



La Villa Independent School District

Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Service Pursuant to the Federal American Rescue Plan Act, Section 2001(i)



Introduction and Background

In March of 2021 President Biden signed the Federal [American Rescue Plan \(ARP\) Act](#), Public Law 117-2, into law. The ARP Act provides an additional \$122 billion in Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ARP ESSER) to States and school districts to help safely reopen, sustain the safe operation of schools, and address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic on the nation's students. As with the previous ESSER funds available under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act, and the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA), the purpose of the additional funding is to support local educational agencies (LEAs) in preparing for and responding to the impacts of COVID-19 on educators, students, and families.

Section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act requires each LEA that receives ARP ESSER funds to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website, no later than 30 days after receiving ARP ESSER funds, a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services for all schools (Safe Return Plan). A Safe Return Plan is required of all fund recipients, including those that have already returned to in-person instruction. Section 2001(i)(2) of the ARP Act further requires that the LEA seek public comment on the Safe Return Plan and take those comments into account in finalization of the Safe Return Plan. Under the interim final requirements published in [Volume 86, No. 76 of the Federal Register](#) by the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), an LEA must periodically, but no less frequently than every six months through September 30, 2023, review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return Plan.

This document incorporates the federally required components of the Safe Return Plan.

La Villa ISD Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services

LEA Name: La Villa Independent School District

Date: August 9, 2021

Date Revised (10/28/2022):

1. Maintaining Health and Safety

For each mitigation strategy listed below (A–H), please describe how LVISD 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

- As per State mandate, LEA's may not require the wearing of masks.
- Students and staff members will have the option to wear a mask.
- If a student/staff requests a mask, LVISD will have one available.
- If a student or staff member forgets their mask, one will be provided to them for the day.
- Students, staff, and visitors entering the school must have their temperature check.
- Any student, staff, or visitor with a temperature at or above 100.0 will not be allowed to enter the campus.

B. Physical distancing

- Students and staff must remain socially distanced to the greatest extent possible.
- Students and staff may wear a mask in the classrooms.
- Visitors will be allowed but must check in at the front office and may wear a mask.
- Signage to remind people to maintain social distancing to the greatest extent possible.
- Respectful isolation of anyone who is symptomatic or has a temperature of 100.4°F (99 for student 5 and under) or higher. Standing orders from the School Physician states that students with temperatures of 100.4°F (99 for students 5 and under) or higher will be sent home.

C. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette

- Use of hand sanitizer or hand washing for 20 seconds is required. Students under the age of five will require supervision.
- Hand sanitizer will be made available at the entrance to each building. There will also be hand sanitizers found outside classrooms.
- EPA approved disposable wipes will be available to all staff to clean commonly used surfaces such as keyboards, desks, and remote controls before use.
- The district will ensure adequate supplies to support cleaning and disinfection practices.

D. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation

- Routinely clean surfaces with EPA approved disinfectant of frequently high touched surfaces.
- While school is in session all common high touch areas will be cleaned multiple times during the day.
- Unoccupied classrooms whenever practical during the school day and will be cleaned again in the evening.
- Hand Sanitizer stations will be placed in various high traffic area locations and in every hallway throughout the building for all schools.
- Additionally, hand sanitizers will be also placed outside recess locations at elementary schools.
- There will be daily routine walkthroughs to inspect that all antibacterial soap dispensers have product in them and are not empty or malfunctioning.

E. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments:

- Investigation: Upon confirmation of a COVID diagnosis, the district will work with a patient to help them recall everyone with whom they have had close contact during the time when they may have been infectious. For COVID-19, a close contact is defined as any individual who was within 6 feet of an infected person for at least 15 minutes starting from 48 hours before the person began feeling sick until the time the patient is isolated.
- Quarantine: Contacts will be required to stay home and maintain social distance from others (at least 3 feet) until 7-10 days after their last exposure to the infected patient, in case they also become ill.
- CDC cleaning protocols will be implemented. Any quarantine or school closure will be determined in concert with the County Department of Health.
- The district will maintain logs in each building of contacts, dates of exposure, quarantine dates.

