

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4488	130504000	Mingus Union High School District No. 4

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	Face coverings, masks, and face shields are an optional component of our COVID-19 mitigation strategy until such time as their mandatory use is prescribed by executive order and/or Arizona Department of Health services or Yavapai County Community Health Services guidance. LEA Policy, as Board approved, is to recommend the use of face coverings/masks as a key COVID-19 mitigation strategy. This policy is based on stakeholder survey data undertaken early in the Spring 2021 semester and again solicited during a review of policy in September 2021. Signage to this effect has been placed in campus common areas.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Where and when possible, classrooms, common areas, offices, and meeting rooms have been modified with plexiglass screens, spacing between desks and tables has been increased, and physical distancing has been encouraged and supported with signage. Attempts will be made to maintain physical distancing of at least three (3) feet in campus locations where this is feasible.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Frequent hand-washing and use of sanitizer will be strongly promoted. Hand sanitizer and sanitizing wipes will be situated in all areas. Guidance and signage will direct individuals to adhere to proper hygiene measures. Four outdoor handwashing stations have been added to heavily used traffic and courtyard areas.
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Intensified/increased frequency of cleaning/surface sanitizing has been instituted both in school facilities and vehicles. Classroom surface sanitizing both midday and at the end of the school/workday. Medify Air M-40 air purifiers have been placed in all classrooms, offices, and common areas.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Contact tracing: For specifics, see the most recent ADHS Release from Isolation and Quarantine Guidance: https://www.azdhs.gov/covid19/documents/public-health-resources/release-from-isolation.pdf COVID-19 Exposure is documented and the need for contact tracing is confirmed when instances of close



contact with a known positive case of COVID-19 occur. Instances of close contact are defined as:

- Being within 6 feet of an infected person for a cumulative total of 15 minutes or more over a 24- hour period.
- Providing COVID related care in a household without using recommended infection control precautions.
- Direct physical contact (hugging or kissing).
- Being sneezed on, coughed on, or getting respiratory droplets on your skin.
- EXCEPTION: in the K-12 classroom setting, the close contact definition excludes students who were within 3 to 6 feet of an infected student where:
 - Both students were engaged in consistent and correct use of well-fitting face coverings; and
 - Other K-12 school prevention strategies were in place.
- Our District will continue to collaborate with state and local health departments to confidentially provide information about people diagnosed with or exposed to COVID-19. This allows identifying which students and staff with positive COVID-19 test results should isolate, and which close contacts should quarantine.
- In general, ADHS recommends a 10-day period of isolation after symptoms first appear for those who test positive or are not tested after exposure but are symptomatic for COVID-19.
- ADHS continues to recommend a 14-day quarantine period for those who have had close contact with a confirmed COVID-19 case. Individuals may be eligible for shortened quarantine or may not be required to quarantine if certain conditions are met (additional criteria may apply):
 - Quarantine may end on day 8 if a negative test result from a sample provided no earlier than day 6 is obtained.
 - Quarantine may be shortened to 10 days if an individual remains asymptomatic after exposure and wears a face covering between days 10 and 14.
 - Individuals who have been fully vaccinated and remain

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



		<p>asymptomatic are not required to quarantine.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Previously infected individuals are not required to quarantine if they remain asymptomatic. Documentation of prior infection may be requested. <p>Our school Nurse, in conjunction with our instructional/instructional support staff and administration will document positive cases, quarantines, and manage contact with families and isolation and quarantine guidance.</p> <p>All contact tracing processes and updates have been posted to our website since prior to the start of school.</p> <p>Board consideration of such processes has been preceded with stakeholder surveys and/or notification of meetings where these processes are being considered.</p>
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Upon request by faculty and staff, we will provide rapid testing as per local guidelines. If a student is showing COVID-like symptoms, and upon request by the parent/guardian, we may administer a rapid test depending upon the inventory of available test kits.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Our District, in conjunction with our feeder elementary districts and Yavapai County Education Services Agency and Yavapai County Community Health Services Agency sponsored a multi-district vaccination clinic in January – February 2021. We are again working in conjunction with the same agencies to provide COVID-19 vaccination booster injections in mid to late November.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Increased sanitizing efforts and disinfecting of iPads and headphones daily. Face coverings for staff when distancing cannot be maintained and when toileting. Increased frequency of handwashing and use of hand sanitizer. Increases physical distancing and required face coverings during group therapy. Desks, Chromebooks disinfected after each use.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Throughout the pandemic, we have coordinated with Yavapai County Community Health Services (YCCHS) and the Arizona Department of Health Services to inform our mitigation plan, isolation and quarantine guidance, in-person learning strategies, and vaccination clinics. We have also included YCCHS staff in multiple Governing Board meetings and in communication with stakeholders.

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



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?

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Counseling and instruction support staff have stepped up efforts to provide audiovisual support to students who are off campus due to quarantines. Increased efforts in our college and career readiness program have been made and with respect to academic planning and intervention. Intersession courses were offered during Fall break. We are adding a 24-7 online tutoring service with Tutor.com.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	24-7 online social/emotional counseling and crisis intervention services have been added. Implementation of Boys to Men program and have increased resources for families and community outreach efforts from our outreach specialist. Family and community resources link on website.
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Increased support for school nurse and provision for free breakfast and lunch. Added a "grab-n-go" mid-morning last chance breakfast for all students.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	The social, emotional, and mental health needs of staff are monitored and supported by direct inquiry, solicitation of individual needs, and staff training. Through our District health benefits, we have access to ComPsych guidance resources, including confidential emotional support, work-life solutions, legal guidance, financial resources, and 24-7 online access to articles, podcasts, videos, on-demand trainings, and "ask the expert" personal responses to staff questions.
Other Needs	Our Governing Board approved an extension to the FFCRA program allowing for paid COVID-related leave through June 30, 2021. We are again studying the implementation of a similar program for the 2021-22 winter months.

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 **October 8, 2021 (most recent)**

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>Input was sought in April 2021 regarding interest in face covering requirements or mandates. This input was reflected in a continuation of face mask requirements until after the Governor signed into law a ban on such mandates.</p> <p>Another stakeholder survey was undertaken in late August of 2021 to determine community interest in a face mask mandate until September 28, which legal analysts suggested would be the start date of statutory bans on face masks. This input was considered by the Governing Board and administration and a face mask mandate was not imposed.</p>
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Additionally, the District administered an ESSER stakeholder survey, September 2021, including the following components:

- Learning opportunities
- Personnel
- Uses of technology
- Social/emotional support
- Physical operations, including the use of PPE, ventilation, HVAC systems

The information gleaned from this survey informed our approach to mitigation, modifying facilities, improving ventilation and our ESSER grant applications. Our plan was revised to take into account future technology innovation, HVAC concerns, and our ESSER III application.

A special Governing Board meeting was held in September 2021 to discuss the survey results. Results were also a part of a site council meeting held on October 20, 2021.

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.

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



- (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