

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: Strafford Elementary School
2. Date of Publication: November 1, 2020; updated May 26, 2021; Update June 6th on website.

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: www.trafford.k12.nh.us; https://drive.google.com/file/d/1ii744gU3w087N2Dz5cPjqMuAIAe_Yudo/view
Description: Every time there was a need to adjust the plan it was done through the school board and an appendix was added to the handbook.
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: X
Somewhat:
No:
Description: The LEA had multiple board meetings where the public was encouraged to provide input.
3. The plan is in an understandable and uniform format (please check one):
Yes: X
Somewhat:
No:
Description: Plan is written in the same language that the handbook is, so it's a familiar 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: X
Somewhat:
No:
Description: Plan is written in the same language that the handbook is, so it's a familiar format.

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: Plans were provided visually and orally at board meetings.

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:

Description during SY21-22:

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 board made some decisions to allow optional wearing of masks outside with parent permission; then they adjusted again due to the heat wave. Other than that the recommendations were aligned to DHHS.

- 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: Cohorts were set and maintained until the spring. Outside some cohorts began to mix in the spring in alignment with sports and things opening. We don't anticipate cohorting in the fall.

- 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: Strict hand washing/ sanitizing procedures throughout the year. Most of the SY20-21 students and adults wore masks inside and out unless they were eating or drinking. While we do not anticipate wearing masks next year, maintaining the routine of cleaning hands will likely continue.

- 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: Additional Ozone cleaners were purchased, additional staff were hired and cleaning protocols were established.

- 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 nurse worked with and will continue to work with staff to

ensure this is completed

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 school nurse worked with staff to ensure this was completed.

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 offered a vaccination clinic for the staff. No plans at this time for additional vaccination clinics since we are a preK-8.

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: Special education teams met to review each student's needs.

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 LEA worked with and will continue to work with state and local agencies on a regular basis.

IV. Continuity of Services

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

Description during SY20-21: The LEA continues to progress monitor students to determine needs and guide instructions

Description during SY21-22: The LEA will continue to progress monitor students to determine needs and guide instructions

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: The LEA worked the students and families to provide them with the support that we can and guided them to agencies that can provide additional resources.

Description during SY21-22: The LEA will continue to work with the students and families to provide them with the support that we can and guide them to agencies that can provide additional resources.

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

Description during SY20-21: The LEA worked the staff to provide them with the support that we can and guided them to agencies that can provide additional resources.

Description during SY21-22: The LEA will continue to work with the staff to provide them with the support that we can and guide them to agencies that can provide additional resources.

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: We will continue to revise our plan as additional guidance is delivered. We will open the 2021-22 year in the manner that we ended this year. School in person 5 days a week, masking requirements may change.

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: We will hold public comments during our board meetings to address this matter.

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: We will follow DHHS guidance.

VI. Authorization

LEA Superintendent's Signature: _____ Date: _____

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.”