety Plans to meet ARP requirements and ensure all stakeholders are fully informed of the LEA's plan to safely resume instructional and non-instructional school activities, including in-person learning, for the current school year. An LEA may use a different plan template or format provided it includes all the elements required by the ARP Act, as listed above.

* The July 30 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2020-2021 and intend to apply for and receive ARP ESSER funding.

Additional Resources

LEAs are advised to review the following resources when developing their Health and Safety Plans:

- [CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy](#)
- [PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19](#)
- [PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders](#)
- [PDE Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **Central Valley School District**

Initial Effective Date: August 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: August 4, 2022, August 3, 2023, August 7, 2024

Date of Last Revision: August 7, 2024

How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

- In line with CDC recommendations, the CVSD custodial staff had been prepared since March 2020 for the August 2020 return of staff and students to in person learning. Staff was trained at the onset of Covid in the spring of 2020 and retrained again in the fall of 2020 on PPE and cleaning procedures. In July of 2020, additional trainings was scheduled with all facilities staff on the use of face coverings, social distancing, hand washing, proper disinfecting, etc. Supplies of hospital grade disinfectants and cleaning supplies, hand sanitizers, and all other PPE were ordered and received to successfully reopen school. The facilities department is in continual contact with the district administration and school health department to ensure the proper preventative measures are being taken to address possible exposure to Covid 19 in the schools. The protocols for sanitizing are in place for the 2024-2025 school year.
- CVSD has secured a multitude of supplies for its custodial staff to include but not limited to hard surface wipes, disinfectant for custodial dispensing units, hand sanitizer, as well as all PPE, including face shields, disposable gowns, gloves, disposable and reusable masks. Additional equipment exists to broaden our cleaning abilities including disinfecting spray.
- In addition to the normal required cleaning and disinfecting that occurs every evening, an emphasis has been made to increase high touch point and high traffic area disinfecting. These areas (including but not limited to door handles, break areas, bathrooms, handrails, nurse's suite, etc.) have been and will continue to be disinfected additional times during the daylight shift as a preventative measure. Custodial staff shifts have been adjusted to ensure appropriate staff is available to clean during the school day and after hours. Hand sanitizer stations will be placed in or right outside of every classroom, in addition to high-traffic areas. Supplies will be provided in each classroom and available for students to wipe down and disinfect their desks/personal space regularly.
- The district schedules air filters to be cleaned and replaced throughout the school year. In addition, all HVAC DDC controls are adjusted and double checked to ensure louvers are functioning and that additional outside air that can be introduced during the cooling and heating process is happening. Air purifiers were purchased for isolation and nursing areas which include HEPA filters and UV technology.

- If there is a potential Covid exposure within the school building the nursing staff will immediately notify building principals. The building principals will then notify the director of facilities to begin the cleaning protocol.
 - Various barriers, tempered glass, plexiglass, and 5mil plastic have been procured and are installed in key areas to prevent exposure from the public and visitors to the buildings, and to create isolation areas for symptomatic students if needed. Additional barriers are available for school employees upon request.
1. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?
- Academic Needs
 - **Students will be expected to attend school in-person for the 2024-2025 school year.** Should the district be forced to either shut down or create cohorts to limit the number of students in the school buildings, then a synchronous learning option will be made available for all students similar to what was utilized for the 2021-2022 school year. with more stringent expectations for participation from home.
 - If forced to cohort (in order to reduce capacity), parents will have the option to send their child to school face-to-face or utilize synchronous instruction.
 - If completely shut down, all students will attend classes remotely through live synchronous instruction online. All students have internet access and a district purchased iPad. Students will follow their regular schedule, and attendance will be taken period by period.
 - The Central Valley Online Academy, asynchronous learning, is an option for students in grades K-12. Students may transition from cyber to face-to-face instruction at the end of each grading period only.
 - Synchronous instruction will be available for students with medical issues that require a temporary leave from the classroom based on Covid-related illness or quarantine. These situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of the district.
 - All students will be provided with the same technological resources regardless of educational pathway.
 - Student Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs
 - Guidance counselors will be available to address any social, emotional and mental health needs throughout the year.
 - The district has a partnership with Psychology and Learning Center to provide school based mental health for students.
 - The district has a partnership with the Highmark Caring Place to provide grief counseling for students who lose a loved one due to COVID or other

circumstances.

