pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Aliquippa School District
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;

   Facilities

   The District will continue to follow the guidance outlined by the CDC, PDE, DOH and the Pennsylvania Department of Health Office, (PADOH). Custodial and maintenance staff will be trained on best practices and methods for sanitation, disinfecting, cleanliness, and ventilation protocols. Filters will continue to be replaced as defined in the preventative maintenance schedule. Increasing the circulation of outdoor air will be

encouraged when doing so does not pose a safety risk. This work will be supervised by the Director of Facilities and reports will be made to the District's Pandemic Team. All products will meet OSHA and CDC requirements. The Director of Facilities will monitor the custodians and maintenance work and review documents to ensure that frequent cleaning is taking place.

Physical Distancing

The District will continue to implement physical distancing protocols to the greatest extent possible without altering the instructional or common areas. Proper hygiene will be encouraged. Special classes (Art, Music, Physical Education, Media Literacy), sports, extracurricular activities will follow PDE, DOH and PADOH mandates. This includes limiting the use of shared equipment.

Monitoring Health

Parents and families will be encouraged to keep ill children at home until the symptoms improve. Families are expected to perform a symptom screening BEFORE sending their children to school. Symptoms associated with COVID-19, include fever, headache, chills, body aches, congestion, shortness of breath, fatigue, loss of taste or smell, and diarrhea. The District will continue to track cases within the District and will post the numbers on the front page of the District website. The 2023-2024 Health and Safety Plan will also be posted to the website and any updates will be approved by the board.

The District will also follow mandates released by PDE, DOH, PADOH, and/or the CDC.

The CDC updated recommendations on 7-9-2021. This information has been reviewed. PDE began to update their website on 7-8-2021 and this information has been reviewed as well.

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;

The District converted to one to one devices in the 2020-2021 school year. The school families were surveyed to confirm that families had reliable access to the Internet. The families that did not have reliable Internet we assigned a mobile hotspot to be used to complete schoolwork only. In addition, Google Classroom, a learning management system was purchased for the professional and support staff to use to deliver the curriculum. The District will ensure continuity of services by monitoring the data collected through various assessments such as DIBELS, Heggerty, PSSA, Keystone, and teacher observation. If the District is required to close due to the number of positive cases, the students and staff will transition the next school day to online learning through Google Classroom. Students will also be able to access food services as outlined by state and federal regulations.

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 Thorough an Integrated System of Support
- PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania

Aliquippa School District

Health and Safety Plan, 2024-2025, School Year.

Initial Effective Date: 7/21/2021

Date of Last Review: 7/22/2023

Date of Last Revision: 9/11/2023

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?

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?

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 updated Order of the Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Health Requiring Universal Face Coverings were lifted on June 28, 2021. There is no longer a statewide requirement to wear masks. The District will follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) mandates for wearing a mask where required by law, rule, and regulations, including local business and workplace guidance and policies. Face coverings will only be required if regulations set forth by PDE, DOH, PADOH or the CDC indicate such. Face coverings will be optional for employees, students, visitors, etc.**

b. **Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);**	**Social distancing and capacity restrictions are not currently a requirement in Pennsylvania.** **• Provide standard personal protective equipment for staff and students as directed by guidance provided by the PA Department of Education and/or Pennsylvania Department of Health.**
c. **Handwashing and respiratory etiquette;**	**Proper hygiene posters are posted throughout the school facilities. District staff continue to teach proper handwashing and respiratory etiquette.** **Hand sanitizer dispensers will be placed through the school buildings for student and staff use.**
d. **Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation;**	**Cleaning, Sanitizing and Disinfecting of the buildings will be performed in accordance with the guidelines provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and Pennsylvania Department of Health in accordance with facility usage.**
e. **Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;**	**As of June 1, 2022 the Aliquippa School District will no longer engage in routine contract tracing unless directed by the PADOH and the DOH.**
f. **Diagnostic and screening testing;**	Encourage individuals to participate in a voluntary daily health screening, prior to entering a bus/building, that includes a temperature check.
g. **Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;**	Aliquippa School District has partnered and will continue to work with public and private community health partners to

	provide relevant information related to protocols expected for K-12 Schools.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	The district will address all students with disabilities and students identified with a documented need per Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) of the Individuals with Disability Education Act (IDEA). Whether through the IEP or a 504 Service Agreement, the student's team will convene to determine, if based upon the information available, the student needs additional or changes to accommodations.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	Aliquippa School District will maintain a Pandemic Team that will continue to coordinate with state and local health officials as needed regarding all COVID-19 matters.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for Aliquippa School District reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on November 20, 2024.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

__X__ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: September 20, 2023

By:

_____

(*Signature* of Board President*)

Tina Price-Gems

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(*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.