Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

Tomorrow River School District

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# Table of Contents

## Introduction

- Maintaining Health and Safety  
  - Overview  
    - Description on maintaining the safety of staff and students  
    - Description to continue to provide services regardless of the mode of instruction

## Mitigation Measures

- Universal and correct wearing of masks
- Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing
- Handwashing and respiratory etiquette
- Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation
- Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments
- Diagnostic and screening testing
- Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible
- Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and practices
- Coordination with state and local health officials

## Continuity of Services

- Overview
  - District response on continuity of services

## Periodic Review

- Overview
  - District response on ensuring periodic updates to its plan

## Public Input

- Overview
  - District response on public input in the development of its plan
  - Tomorrow River School District Summary ESSER Funds
  - Survey Questions and Survey
Introduction

On March 11, 2021, the American Rescue Plans (ARP) Act was signed into law. In it, the U.S. Department of Education is providing an additional $121.9 billion for the Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund (ESSER III Fund). This legislation will award grants to state educational agencies (SEAs) for providing local educational agencies (LEAs) with emergency relief funds to address the impact that COVID-19 has had, and continues to have, on elementary and secondary schools across the nation.

Wisconsin will receive $1,540,784,854 in ESSER III funds from the Act, with 90 percent being awarded to school districts with amounts determined in proportion to the amount of Title I, Part A funds they received in summer 2020 from funds under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The remaining funds will be used for state-level activities to address issues caused by COVID-19.

This plan describes how the LEA or district will provide a safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction.

Additional ESSER Information:

Tomorrow River School District Dashboard and COVID Information
https://www.amherst.k12.wi.us/page/covid-19

DPI
https://dpi.wi.gov/arp/esser-iii

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FACT SHEET

Take Survey Here: TRSD ESSER 3 Community Survey
Maintaining Health and Safety

Overview

A district’s plan must include how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff, and the extent to which it has adopted policies or practices and a description of any such policies or practices on each of the CDC’s safety recommendations including the universal and correct wearing of masks; modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); hand washing and respiratory etiquette; cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the state, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments; diagnostic and screening testing; efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible; appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies or practices; and coordination with state and local health officials.

Description on maintaining the safety of staff and students

The Tomorrow River School District will begin the 2021-22 school year with a five-day per week, face-to-face instructional model and adhere to the following health protocols. Accordingly, the District will:

- encourage staff members and students to stay home or go home if they are showing COVID-19 symptoms or if they have tested positive for COVID-19,
- limit visitors and activities for non-essential purposes, and
- provide sanitizing stations throughout the building.

Description to continue to provide services regardless of the mode of instruction (for example, health and food services if the LEA must pivot to virtual or hybrid instruction)

The Tomorrow River School District will offer in-person learning five days a week according to the Board adopted 2021-2022 Academic Year Calendar. The school district has also provided families the option to enroll their students in a DPI approved virtual learning option. In the event of school closure due to the pandemic, the district purchased Chromebooks for all students to continue virtual learning.

Regardless of the mode of instruction, the Tomorrow River School District will continue to provide meals under the community provision as long as USDA continues the allowance. Meals will be provided for summer school attendees as well as all eligible youth during the school year. If school is
closed due to a pandemic, the district will assess its ability to distribute meals.

The Tomorrow River School District employs one full-time school nurse who will continue to offer health services in-person or virtually.

## Mitigation Measures

**Tomorrow River School District:** [Current COVID-19 Plan](#)

### Universal and correct wearing of masks

The Tomorrow River School Board adopted the policy and has determined when students, staff, and visitors are present in the school building; mask-wearing will be optional.

### Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (for example, the use of cohorts and podding)

Mitigation measures such as proper signage, decals and water bottle filling stations, and the promotion of social distancing have been implemented at each facility.

Students may be assigned to cohorts (like the 2020-21 school year) if public health conditions warrant the use of hybrid or distance instructional models. Transportation will comply with CDC guidelines that are in effect during the 2021-22 school year.

### Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

Handwashing and respiratory etiquette is taught to students with high emphasis in the primary grade levels. Signage is posted throughout buildings as reminders of handwashing and respiratory etiquette.

In addition, hand sanitizing stations/liquids are available throughout the school.

### Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

Sanitation procedures have been implemented and continue at all schools focusing on high-touch surfaces. The District uses cleaning solutions that are rated to kill the SARS virus.

Tomorrow River School District has worked with its Building Automation System vendor to increase its building air exchange from 10% up to 20%. This allows for more fresh air to be brought into the classrooms. Ionization equipment is currently available to all staff members upon request.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments

The Tomorrow River School District will continue to utilize Portage County Public Health Department to assist in contact tracing and transparent reporting to the public of COVID-19 cases and staff quarantines within the District. To provide transparent reporting for our stakeholders, the District maintained a COVID-19 case dashboard throughout the 2020-21 and will continue to do so for the 2021-22 school year.

The Tomorrow River School District will guide parents/students, employees, and contractors on screening protocols for the daily pre-screening process, which all parties should complete before entering the campus/building. Each school will continue to provide current health information to staff, students, and families about the signs and symptoms of COVID-19, when they should stay home, and when they can return to school. Procedures for contact tracing can be found on the district website.

