

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4248	070260000	Higley Unified 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	No	
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	No	
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Yes	<p>We continue to teach and reinforce proper hand hygiene and respiratory etiquette.</p> <p>We continue to ensure adequate supplies are easily available (e.g., soap, hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol, paper towels) to support hand hygiene and encourage behaviors that prevent the spread of COVID-19.</p> <p>We continue to post signs and posters that promote the messaging about behaviors that prevent the spread COVID-19.</p>
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Yes	<p>We continue to ensure ventilation systems operate properly, including increased outdoor air circulation.</p> <p>We continue the use of campus-wide custodial personnel for high contact cleaning and disinfecting.</p> <p>We continue to provide a peroxide multi-surface cleaner for teachers to use during the day, as needed.</p> <p>Buses are sanitized on a regular basis.</p>
Isolation of positive COVID-19 cases will continue in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.	Yes	<p>The site administrator has been designated as the COVID-19 point of contact.</p> <p>HUSD continues the daily health screening.</p> <p>HUSD encourages those who share the facilities to also adhere to mitigation strategies if appropriate.</p> <p>We continue to notify community regarding COVID-19 related information based upon contact tracing information.</p>

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Diagnostic and screening testing	No	
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	No	
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Yes	In order to help a child with disabilities to fully participate in school, the child's IEP team will evaluate the individual needs of each child to determine the appropriate accommodations needed to provide for the child's health and safety, while also taking into account the health and safety of their typical peer.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Yes	The HUSD district nurse works collaboratively with all state and local health officials and offices on all policies and procedures related to the COVID pandemic. HUSD honors all isolation directives from the Maricopa Department of Health, as required.

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 HUSD plan is a living document that will continue to be updated and modified throughout the year as needed.
- Any Executive Orders or county and state mandates that are issued at any point throughout the year will be followed and will override any information currently outlined in our plan.
- The Superintendent reserves the right to modify mitigation strategies at a specific site or district wide if it is deemed necessary for the health and safety of the school or district.
- Any changes or modifications will be communicated as timely as possible.

### Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	<p>HUSD students will be full-time students with in-person learning for all students.</p> <p>We will continue to use formative assessments through our PLC process to identify learning loss and provide differentiation/remediation opportunities that allow students to catch up. We will use benchmark assessment data to ensure alignment of our teaching practices to state standards and monitor growth trends to ensure mastery of grade-level essential standards.</p> <p>HUSD will apply for ESSER III funding to allow the purchase of a systemic phonics supplement to their current HMH ELA curriculum. This will allow systemic inclusion of phonemic awareness and instruction throughout the district and provide for differentiation opportunities to those who might have experienced learning loss during the pandemic.</p> <p>HUSD received AOI approval for their new online school (HVA).</p>
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	Elementary and middle school students attend school full time online, whereas high school students may attend full-time or be concurrently enrolled at HVA and at their home high school.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	<p>We have employed specified times throughout the school week to focus on student health and wellness in the classroom. HUSD will apply for ESSER III funds, which will partially be used to provide additional counselors at the elementary school to support the social-emotional needs of students and will provide a lead counselor to support the social-emotional needs of current counselors and social workers at the secondary level.</p> <p>Students will have access to social-emotional support, as needed, on all school campuses.</p>
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	<p>The federal government has extended the free meals for student aged children for the 2021-2022 school year. As a result, HUSD will continue to provide free breakfast and lunch for students at all campuses for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year.</p> <p>Each campus employs a health aide, who is in direct contact with our district nurse, to support student health needs.</p>
<b>Staff Needs:</b>	
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Teachers and staff will continue to have support with social, emotional and mental health needs through the district office nurse and other resources made available to us as part of our district wellness benefit package.
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**

<b>Date of Revision</b>	<b>Initial plan June 2021; revised 3-4/2021; revised 9-10/2021. The most current revision is posted on the districts' web page.</b>
<b>Public Input</b>	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	The original plan was created in Cabinet and presented to the Board. Community and board feedback was gathered and used to create the final draft, which was presented to the Board and voted on in June 2021. All revisions to this plan are presented to the Board after review in Cabinet.

## 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; and
- (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