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: SAU 75 Grantham School District

2. Date of Publication: June 23, 2021

II. Transparency and Accessibility

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

Description: The Grantham School District Safe Return to School plan was adopted and originally published August 2020; revisions were made in both November 2020 and April 2021 as the District moved from hybrid to full in-person operations. This plan has been made public on www.gvshawks.org.

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).

X Yes: Somewhat: No:

Description: SAU 75 had multiple committees and public feedback sessions on all reopening plans. Committees/Meetings included the Safe Return to School Committee, Progress Monitoring Committee, Administrative Team, School Board Meetings, and Parent/Guardian Weekly Check-Ins

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

X Yes: Somewhat: No:

Description:

The Plan was titled the Continuity of Learning Plan and was in the same format traditionally used for our Family and Staff Handbooks so it was familiar to our school community.

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):

X Yes: Somewhat: No:

Description:

The plan is written clearly, and we checked with ELL families to see if anyone required translation.

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):

X Yes: Somewhat: No:

Description:

The District special education director will make these accommodations.

III. Health and Safety

 How the LEA will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other school and LEA staff:

Description during 20-21: SAU 75 will refer to guidance from the CDC and NH DHHS. In addition, we have two consulting physicians and our school nurse on our Progress Monitoring Team.

Description during 21-22: SAU 75 will refer to guidance from the CDC and NH DHHS. In addition, we have two consulting physicians and our school nurse on our Progress Monitoring Team.

- 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): X Yes: Somewhat: No:

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

Description of both SYs: Throughout 20-21, mask wearing was required for all staff and students. Moving into 21-22, masks will not be worn outside, and inside mask wearing will be expected for the beginning of the year but will be open to change based on virus and vaccination conditions.

b. Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding and modifying facilities):

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

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

Description of both SYs: In 20-21 students and staff were kept in cohorts until April 2021. At that time, SAU 75 opened up to full in-person instruction, and this change does not allow for full cohorting. Students are cohorted when possible, and this is what will continue into 21-22.

c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette:

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

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

Description of both SYs: All students and staff are expected to follow daily hand hygiene practices when entering/exiting a room, using the bathroom, before and after lunch and snack, and/or before/after recess when sharing equipment.

d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation:

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

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

Description of both SYs: The Grantham Village School is fortunate to have a good ventilation system that allows for regular air exchange.

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): X Yes: Somewhat: No:

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

Description of both SYs: Throughout both years, SAU 75 referred to CDC and/or NH

DHHS local guidance on quarantine and isolation.

f. Diagnostic and screening testing:

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

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

Description of both SYs: No on-site diagnostic or screening testing was available to schools this year and symptomatic individuals needed to go through their physicians; however, SAU 75 is looking into participation in a screening program that will now be available for the 21-22 school year.

g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities: 7

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

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

Description of both SYs: A vaccination clinic was held for all school staff in April of 2021 and families of students 12 and older were notified in May; we are in regular communication with our local PHN to keep options open for vaccination clinics if needed/possible during 21-22.

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

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

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

Description of both SYs: Each student with any concerns due to an IEP or 504 throughout COVID-19 have been handled individually through their regular plan and process.

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

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

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

Description of both SYs: Monthly meetings with the NH DOE, weekly updates with NH DHHS.

IV. Continuity of Services

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

Description during SY20-21: The Grantham School District, though in three different models, continued to provide an education throughout the school year to all students, including those choosing to stay fully remote.

Description during SY21-22: The Grantham School District plans to reopen in September with a full year of school as usual as we continue to adapt to the changing mitigations of the virus.

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

Description during SY20-21: during this year, SAU 75 had its primary focus as SEL and began with the ChooSELove curriculum designed for the pandemic. All staff received professional reading and training on anxiety and the school counselor created a video series for students and families so everyone had access regardless of current instructional model.

Description during SY21-22: SAU 75 will move into its second phase of a full SEL curriculum and the counseling sessions will continue. Over the summer, students will have access to SEL resources. The school will bring on a half-time social worker to help students and families with recovery from COVID experiences.

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

Description during SY20-21: Staff were directed towards assistance through our insurance carrier and many found good resources there. We ran several staff wellness activities throughout the year. **Description during SY21-22:** Staff will continue to access assistance through our insurance carrier and We will plan a monthly series for staff on social, emotional, mental, and physical wellness.

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.)
X Yes: No:

Description: The Plan has already been revised twice and will continue to be updated/revised throughout the summer as more information becomes available.

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.

X Yes: No:

Description: A survey was conducted towards the end of the 20-21 school year through which parents could give feedback and provide input. Prior to the school board meeting in August, a parent/guardian information is scheduled to solicit additional information.

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.) X Yes: No:

Description: Planning teams, administration, and the board will continue to review CDC guidance as well as local information through NH DHHS.

VI. Authorization

LEA Superintendent's Signature: Date:

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