- School Wide Positive Behavior Support Programs are run with fidelity as per state review for students in grades K-8. Warrior Wednesday/Advisory lessons are completed each Wednesday to assist students with coping skills and positive outlets. Universal screenings are completed three times per school year to identify students at-risk and in need of additional support.
- Recognition of Mental Health Week for students and staff members which focused on promoting healthy habits and coping strategies was held in the 2020-2021 school year and was repeated in the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. Additional health and wellness information is provided to staff annually.
- Staff Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs
 - Guidance counselors will be available to address any social, emotional and mental health needs throughout the year.
 - Recognition of Mental Health Week for students and staff members which focused on promoting healthy habits and coping strategies was held in the 2020-2021 school year and was repeated in the 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024 school years. Additional health and wellness information is provided to staff annually.
 - Resilience and coping skills training was provided to all staff on May 7, 2021 and other incentives to promote a positive working environment were provided throughout the school year to include items such as coffee/tea bars, grab and go breakfast/lunch, early outs, dress down days, positive affirmations, etc. These positive incentives have continued each school year since.
 - District provides services through the Employee Assistance Program (EAP).
 - School nurses check in regularly with identified teachers and are available to meet with staff throughout the school year as needed.
- Student Health
 - Parents will be asked to monitor signs and symptoms at home before sending their child to school. Parents will be asked to keep sick students home and follow the CDC guidelines for return to school.
 - School nurses will monitor staff and students who may show symptoms of COVID-19, to include isolation of any staff or students who show symptoms upon arrival to school until they can be transported out of the building.
 - Any staff or student confirmed to have tested positive for COVID-19 will be required to follow the most current CDC guidelines for the return to the school setting. (Refer to the CDC website)
 - Reasonable accommodations will be made for staff and students who are at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 based on previous health conditions.

- The district contracts with Kelly Staffing Services for the use of substitute teachers. Substitute teachers will be provided the district’s COVID-19 protocols and will be required to adhere to them.
 - Hand sanitizer will be readily available in each classroom and in various communal locations throughout the district facilities.
 - Food Service
 - There is no longer a waiver available to the allow the District to provide free lunch for all students. To apply for free and reduced lunch, please visit the District website or contact the Food Service Director.
2. Use the table below to explain 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</p>	<p>As of June 28, 2021, face coverings are no longer required in the buildings or outside. Face coverings are optional. The district will continue to receive information from the CDC and PA Department of Health regarding face coverings. Should staff or students choose to wear face coverings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parents/guardians are responsible for providing face coverings for their child. - Staff are responsible for providing their own face coverings. <p>Face coverings are optional on school busses. The district will continue to receive information from the CDC and PA Department of Health regarding face coverings.</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<p>As of May 31, 2021, physical distancing and capacity restrictions are no longer a requirement. The district will continue to receive information from the CDC and PA Department of Health regarding physical distancing.</p> <p>Students will be expected to attend school in-person for the 2024-2025 school year. Should the district be</p>

	<p>forced to either shut down or create cohorts to limit the number of students in the school buildings, then a synchronous learning option will be made available for all students similar to what was utilized for the 2021-2022 school year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If forced to cohort (in order to reduce capacity), parents will have the option to send their child to school face-to-face or utilize synchronous instruction. - If completely shut down, all students will attend classes remotely through live synchronous instruction online. All students have internet access and a district purchased iPad. Students will follow their regular schedule, and attendance will be taken period by period. - The Central Valley Online Academy, asynchronous learning, is an option for students in grades K-12. Students may transition from cyber to face-to-face instruction at the end of each grading period only. - Synchronous instruction will be available for students with medical issues that require a temporary leave from the classroom based on Covid-related illness or quarantine. These situations will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis at the sole discretion of the district. Parents or guardians must contact the child's building principal and all time for administrative review. - All students will be provided with the same technological resources regardless of educational pathway.
<p>c. <u>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</u></p>	<p>All students and staff will be reminded about proper hygiene practices via signs in visible areas and verbal reminders. Handwashing with soap and water should be done for 20 seconds and/or use of hand sanitizer at regular intervals throughout the day when possible:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Upon arrival to school ● Midmorning ● Before lunch ● After lunch ● After recess ● Additionally as needed <p>Coughing and sneezing should be done into a tissue or elbow and followed by handwashing or hand sanitizing.</p> <p>Reminders to students and staff to avoid touching their face, putting hands in mouth or nose.</p> <p>Alcohol-based hand sanitizers will be widely available in classrooms, cafeterias, gymnasiums, offices, other common areas, and throughout the building.</p> <p>Handwashing for healthcare personnel/ staff working with student population requiring PPE will occur:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Before and after each encounter. ● Before donning and after doffing PPE. <p>Signs will be posted in the entry hallway, at the main office, outside the nurse's office, in bathrooms, cafeteria, gyms, and any high traffic area. Where applicable, marquee signs, smartboards, and TVs located in highly visible areas may convey simple reminders regarding hygiene, handwashing, covering coughs, social distancing, and monitoring for illness.</p> <p>The district will continue to receive information from the CDC and PA Department of Health.</p>
<p>d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u>;</p>	<p>In line with CDC recommendations, the CVSD custodial staff had been prepared since March 2020 for the August 2020 return of staff and students to in person learning. Staff was trained at the onset of Covid in the spring of 2020 and retrained again in the fall of 2020 on PPE and cleaning procedures. In July of 2020,</p>

