

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Tussey Mountain School District

Initial Effective Date: July 19, 2021

Date of Last Review: August 1, 2022

Date of Last Revision: August 1, 2022

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 Tussey Mountain School District has been open for face-to-face instruction since February 8, 2020. We will continue to follow Pennsylvania Department of Education and Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines as they pertain to the safe operation and if necessary, the mandatory closing or curtailment of school. We intend to remain fully open to start the 2022-2023 school year. We will continue to follow many mitigation procedures adopted last year such as hand washing stations, outdoor eating in nice weather, and pre-packaging of all food service items. We will keep a very close eye on the infection rates within our district's zip codes and the surrounding areas to look for trends. We will monitor daily news broadcasts to remain informed of the threat of COVID 19 or the lack of it. **Masks will be optional for all students and staff in district buildings. In regards to quarantining, students identified as a "close contact" to a positive case will have the option to quarantine or remain in school through the quarantine/incubation period. If choosing to remain in school, the student, regardless of exemption status, will be required to mask during school and extracurricular activities for the duration of his/her incubation period.**

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?

Throughout the pandemic, we have been able to offer meals to our students through school pickup as well as by delivering meals to a fire hall in a remote area of the district. We have leveraged ESSER money to purchase enough Chrome Books to ensure that every student K-12 has a device and every teacher has an updated laptop in case we need to pivot back to remote or hybrid learning. We have experience with both. We are currently working with several families in an area without internet service to provide a workable solution that would provide them access to the curriculum. We also used ESSER funds to hire a Social Worker who will work a liaison between the community and our guidance department. Her main focus will be our students and their families' social, emotional, and mental health needs. She will do home outreach in an effort support students where they are.

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, and a description of any such policy 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 ;	The Tussey Mountain School District will follow guidance issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Education and the Pennsylvania Department of Health in regards to requiring students and staff to wear face coverings. Face coverings are optional for all students and staff. That could change depending upon local infection rates and/or Pennsylvania Department of Health guidelines.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	<p>We will continue to separate students as much as we possibly can within each classroom. We will continue to seat students at individual desks. Where tables must be used, physical barriers will be kept in place. We will continue to seat students as far apart from each other as we can in our cafeterias and will continue to allow students to use our outside tables in nice weather. We will be holding recess as usual, but will discourage students from sharing toys. We will be offering specials classes.</p> <p>The district is prepared to move to a hybrid program or a completely remote program should infection rates rise to the point that it would be required by the Pennsylvania Department of Education or the Pennsylvania Department of Health.</p>
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	We will continue to have handwashing stations in high traffic areas. Our teachers will have sanitizer in their classrooms and will continue to advocate for frequent sanitizing. Students will be required to wash/sanitize hands upon entry into the

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>building, prior to eating lunch or any snacks, and prior to getting on any bus. Students will be reminded to cough and sneeze into their sleeves. We will have signage around our buildings reminding our students of the importance of hygiene.</p>
<p>d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High touch surfaces such as water fountains, sinks, door handles, light switches, stair rails, pencil sharpeners, computers, phones, desktops, chairs, etc. will be cleaned throughout the school day. • Desks, chairs, and high-touch surfaces cleaned and sanitized frequently throughout the day and during 21st Century afternoon activities. • Shared materials cleaned and sanitized between each use. • Restrooms will be cleaned at regular intervals throughout the school day and during Century 21 afternoon activities. • Water fountains will be closed (Students may bring their own water bottles with their name clearly labeled) • Classrooms, hallways, and restrooms cleaned intensely each evening. <p>Special filters have been placed on our air handling units to prevent the spread of airborne virus.</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>Our nurses will do initial interviews with students who test positive or parents or guardians of students who test positive to determine infectious dates and close contacts within school. Close contacts will be isolated and removed from school as quickly as possible. Our nurses will contact the parents of all close contacts and explain the quarantine protocol. The superintendent will</p>

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	<p>report to the Bedford or Huntingdon County Board of Health the number of infected and quarantined students each week on Fridays. Our nurses will determine dates students are eligible to return and will note any negative tests that may have been done as a result of the close school contact.</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>Parents are asked to keep students with a temperature above 100.4 at home. Our nurses will examine any student who complains of COVID symptoms and will isolate that student if there is suspicion of a close contact. Student will then be sent home as soon as possible. Parents will be responsible for testing in coordination with their family doctor.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>We are advocating for all of our families to get vaccinated. Currently, vaccinations are available to all who ask at our local health center.</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>We are working with the families of our special education population to ensure that students are receiving a free and appropriate education as well as all related services listed in individual IEPs. We are also working to make up any instructional time missed as a result of remote instruction.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>The Tussey Mountain School District will continue to work with the County Health Boards in both Bedford and Huntingdon Counties, as well as the State Department of Health to do whatever is necessary to mitigate further spread of the virus.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Tussey Mountain School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **August 15, 2022**.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: **August 22, 2022**

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

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.