F. Diagnostic and screening testing:

- All individuals entering the building will be required to have a temperature check or complete a daily health-check form.
- All individuals are encouraged to self-monitor.
- Any individual with COVID symptoms listed below, should not report to school.

Protocols for Symptomatic Students and Staff

G. A school administrator shall exclude from attendance any child having or suspected of having COVID-19. Exclusion shall continue until the readmission criteria for the conditions are met. The readmission criteria for COVID-19 is as follows:

- If a student or staff member becomes symptomatic during the school day, they will be:
- Safely and respectfully be isolated from others.
- If the district becomes aware that an individual has spent time in the building and tests positive for COVID 19, the district will immediately notify the local health department and the family of the confirmed case while maintaining confidentiality.
- Should an individual test positive for Covid-19, the district will request proof of a negative test or a doctor's note clearing the individual to return to school.

- If symptomatic, exclude until at least 10 days have passed since symptom onset, and fever free*, and other symptoms have improved. Children who test positive for COVID-19 but do not have any symptoms must stay home until at least 10 days after the day they were tested.
- *Fever free for 24 hours without the use of fever suppressing medications. Fever is a temperature of 100° Fahrenheit (37.8° Celsius) or higher.

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

- District will collaborate with the local health department and local health care facilities and disseminate vaccination information to all educators, staff, and students.

I. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to the health and safety policies

As of July 1, 2021, the following guidelines will be in place:

- The CDC recommends that masks be worn by all people in school facilities, including students.
- The State of Texas mandates LEA's may not require masks to be worn.
- For the **narrow** subset of students with disabilities who, because of their medical condition, cannot wear a mask or cannot safely wear a mask, the school must determine based on a student's individual circumstances whether that student is able to attend school safely if other prevention strategies can be followed, in accordance with CDC and OCR guidance.
- People with certain underlying medical conditions and certain disabilities can and should wear masks. Discuss with your healthcare provider the benefits and potential risks of wearing a mas

2. Ensuring Continuity of Services

- A. Describe how the LEA will ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.
- La Villa ISD has a strong commitment of providing quality education for all students. Regardless of the instructional material used, teachers continue to use the rigor of the state standards as the foundation of their instruction. Our educators review formative and summative assessments to evaluate where students' strengths and needs occur. Professional development will be provided to staff to ensure small group instruction is effective and personalized. Small group instruction is differentiated based on core content analyzed testing data. In an effort to address academic needs, La Villa ISD will put key personnel in place at all levels to address specific learning needs in core content areas. The district understands the need for accelerated mastery learning and has administrators to help teachers prepare students for the accelerated learning that must take place in the 2022- 2023 school year.

ACADEMIC SUPPORT:

- All students must have opportunities to achieve academic success. LA VILLA ISD will continue to meet the needs of all students. Subgroup performances will be monitored at the school and district level. Students who are falling behind academically will be meeting frequently to ensure they have the support they need to move forward. Attendance and behavior will also be tracked at all levels in order to provide necessary interventions and proactive measures. District and school staff are committed to supporting students' social-emotional wellness and offer resources to ensure a smooth transition for students at the beginning of the school year. Support may include social-emotional learning, building relationships, community-building activities, and increased access to mental health/wellness services. LA VILLA ISD will continue to do our utmost to meet the social-emotional needs of all students and faculty within the LA VILLA ISD family. The LA VILLA ISD Counselors will consistently monitor all students and collaborate with campus and district level staff.

3. Public Comment

- A. Describes how the LEA sought public comment on its plan, and how it took those public comments into account in the development of its plan. Note, the ARP requires that LEAs seek public comment for each 60-day revision to the plan.
- The plan was provided on the district website and public comment was made available through the Pandemic Response Teams and a meeting of the Board of Education.
- B. Describes how the LEA ensured that the plan is in an understandable and uniform format; is to the extent practicable written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, will be orally translated for such a parent; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, will be provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.
- The district will provide the translated plan to non-English speaking families via Google Translate or through other interpreter services as requested.

- C. Briefly describe any guidance professional learning and technical assistance opportunities the LEA will make available to its schools.
- Professional Development will be provided so that staff is comfortable teaching in a variety of formats that could be required during the school year. Our technical staff will be available daily to help them navigate through any problems that should arise.