

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

This document is intended to meet the federal statutory requirement that, within 30 days of receiving ARP ESSER LEA allocation (anticipated May 24th), an LEA shall publish an LEA Plan on the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services, which is often called a “school district reopening plan.”

Note, if an LEA developed a plan before *The American Rescue Plan Act* (ARPA) was enacted on 03/11/2021 that complied with the federal statutory requirements for public posting and comments but does not meet all of the requirements below, then the LEA must revise its plan no later than six months after receiving ARP ESSER funds

For further context, please reference ARPA (<https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/1319/text>) or the Interim Final Requirements of ARP ESSER (<https://www.govinfo.gov/content/pkg/FR-2021-04-22/pdf/2021-08359.pdf>).

I. General Information

1. LEA Name: Candia School District

2. Date of Publication: June 3, 2021

II. Transparency and Accessibility

1. This plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services was published and made publicly available online here:

Description: The plan was published on the website on June 3, 2021. The plan can be found at www.candia.sau15.net. It was also sent directly to all families using the school's communication system, Brightarrow.

2. Before making the plan publicly available, the LEA sought public comment on the plan and took such comments into account in the development of the plan (please check one).

Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

Description: Parent input was sought prior to development of the plan.

3. The plan is in an understandable and uniform format (please check one):

Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

Description: The plan was developed in an understandable and uniform format.

4. The plan, to the extent practicable, is written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated (please check one):

Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

Description: The plan was written in language that parents can understand and anyone may contact the school with questions.

5. The plan, upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, is provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent (please check one):

Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

Description: Our website includes the following language: The Candia School District is committed to ensuring that persons with disabilities can access information on the District's website. If you would like additional assistance or have any concerns in accessing the content on the website, please call the school or email accessibility@sau15.net.

III. Health and Safety

1. How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff:
 Description during SY20-21: The Candia School District followed current guidance from NHDHHS and the CDC.
 Description during SY21-22: The Candia School District will continue to follow current guidance from NHDHHS and the CDC.

2. The LEA's adoption of the following CDC health and safety strategies are described below:
 (Note federal regulation on this plan requires such reporting, but does not require adoption of CDC safety recommendations. The NH DOE recognizes schools will implement localized safety measures based on the guidance provided by the CDC, NH Public Health, and local public health officials.)
 - a. Universal and correct wearing of masks:
 During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☐ Somewhat: ☒ No: ☐
 Description of both SYs: The Candia School District will follow current guidance from NHDHHS and the CDC. It is anticipated there will be fewer restrictions for SY 21-22.

 - b. Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding and modifying facilities):
 During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☐ Somewhat: ☒ No: ☐
 Description of both SYs: The Candia School District will follow current guidance from NHDHHS and the CDC. It is anticipated that there will be fewer restrictions during SY 21-22.

 - c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:
 During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 Description of both SYs: The Candia School District will follow current guidance from NHDHHS and the CDC.

 - d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:
 During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 Description of both SYs: The Candia School District will follow current guidance of NHDHHS and the CDC.

 - e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, and/or Tribal health departments:
 During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐
 Description of both SYs: The Candia School District will follow current guidance from NHDHHS and the CDC.

 - f. Diagnostic and screening testing:
 During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☐ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☒
 During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☐ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☒
 Description of both SYs: The Candia School District has not engaged in diagnostic testing.

 - g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities:
 During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☐ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☐ Somewhat: ☒ No: ☐

Description of both SYs: The district conducted a vaccine clinic during SY20-21.

If the need exists during the SY21-22 another clinic will be considered.

- h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies:

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

Description of both SYs: The district makes appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.

- i. Coordination with state and local health officials (please check one):

During SY20-21 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

During SY21-22 (check one): Yes: ☒ Somewhat: ☐ No: ☐

Description of both SYs: The district will continue to work with state and local officials as appropriate.

IV. Continuity of Services

1. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing student academic needs:

Description during SY20-21: The Candia School District was open for full in-person learning for the SY20-21 school year. Learning needs were addressed throughout the year.

Description during SY21-22: The Candia School District will continue to be open for full in-person learning for the SY21-22 school year. A priority will be addressing individual student learning gaps.

2. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing student social, emotional, mental health, or other health needs, which may include student health and food services:

Description during SY20-21: The Candia School District made efforts to support mental health and other health needs of students during SY20-21.

Description during SY21-22: The Candia School District will continue to support student mental health, and other health needs.

3. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing staff social, emotional, mental, and other health needs:

Description during SY20-21: The Candia School District began working with teachers to determine mental health and other health needs of staff.

Description during SY21-22: The Candia School District will work with staff to determine mental health and other health needs and implement these services as appropriate.

V. Plan Review

1. The LEA will meet the federal regulatory requirement to review and, as appropriate, revise its Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months through September 30, 2023 (the award period including the Tydings period). (Note an LEA that developed a plan before ARPA was enacted on 03/11/2021 that complied with the federal statutory requirements for public posting and comments but does not meet all of the requirements above must revise its plan no later than six months after the LEA receives LEA ESSER funds.)

Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Description: The School Board will review the plan in August 2021 and every six months through September 30, 2023. The plan will be revised as appropriate.

2. In doing so, the LEA will meet the federal statutory requirement to seek public input and take 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.

Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Description: The plan will remain posted on the school website and an opportunity for public comment will be available on the website and at public meetings. Revisions to the plan will be made as appropriate.

3. In doing so, the LEA will also meet the federal regulatory requirement to address CDC safety recommendations and, if the CDC has updated its safety recommendations at the time the LEA is revising its plan, each of the updated CDC safety recommendations.
(Note federal regulation on this plan requires such reporting, but does not require adoption of CDC safety recommendations. The NH DOE recognizes schools will implement localized safety measures based on the guidance provided by the CDC, NH Public Health, and local public health officials.)

Yes: ☒ No: ☐

Description: The Candia School District will implement local safety measures based on the guidance from NHDHHS and the CDC.

VI. Authorization

LEA Superintendent's Signature:

William March

Date:

6-16-21

VIII. Appendices

Appendix A. ARPA Statutory Excerpt

“(i) Safe return to in-person instruction.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—A local educational agency receiving funds under this section shall develop and make publicly available on the local educational agency’s website, not later than 30 days after receiving the allocation of funds described in paragraph (d)(1), a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services.

(2) COMMENT PERIOD.—Before making the plan described in paragraph (1) publicly available, the local educational agency shall seek public comment on the plan and take such comments into account in the development of the plan.

(3) PREVIOUS PLANS.—If a local educational agency has developed a plan for the safe return to in-person instruction before the date of enactment of this Act that meets the requirements described in paragraphs (1) and (2), such plan shall be deemed to satisfy the requirements under this subsection.”

Appendix B. Interim Final Requirements of ARP ESSER Excerpt

“(3) *LEA Plan for Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services.*

(a) An LEA must describe in its plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services—

(i) how it 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.
- (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 the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments.
- (F) Diagnostic and screening testing.
- (G) Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities.
- (H) Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.
- (I) Coordination with State and local health officials.

(ii) how it 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.

(b) (i) During the period of the ARP ESSER award established in section 2001(a) of the ARP Act, an LEA must regularly, but no less frequently than every six months (taking into consideration the timing of significant changes to CDC guidance on reopening schools), review and, as appropriate, revise its plan for the safe return to in person instruction and continuity of services.

(ii) In determining whether revisions are necessary, and in making any revisions, the LEA must seek public input and take such input into account.

(iii) If at the time the LEA revises its plan the CDC has updated its guidance on reopening schools, the revised plan must address the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies, and describe any such policies, for each of the updated safety recommendations.

(c) If an LEA developed a plan prior to enactment of the ARP Act that meets the statutory requirements of section 2001(i)(1) and (2) of the ARP Act but does not address all the requirements in paragraph (a), the LEA must, pursuant to paragraph (b), revise and post its plan no later than six months after receiving its ARP ESSER funds to meet the requirements in paragraph (a).

(d) An LEA’s plan under section 2001(i)(1) of the ARP Act for the safe return to in-person instruction and continuity of services must be—

- (i) In an understandable and uniform format;
- (ii) To the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to a parent with limited English proficiency, be orally translated for such parent; and
- (iii) Upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the ADA, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.”