



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

Update: February 16, 2022

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: Interboro School District

Initial Effective Date: July 29, 2020

Date of Last Review: August 19, 2020

Date of Last Revision: July 21, 2021/August 18, 2021/December 15, 2021/February 16, 2022

- 1. 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?**

The school district implemented a health and safety plan throughout the 2020-2021 school year using mitigation strategies supported by the CDC, PA Department of Health, CHOP Policy Lab, and the Chester County Health Department. These strategies were successful in supporting the larger public health initiative to slow the spread of COVID-19 and to protect our district community, especially those at increased risk for severe illness. Further, our district supported vaccination clinics for our teachers and staff and led vaccine clinics for students.

Our district will continue to review the latest guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, CHOP Policy Lab, and the Chester County Health Department. This information will assist the district when reviewing our mitigation strategies for effectiveness. The guidance will also be used to revise our health and safety plan as necessary. The chart below provides strategies, policies, and procedures to be used within the district.

- 2. 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?**

The Interboro School District anticipates a full return to in-person, face-to-face learning for the 2021-2022 Academic Year. Interventions will be in place ahead of the start of the school year, and throughout 2021-2022 school year, for any student or staff member who is impacted by COVID-19 and must quarantine and/or recuperate from the virus. All PreK-12th grade students are issued District devices, which they regularly take to and from school.

If a family must pivot to virtual learning due to quarantine, students will have access to a developmentally appropriate device to keep them engaged with and connected to their learning. Schoology will serve as the District Learning Management System (LMS). By using a common platform, we are able to create a common instructional access point for families and educators in order to efficiently organize and implement learning. Schoology will be updated regularly by teachers so that students who are quarantined can access course content and materials.

Students/families will access the course specific Week at a Glance document, which will be posted weekly by 7:30 a.m. on Monday. The Week at a Glance will be created for each course to which the student is scheduled and help families and students stay abreast of course content, skills, and upcoming due dates. Schoology enables students and parents/guardians to communicate seamlessly with classroom teachers. Classroom teachers can provide feedback to quarantined students via Schoology. Additionally, individual check-ins maybe scheduled via Zoom.

During a specified time (2:20 – 3:00 p.m.) in their daily schedule, Interboro's two elementary Virtual Academy teachers will hold an open support block to be available via Zoom to K-5 students who are quarantining to provide assistance in teaching a concept or accessing Schoology coursework. For secondary students, a virtual "BUCs" (Because You Can Succeed) Program will be available 2-3 evenings per week via Zoom so that students can log on to receive additional teaching and learning support or help with accessing technology from secondary staff.

Throughout the school day, quarantined students and parents/guardians can connect with our Technology Help Desk for remote support with technology tools.

Social and emotional supports for students and staff will continue to be a focus during the 2021-2022 school year. School level PBIS committees will lead this work to ensure students have the support they require to be successful.

PBIS committees will plan and teach school wide PBIS expectations. The PBIS teams will utilize the data from SWIS to identify Internalizing and Externalizing behaviors to proactively identify and monitor students who require support and interventions. PBIS committees are trained to support classroom teachers with Tier I or II interventions that teachers can apply in the classroom.

Students requiring significant Tier II or III support and interventions, will have access to individual and/or group counseling sessions with the school counselor. In addition, students may be assigned a teacher mentor for additional support.

The district will continue to support all students and families through the Student Assistance Program (SAP).

The District will participate in the National School Lunch Program for 2021-2022 and due to an extension of the SSO waiver by the Pennsylvania Division of Food and Nutrition, students will be able to receive free meals during the 2021-2022 school year. This will apply to all students who are enrolled in the district for either in-person or virtual learning. Meals for the virtual students will distributed once a week, this will consist of ten meals (two meals per day for Monday through Friday).

In addition, the district plans to approve the *Emergency Instructional Time [Section 520.1 - 2021-22 School Year]* at the August 18, 2021 Public meeting. This can be viewed on the district website on August 19, 2021.

3. 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.

The district will consider all guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, the district medical team, and local transmission levels when determining additional mitigation strategies that may need to be implemented during the 2021/2022 school year.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
<p>a. Universal and correct wearing of masks;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district will follow any state, federal, and local mandates. • The district will consider recommendations, guidance, and data from the CDC, PA Department of Health, PDE, CHoP Policy Lab, and local health departments. • The district will no longer be mandating universal indoor masking for students and staff effective February 22, 2022. • PreK students, teachers, and para- professionals will be required to mask until the COVID vaccine is available for children under the age of five. • Mask wearing by staff/peers may be required in individual cases/classrooms situations if necessary for a student to receive a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) or access their education due to a disability or handicap. • The Superintendent, in consultation with the Board, and medical consultant, may take emergency action to require universal masking in a school building or grade level, to respond to any outbreak or illness. • In accordance with the CDC's order on wearing masks on public transportation, masks are required to be worn by school bus passengers and employees on any school district transportation vehicles until the order is lifted. <p>CDC Website: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html</p>
<p>b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district will consider recommendations and guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, PDE, CHoP Policy Lab and local health departments. • Student desks will remain at least 3ft. apart through the remainder of the 21/22 school year. • School buildings and offices will allow for full occupancy.

