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.


I. General Information

1. LEA Name: SAU 20

2. Date of Publication: 8/1/2020

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: https://sites.google.com/sau20.org/sau-20-covid-15-updates/2020-2021

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: SAU 20 worked with teams of community members and sent out surveys.

3. The plan is in an understandable and uniform format (please check one):
   Yes: [ ] Somewhat: [ ] No: [ ]
   Description: 

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: 

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: The SAU will work with any request to translate the document.
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 SAU plan was guided by the most current CDC, NHDHHS and NHDOE guidance.

   Description during SY21-22: The plan for 21-22 will be to continue to follow the guidance of the CDC, NHDHHS and NHDOE.

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 SAU followed the guidance for the 20-21 school year required the use of masks. As mask guidance has started to loosen we will continue to follow the CDC guidance.

   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 SAU followed and will continue to follow CDC guidance.

   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 SAU will continue to follow CDC guidance.

   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 SAU will continue to follow CDC guidance.

   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 SAU has worked closely with NHDHHS and will continue this work in 21-22.

   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 SAU has worked closely with local medical teams and will continue to do so.

   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 SAU has worked closely with local medical professionals and will continue this work.

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 SAU will continue to work with IEP and 504 teams to ensure student needs are met.

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 SAU meets weekly with a team of local medical professionals.

IV. Continuity of Services

1. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing student academic needs: 
   Description during SY20-21: The SAU was able to provide the majority of instruction in-person during 20-21.
   
   Description during SY21-22: The SAU will continue to promote in-person instruction for 21-22.

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 the 20-21 school year all efforts were made to ensure the needs of students were met no matter what the modality of their instruction.
   
   Description during SY21-22: The SAU will continue to work on all aspects of student learning during the 21-22 school year.

3. The LEA has provided continuity of services in addressing staff social, emotional, mental, and other health needs: 
   Description during SY20-21: The SAU targeted staff needs throughout the school year.
   
   Description during SY21-22: The SAU will continue to work on staff needs during the 21-22 school year.

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 Tiydings period). (Note an LEA that developed a plan before ARP 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 SAU will review, seek input, and revise the reentry plan on a regular basis.
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: Surveys will be sent out on a regular basis seeking input on the current reentry plan.

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 SAU has followed current CDC guidance and plans to continue this procedure.

VI. Authorization

LEA Superintendent’s Signature: ________________________________

Date: 06/18/2021