



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

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.



Health and Safety Plan Summary: Wyoming Valley West School District

Initial Effective Date: August 30, 2021

Date of Last Review: June 12, 2024

Date of Last Revision: July 25, 2023

- 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 Wyoming Valley West School District is committed to keeping students in school for in-person daily instruction as the optimal mode of operation. The District will prioritize the health and well-being of both students and staff in the delivery of instruction and the maintenance of its facilities. Hygiene and cleaning protocols that were established and developed during the 2020-2021 school year will remain in place at the school facilities. The District will develop and revise procedures and policies for the reopening and operation of school facilities as needed, considering information and guidance received from the Center for Disease Control, the Pennsylvania Department of Health, and the Pennsylvania Department of Education.

- 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 Wyoming Valley West School District will continue to develop a broad range of services to meet students' academic, social, emotional, and mental health needs. The District will utilize school counselors, outside agencies, and mental health programs, and provide in-service training on recognizing at-risk students to all professional staff. We will continue to provide free breakfast and lunch to all students throughout the 2024-25 school year.

- 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.**

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
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| a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ; | Masks or face coverings will be <u>recommended</u> during the school day in grades K-12 during higher levels of transmission. Mask will be optional when: - Identified as a close contact to a positive case. The Superintendent can update weekly. |
| b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); | Strategies for distancing include staggered class changes, limited stairwells and defined traffic patterns in hallways. |
| c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ; | Nurses will instruct staff and students on hygiene and handwashing protocol and appropriate use of sanitizer. Hygiene and handwashing procedures and hygiene reminders will be implemented and posted with high visibility. Hand washing/sanitizing protocols will be encouraged throughout the day. Students will be reminded to cover mouth/nose when sneezing or coughing. |
| d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ; | The district will continue to implement recommended and already established guidelines for cleaning, disinfecting, sanitizing, and ventilation practices. |
| e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments; | Contact tracing, isolation, and quarantining will no longer be utilized. |
| f. Diagnostic and screening testing; | Students and staff are recommended to complete daily screenings and instructed on the signs and symptoms of illness. |
| g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ; | The district will continue to share information on vaccines. |
| h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and | Wyoming Valley West will continue to offer a free and appropriate public education for all students. This includes providing appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities, including any |

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
|--|---|
| | necessary modifications with respect to our health and safety policies. |
| i. Coordination with state and local health officials. | We will continue to work with local health officials to ensure the health and safety of our students, staff, and community. |

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Wyoming Valley West School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **June 12, 2024**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

9 **Yes**

0 **No**

Affirmed on: June 12, 2024

By:



(Signature* of Board President)

Charles Kamus

(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.