<p>c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Best practice encourages hand washing prior to meals and snacks, after meals and snack, transition back to class from being outside, after using the bathroom, and after blowing nose, coughing, or sneezing. • The district will encourage our students, staff, and contractors to implement these best practices. • The district will have available hand sanitizer in strategic locations of high traffic areas (classrooms, entrance/exits). • The district will post signs in buildings reminding students, staff, and visitors of proper respiratory etiquette.
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district utilizes EPA Approved Disinfectants for use against COVID-19. There will be routine cleaning of our buildings, classrooms, common areas, and office spaces. • The district will ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air by opening windows and doors when possible. • The district will change filters regularly for these systems (4x per year, during occupancy).
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district will follow any state, federal or local mandates. • The district will consider recommendations and guidance from the CDC, PA Department of Health, PDE, CHoP Policy Lab and local health departments. <p>Contact Tracing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No contact tracing will be completed in school, unless otherwise ordered by state, federal or local authorities. <p>Notification:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents/Guardians are expected to notify the school of a COVID- 19 positive, symptomatic, or close contact individual, within a household, using the district forms that are available through the website links or absence reporting forms. Guidance on isolation will be provided to the individual. • Staff, visitors/volunteers who have tested positive for COVID-19 shall notify their direct supervisor, principal and/or HR Department immediately. Guidance on isolation will be provided to the individual. <p><u>Quarantine/Isolation for Positive, Symptomatic or close contact individuals</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Please see the COVID-19 Guidance for Isolation & Quarantine for Students/Staff (Updated 2.11.22) for updated guidance regarding isolation/ quarantine/close contact for students and staff.

<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district will follow its <i>Immunization and Communicable Diseases</i> Policy for guidance on communicable diseases as COVID-19 is classified as such. • The district will maintain adequate personal protective equipment for nursing staff who are in close contact with individuals who are or may be ill with COVID – 19. • Parents and guardians are required to self-screen their child prior to reporting to school or programs and keep their child home if experiencing any symptoms outlined in the chart below. • The district may implement a rapid antigen testing program for individuals who become symptomatic or are close contacts. • The district requires staff, visitors/volunteers to self-screen prior to reporting to work, programs, and schools and stay at home if experiencing any symptoms as outlined in the chart below. • Staff, students, visitors/volunteers who are ill <u>must stay home</u> from work, school, and afterschool programs. • Students who feel sick or exhibits onset symptoms during the school day will report to the school nurse to be evaluated. • Staff, visitors/volunteers must report to their immediate supervisor/principal if they are COVID-19 positive. These individuals will be provided isolation/quarantine guidance. <table border="1" data-bbox="597 919 1507 1299"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="597 919 954 982">Group A 1 or more symptoms</th> <th data-bbox="954 919 1507 982">Group B 2 or more symptoms</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="597 982 954 1299"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of smell or taste (without congestion) • Cough • Shortness of breath • Difficulty breathing </td> <td data-bbox="954 982 1507 1299"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Headache • Sore throat • Chills • Muscle pain • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea </td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Group A 1 or more symptoms	Group B 2 or more symptoms	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of smell or taste (without congestion) • Cough • Shortness of breath • Difficulty breathing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fever • Headache • Sore throat • Chills • Muscle pain • Congestion or runny nose • Nausea or vomiting • Diarrhea
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<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district will provide information to families on vaccine clinics and/or how to get a COVID-19 vaccine for their child or family member. • The district will manage clinic opportunities for students and staff as needed. • The district will mobilize community, advertise the clinic, and ensure there is enough interest to hold a clinic. • The district will promote confidence in the vaccine.
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For students with disabilities with medical diagnosis that required a prescribe health and safety plan, the IEP team may reconvene to develop specially designed instruction or strategies to meet the needs of the student. • The district will provide appropriate accommodations for students and families with respect to language needs (e.g. ASL, Spanish, etc.)
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The district will report the number of positive cases and close contacts of COVID-19 to the health department. • The district will consult with their medical team and health department regarding specific cases or issues as needed. • The Superintendent will participate in regularly scheduled county Chief School Administrators meetings.

2/15/22 BCR

- The district medical team will meet weekly with the Superintendent.
- The district will collaborate with state and local health officials as needed.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors Interboro School District have reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **July 21, 2021**

Revision August 18, 2021

Revision December 15, 2021

Revision February 16, 2022

The plan was approved by a vote of:

 9 Yes

 0 No

Affirmed on: **February 16, 2022**

By:



(Signature of Board President)*

William L. Phelps

(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.