

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
90275	078560000	Research Based Education Corporation (Paulden Community 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	Y	We strongly recommend masking as is the recommendation by the CDC. Per the AZ legislation, masking is not required. We will continue to provide and offer masks to students. Visitors and vendors entering campus must be masked. All staff have agreed to mask wearing per the CDC guidelines. Effective January 2022: masking of visitors and vendors will remain in effect until the end of the school year.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Students will be in pods, in classrooms and with their siblings or podmates on the bus, in the carpool line and walking home. January 2022: this item remains in effect. However, it will be reevaluated after Spring Break (March 21, 2022).
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Handwashing and sanitizing opportunities will be provided before meals, after meals, before and after Physical Education class and recess times. Students will be taught how to cough into their elbows and how to wear a mask properly.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	New HVAC units have been installed along with air purifiers. In addition rigid cleaning protocols are in place and a large industrial sanitizing sprayer is utilized throughout the day in restrooms and common areas, and nightly in classrooms.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Upon learning of a positive case of Covid, we contact the Yavapai County Health Department. In addition, we contact any student/family/staff or community member that has been in contact with an infected person on campus.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	We have implemented screening protocols for students and staff. Thermometers are in each classroom should a child feel ill. Staff are informed of what symptoms to be aware of for themselves and their students.

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Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	We have resources to make referrals and recommendations for vaccinations.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Our students with disabilities have equal access to education while following proper health and safety policies and protocols. When meeting students one to one, we have dividers in place and staff is masked appropriately.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	We are in regular communication with the county health department. We implement policies and procedures in accordance with state and local guidance.

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?

We are taking several steps to ensure continuity of services that will address students' academic, and our school community's social, emotional, mental health and other needs. We have temporarily added a first grade to our kindergarten class and our remaining classes are combined grades. This model allows exposure to standards from two grade levels which will assist in filling in educational gaps. In addition, we are differentiating instruction, utilizing project-based learning and Universal Design for Learning embedded in lesson planning. We will rely upon data to guide our instruction and interventions. We are providing professional development and instructional coaching opportunities weekly on instructional strategies, SEL and data driven instruction.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Students are supported by teachers and paraprofessionals with an RTI that uses the flooding model. Teachers and paraprofessionals use data to guide them in interventions and lesson planning, along with project based learning to fill in the gaps. All lesson plans include target differentiated instruction and address the needs of SWD, EL and students with challenges.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	We have designated a paraprofessional to implement our SEL program, Second Step on a daily basis. In addition, she will be a participant in the "flooding" groups as an emotional support person.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● We provide our students and families with a list of resources and contacts that address food insecurity. ● Once monthly, the Partnership for Healthy Students provides services at our campus. ● Dental services are provided on site by "My Kid's Dentist" on an as needed basis. ● Vision screenings are provided by the Lion's Club.

Staff Needs:

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Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	We have built a community of support and warm regard for one another. Principal meets weekly with all teaching staff one to one and teaching teams during professional development. Staff is encouraged to discuss any/all concerns and we have a level of transparency with one another that is rare and valued.
Other Needs	

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	August 1, 2021
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	<p>On July 10, we distributed a survey to parents and stakeholders to ask what they would like us to do in response to Covid 19. We closed the survey after two weeks. The overwhelming response was that parents wanted their children to receive additional academic support.</p> <p>Between July and December, the school monitored those parents who desired to remain with in-person learning. The school kept all parents/public informed via email, phone calls, text messages and a community newsletter (Smores). All public feedback was provided to the acting executive director in order to best inform the organization's return to in-person instruction. As of January 2022, all students are still attending in-person instruction and receiving all related services. At-home (or distance learning) remains available for students who may have been exposed to, or tested positive for the Covid-19 virus.</p>

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