

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4281	070479000	Litchfield Elementary School District

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	
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	N	
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	N	
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	N	
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	N	
Diagnostic and screening testing	N	
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	N	
Coordination with State and local health officials	N	

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?

The LESD has utilized many staff members and stakeholders to develop plans to ensure our students received and continue to receive support and ongoing instruction in all academic areas, mental health and behavior skill support, support to meet their physical needs and strategies to address ongoing technology needs

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	LESD Director of Assessment meets regularly with our Administrative and Coaching teams to identify areas of need in the data. These teams then create strategic steps to address these areas. Each member of the team works with their Leadership teams on their campus to develop a site specific plan based on the needs of their students.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Advisors to address key areas of need in regards to mental health and social emotional needs. During this meeting,

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	strategic steps are developed to address these needs. The LESD District Behavior Coach works alongside all of our Coaches and Advisors on an ongoing basis to empower them with the tools they need to address the needs of our children in regards to mental health and social emotional needs.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Our Food Service Department created a solid plan during our closure to get food to children who needed it. They set up bus stops in our neediest neighborhoods where children could come pick up food daily. They also provided meals at many of our sites. They are prepared to move forward as needed to ensure all of our children receive the much needed nutrients to flourish and grow.
Staff Needs:	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	LESD Human Resource Department consistently sends out emails and resources to all staff members in how to take care of themselves and access support as needed. Our Administrative team works diligently to create connected school and department families where people feel safe to ask for help.
Other Needs	District leaders communicate frequently with LESD Principals and Directors to keep a pulse on our staff members needs in order to allocate resources and supports where needed.

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, 2024**

Date of Revision 09-01-23

Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Throughout the pandemic, LESD discussed our Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan at our Governing Board meetings where the public could provide their comments and feedback. We consistently reviewed and revised as needed based on community input and recommendations from the CDC and the Health Department. Parents were surveyed in January, 2021, and feedback was used to revise the plan. Students staff and parents are provided a survey annually to solicit feedback on our District.
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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.

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- (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