additional trainings was scheduled with all facilities staff on the use of face coverings, social distancing, hand washing, proper disinfecting, etc. Supplies of hospital grade disinfectants and cleaning supplies, hand sanitizers, and all other PPE were ordered and received to successfully reopen school. The facilities department is in continual contact with the district administration and school health department to ensure the proper preventative measures are being taken to address possible exposure to Covid 19 in the schools. The protocols for sanitizing are in place for the 2024-2025 school year.

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	<p>school year. In addition, all HVAC DDC controls are adjusted and double checked to ensure louvers are functioning and that additional outside air that can be introduced during the cooling and heating process is happening. Air purifiers were purchased for isolation and nursing areas which include HEPA filters and UV technology.</p> <p>If there is a potential Covid exposure within the school building, the nursing staff will immediately notify building principals. The building principals will then notify the director of facilities to begin the cleaning protocol.</p> <p>Various barriers, tempered glass, plexiglass, and 5mil plastic have been procured and are installed in key areas to prevent exposure from the public and visitors to the buildings, and to create isolation areas for symptomatic students if needed. Additional barriers are available for school employees upon request.</p> <p>The District contracts with ABC Transit and Frye Transportation for bussing services. They are responsible for the daily sanitization of busses in accordance with company regulations and CDC guidelines.</p> <p>The district will continue to receive information from the CDC and PA Department of Health.</p>
<p>e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation and quarantine</u>, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>If a student, staff, or visitor exhibits signs or symptoms of COVID-19 the following guidelines will be followed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● The school nurse will be notified prior to sending/ coming to health office ● The individual will be assessed by school nurse ● The school will call Parent/Guardian ● The school will dismiss student when parent arrives ● The parent or guardian will be provided with written instructions

	<p>by our school nurses regarding the COVID-19 illness, testing, and return guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school will continue to follow CDC guidelines for close contacts. <p>When possible COVID-19 concerns arise, administrators and/or school nurses will consult with local PA Department of Health officials for guidance with regard to contact tracing.</p> <p>The district will coordinate with state and local health department to define appropriate procedures and timelines for readmittance to school following illness:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Return to school with a note from PCP or practitioner giving clearance • Using CDC guidelines, the student/ staff may return. <p>The district will continue to receive information from the CDC and PA Department of Health regarding contact tracing.</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>Staff and students will be encouraged to complete a self-assessment for COVID-19 symptoms prior to leaving for work or school.</p> <p>The district will continue to receive information from the CDC and PA Department of Health regarding diagnostic screening.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>In March of 2021, all district staff members were provided an opportunity to become fully vaccinated in coordination with our local intermediate unit and the PA Department of Health and Education.</p> <p>There are numerous locations throughout the school community that provide access to vaccinations should an individual choose to get one.</p> <p>Vaccinations are a personal choice. The district will continue to pass along</p>

	<p>information regarding vaccination opportunities for staff, students, and families as it becomes available.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>Students and parents should refer to medical providers to determine school entry for individuals with special health concerns, including but not limited to individuals who are immunocompromised and have a weakened immune system or those that live with an immunocompromised family member.</p> <p>IEP and 504 Teams will review medical recommendations provided by students' physicians and convene as needed to ensure students receive reasonable accommodations in order to ensure FAPE.</p> <p>Individualized health plans may be required for vulnerable individuals, which include those with asthma, chronic kidney disease treated with dialysis, chronic lung disease, uncontrolled diabetes, hemoglobin disorders, immunocompromised persons, liver disease, and heart conditions.</p> <p>For those who choose to mask, plastic face shields should be considered when working with students who are hard of hearing or for students who require sight of facial expressions due to disability.</p> <p>All students will be provided with the same technological resources regardless of educational pathway.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The Central Valley School District will continue to monitor and review recommendations from the PA Department of Health.</p> <p>When possible COVID-19 concerns arise, administrators and/or school nurses will consult with local PA Department of Health officials for guidance.</p>

Document is subject to change based on PA Department of Health and CDC guidelines.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Central Valley School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **July 15, 2021**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **(July 15, 2021)**

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

Donna Belcastro

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.