Diagnostic and screening testing

The Tomorrow River School District recommends students and staff get tested for COVID either at school or by their medical provider or a local pharmacy. The turnaround time for results can vary. The District has implemented a COVID testing system at our school.

Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible

All eligible staff employed in 2020-2021 were provided the opportunity to be vaccinated here at school or through any health care provider. New staff and students will be given access to vaccinations by working with local healthcare partners and County Public Health.

Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and practices

When circumstances require specific policies or procedures designed to protect the health and safety of students, 504 and IEP teams will determine if modifications and/or reasonable accommodations are needed for individual students with disability-related issues.

Coordination with state and local health officials

The CDC recommends that all decisions about implementing school-based strategies should be made locally, collaborating with local health officials who can help determine the level of transmission in the community. The Tomorrow River School District continues to work with Portage County Public Health to implement mitigating strategies for the safety of students and staff.

Template Developed by CESA 5
Continuity of Services

Overview

Districts must describe 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.

District response on continuity of services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>The Tomorrow River School District will provide for continuity of services as follows:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Academic Needs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Tomorrow River School District has implemented a summer school program to assist all K-12 students with academic recovery. The District plans to continue full-time, in-person instruction beginning the fall of 2021, with limited exception. Additional instructional personnel have been added to staffing to implement further academic recovery efforts in core curriculum areas. These specialists will be available during the instructional day to assist with additional student needs throughout the year.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Student Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional Social, Emotional learning staff have been added to the mental health staff to address our students’ social and emotional learning needs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Student Needs (which may include student health and food services)</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Food services will continue to provide meals under the community provision as long as USDA continues the allowance.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Staff Social, Emotional, and Mental Health Needs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The District has provided staff with opportunities for social and emotional support through post-school hour meetings with the counseling staff and nursing staff. The staff’s social, emotional, and mental health needs may also be addressed through a grant that was obtained by the district.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Staff Needs</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The District will follow national, state, and local governing agencies’ laws and directives concerning staff employment and benefits.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Periodic Review

Overview

Districts are required to review and, as appropriate, revise their Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months through September 30, 2023, including seeking public input and taking such input into account in determining whether to revise the plan and, if revisions are determined necessary, on the revisions it makes to its plan.

District response on ensuring periodic updates to its plan

The Tomorrow River School District will periodically review and, as needed, revise the plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services. The plan will be reviewed at least every six months, and the school system will seek and take into account public input during the review process. Plan revisions will address updated CDC and County Public Health guidance on safely reopening schools if any are issued.
Public Input

Overview
The ARP Act requires that school districts make their Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan available to the public online and that the plans be in an understandable and uniform format; to the extent practicable, are written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent. Before making its plan publicly available, school districts must seek public comment on the plan and develop the plan after taking into account public comment. The Tomorrow River School district plans to seek public comment through a community survey. The survey will be open from February 10th, 2022 through February 28th, 2022.

District response on public input in the development of its plan
The Tomorrow River School District has taken the following steps to make its plan available to the public:

- The plan is posted at http://https://www.amherst.k12.wi.us/
- The plan is available in multiple languages through the use of our web provider powered by Google Translate.
- The plan was sent to parents, students, and employees via our messaging systems.
- The plan was shared at the Tomorrow River School District Board of Education meeting on February 21, 2022 and an opportunity for public comment was available during the February 21, 2022, Board meeting.
- Upon request, a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA may be provided with the plan in an alternative format accessible by contacting our district office.
## Tomorrow River School District Summary ESSER Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>ESSER 1</th>
<th>ESSER 2</th>
<th>ESSER 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$74,063</td>
<td>$275,673 and $220,715 Total: $496,388</td>
<td>$620,638</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter School Allotment of Total District Funds</td>
<td>$39,648 and $31,753</td>
<td>Charter School Allotment of Total District Funds</td>
<td>$89,376</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Proposed Funding</th>
<th>Proposed Funding</th>
<th>Proposed Funding</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HS at Risk Program</td>
<td>$39,125</td>
<td>Charter School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tech Coach Position</td>
<td>$32,932</td>
<td>Teacher/Staff Overloads</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Seesaw</td>
<td>$1,650</td>
<td>Social Emotional Learning At-Risk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AXIOM Study Skills</td>
<td>$354</td>
<td>Boys and Girls Club Summer Program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong> $74,061</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reading / ELA Curriculum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Custodian 1 FTE (2021-22)</td>
<td>$60,000</td>
<td>Leadership Training Staff Development</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marketing</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>Student Mental Health</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water Fountain Retrofit and Water Filling Stations</td>
<td>$12,975</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sub Position at each level: Elementary, Middle/High</td>
<td>$72,470</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CTE (Career &amp; Tech)</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AXIOM Study Skills</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong> $477,979</td>
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- **20% of ESSER 3 funds must be spent on Learning Loss and must be Evidence Based.**

Template Developed by CESA 5
Survey Questions

1. What other needs or COVID-19 impacts have you seen that we have not mentioned in our plan for using ESSER 3 funds?
2. Do you believe the funding priorities we have identified will have the most impact on the students with the greatest needs? If not, what funding priorities do you believe we should add?
3. What community assets (individuals, programs, businesses, etc.) might we engage to make our plan more effective?
4. What other ideas or thoughts do you have about using the ESSER funding?
5. What questions do you still have about this plan?

Take Survey Here: TRSD ESSER 3 Community Survey