

COLUMBIA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

Columbia, PA 17512



American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act
Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund:
Health & Safety Plan for 2021/2022 School Year
As Required by the PA Department of Education (June 4, 2021)



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

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.

The ARP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;
2. How the LEA will 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;
3. 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:
 - 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 State and local health departments;
- f. [Diagnostic](#) and screening testing;
- g. Efforts to provide COVID-19 [vaccinations to school communities](#);
- h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
- i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The LEA's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website by July 30, 2021.* The ARP Act requires LEAs to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

LEAs may use the template to revise their current Health and Safety Plans to meet ARP requirements and ensure all stakeholders are fully informed of the LEA's plan to safely resume instructional and non-instructional school activities, including in-person learning, for the current school year. An LEA may use a different plan template or format provided it includes all the elements required by the ARP Act, as listed above.

* The July 30 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2020-2021 and intend to apply for and receive ARP ESSER funding.

Additional Resources

LEAs are advised to review the following resources when developing their Health and Safety Plans:

- [CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy](#)
- [PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19](#)
- [PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders](#)
- [PDE Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: **COLUMBIA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT**

Initial Effective Date: August 19, 2021

Date of Last Review and Adoption: June 17, 2021

Date of Last Revision: As per the June 4, 2021 requirement by the PDE, *"The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools."* The school district will follow this directive for any future necessary revisions.

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 Columbia Borough School District (CBSD) has been open to students and staff during the 2020-2021 school year and operated using a hybrid instructional model until March 8, 2021. In March, CBSD returned to full time in person instruction. The CBSD Public Health Team (PHT) met at a minimum three (3) times a week to discuss the balance of educational programming with the health & safety of students and staff members. The PHT coordinated with the administrative team to write and maintain the CBSD Public Health Team Procedures (COVID-19) manual. This document is updated to reflect new guidance from the CDC. The school district remained vigilant for the entirety of the 2020-2021 school year in the implementation of this Board approved PDE Health and Safety Plan for Reopening Schools. As the requirements and guidelines for safety measures changed frequently throughout the school year, the district was responsive and reflected those updates in the Public Health Team Procedures Manual.

Relevant Sections of the *CBSD Public Health Team Procedures (COVID-19)* Manual:

- a. Daily Monitoring of Staff Health
- b. Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)
- c. Social Distancing
- d. Cleaning & Disinfecting
- e. Staff Communal Areas
- f. Health Room Procedures
- g. Meetings
- h. Use of Copiers/Electronic Equipment
- i. Travel Restrictions
- j. Visitor Procedures

- k. Contact Tracing Flowchart
- l. COVID-19 Exposure/Symptoms/Etc.
- m. Reporting Staff Absences
- n. School Closure Decisions
- o. Return to School/Work Following COVID Symptoms
- p. FAQ (COVID-19)
- q. Vaccination Resources

For the 2021-2022 school year, the Columbia Borough School District will continue to monitor and abide by any legally effective and binding orders from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that become effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.

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 Columbia Borough School District offered three (3) options for instruction during the 2020-2021 school year: in person learning, remote learning, and virtual learning. The three (3) options provided students the opportunity to engage learning. The multiple options and access to instruction remotely provided a continuity of services and instruction. Students were still able to participate in extracurriculars during the 2020-2021 school year. The social, emotional, and mental health of students were addressed through a variety of ways such as, counseling, class meetings, clubs, extracurriculars, SAP, etc. In coordination with the school counselors, at-risk students are identified and transferred to the proper support team member. For staff, the school board of directors, district administrators, and building leaders supported staff through morale boosters, recognition, informally and formally during faculty meetings. Staff and student health needs were met through the Public Health Team (Health Services Department). The Nutrition Services department ensured families had access to food for breakfast and lunch every day for all learners, in person, remote, and virtual.

For the 2021-2022 school year, the district will operate in a similar format. We will provide full time in person learning for students in the Columbia Borough School District. The Columbia Virtual Academy will be an option for students and families for online learning. The district will continue to provide social, emotional, and mental health support to students. We will continue to monitor the health of students and expand opportunities accordingly. If any staff member needs social, emotional, and mental health support, the district will make resources and education available to

staff members on benefits package and opportunities.

For the 2021-2022 school year, we will continue to monitor evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.

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/procedures/strategies, and a description of any such policy/procedure/strategy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.

d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation ;	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.
e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.
f. Diagnostic and screening testing;	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.
g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities ;	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	For the 2021-2022 school year, the District will continue to provide specific accommodations relating to the health and safety of our students with disabilities as outlined in their Individualized Education Plans. The district will follow and continue to monitor the evolving and applicable requirements or guidelines from the Commonwealth of PA, PDE, or

	the CDC that are effective on or after July 30, 2021. If there are any changes or revisions to those applicable requirements or guidelines after July 30, 2021, the District will follow them, and update the plan accordingly.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The county does not have a local department of health. The district will continue to collaborate with the PA DoH.

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **COLUMBIA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **June 17, 2021**.

8 Yes

☐ No

By:

Charles Leuder

Mr. Charles Leader

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.