

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4421	108653000	The Edge School, Inc.
Current version		Effective August 10, 2023

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	Y	Effective April 2022 masks are recommended but not required while indoors.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	The LEA Mitigation plan outlines the guidelines for implementing physical distancing when the level of community spread warrants additional mitigation measures.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	The LEA Mitigation plan outlines training practices for students and staff on proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette, as well as placement of signage throughout the school facilities.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	The LEA Mitigation plan includes cleaning procedures for each school site for disinfecting and addressing high touch point areas. The plan also includes implementation of air filtration systems in each classroom.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	The LEA Mitigation plan includes recommendations for at home screening for symptoms of illness and the availability of COVID Testing for students and staff. The school follows current CDC guidelines for isolation when symptomatic. On campus test results are reported to the Arizona Department of Health Services as required. All COVID reporting is completed to Pima County Health Department as required.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	The LEA Mitigation plan includes recommendations for at home screening for symptoms of illness and the availability of COVID Testing for students and staff.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	The LEA COVID-19 Resources include information on availability and location of vaccination sites. School sites also include flyers related to vaccine availability and sign-up.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	The LEA Distance Learning and Mitigation Plans include accommodations in place for continuity of services and health and safety support.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	The LEA Mitigation Plan includes guidance as provided in coordination with Center for Disease Control, Arizona Department of Health Services and Pima County Health Department.

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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 LEA Distance Learning Plan includes the continuity of services and supports beyond in person instruction including hybrid instruction and remote learning when designated by health officials based on the community spread of the pandemic. The LEA is prepared to operate in either hybrid or distance learning environments with learning devices for each student, fully equipped online curriculum and instructional class time through virtual environments. All student support services and on-site support services would be available to students during distance learning, including on-site learning room and counseling services.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	As outlined in the updated Distance Learning Plan 2023-24, the school curriculum is fully accessible online and integrated within Google Classroom. Should Hybrid or Distance Learning be necessary, students will transition to one on one device off site or attend on-site support services. The Multi-tiered System of Supports Model will be used to review student progress growth and identify needed interventions to continue student learning.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	The LEA is implementing a multi-tiered approach to Social, Emotional and Mental Health needs by introducing a research based learning platform for both ongoing elective courses and intervention supports. There are also on site counseling services and a 24-hour counseling hotline for students.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	The school does not have a health or food service program. Students meet with the School Principal and Counselor to identify any barriers to their personal well-being that the school can support.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	As outlined in the Distance Learning Plan, multiple avenues are meant to check in on staff Social, Emotional and Mental Health, including weekly PLC or campus meetings, one on one meeting with site principals, staff surveys and a no cost Employee assistance program with 24hr counseling services.
Other Needs	The School Principal at each campus are charged with meeting with staff to identify supports needed. This information is also reported in aggregate to the Governing Board as needed to identify other school needs of staff.

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**

Date of Revision	08/10/2023
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Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	The Distance Learning Plan and Mitigation Plan have been posted to the school website and a message has been sent to all enrolled families for their review and input on the continuity of services and mitigation protocols through a survey form. The Plan was provided to board members and community partners for their input on the implementation. Recommendations based on the plan review are presented to the School Safety and Administration Teams, implemented where they improve the services and support of students and staff and meet the required guidelines then in place and presented to the governing board for review and
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approval.
 The original plans which precede the ARP are scheduled for revision based on all feedback by August 5, 2021, and will be included for review and revision at the last board meeting of each quarter (December 2021, March 2022, August 2022, February 2023, August 2023, February 2024).

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

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