

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan (ARP Act)



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4264	070417000	Tolleson Elementary School District

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 policies, on each of the following safety recommendations established by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

CDC Safety Recommendations	Has the LEA Adopted a Policy? (Y/N)	Describe LEA Policy:
Universal and correct wearing of masks	N	The State of Arizona has passed a law (located in section 12, title 15, chapter 3 of the Arizona budget) which prohibits policies that require universal masking on school property during school hours. We will continue to monitor communication from the CDC and MCDPH, as well as developments in state and federal statute to ensure mask protocols are in alignment.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	N	Students will no longer cohort. Physical distancing is not required on our campuses.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	N	School sites encourage general hand washing and respiratory etiquette as recommended, included but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Frequent hand washing will continue to be encouraged ▪ Hand sanitizing stations are provided throughout the school
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	N	Daily cleaning and disinfecting of facilities.
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	N	the Maricopa County Department of Public Health (MCDPH) updated their notification process regarding K-12 quarantines. Now that vaccinations are available for individuals ages five and up, for those who choose them, quarantine will no longer be used as the first mitigation response to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but rather in a more targeted approach. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If the county intervenes due to a special circumstance at your child's school, you will be notified of additional mitigation procedures and how that will impact your child. Absences resulting from county required quarantine are marked as excused. • If the county does not implement additional mitigation procedures, quarantining will be a personal choice for your child, unless your child is symptomatic. • If you choose to have your child quarantine, please contact the school's attendance line daily to inform them your child will be out. Please also notify your child's teacher.

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Diagnostic and screening testing	N	All families are encouraged to conduct daily health checks, including taking your child's temperature before school and assessing your child for any symptoms. If your child has only one of the following symptoms that are mild and/or are allergy-related, they can attend school if they are not contagious: headache, sore throat, congestion/runny nose, a mild cough, etc. If your child has multiple symptoms or is visibly ill, please keep them home. They can return in 24 hours if symptoms have improved, and if they have been fever free without the use of medications.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	N	TESD is prohibited by Arizona law (A.R.S.15-342.05) from requiring students and staff to be vaccinated against COVID
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	N	On a case-by-case basis. Should you need special accommodations, reach out to your child's principal.
Coordination with State and local health officials	N	TESD is in coordination with state and local health officials to monitor data and recommendations, in addition to monitoring of federal and state statutes and guidance

How the LEA 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**

How the LEA will Ensure Continuity of Services?

Tolleson Elementary School District will ensure continuity of services by prioritizing student learning and social-emotional support for all staff, students, and families

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Academic needs are being addressed through the use of digital diagnostic tools in K-8 for ELA and mathematics. Additional time and support are provided through interventions during the school day as well as extended learning opportunities and summer programming beyond the school day.
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	All TESD campuses have two counselors through the Arizona Department of Education and override funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Family and Community Coordinator will focus on supporting the school campus with evidence-based strategies to address social and emotional learning
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	The Child Nutrition Department has provided free breakfast and lunch to all TESD students. This information is communicated regularly to families and is on our district website and social media.

Staff Needs:

Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	TESD Counselors have provided ongoing resources for staff, including virtual support groups and yoga/mindfulness. Employees can access Benefits and third-party support services
Other Needs	

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The 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 **through September 30, 2023**

Date of Revision

4/3/2023

Public Input

Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:

Changes made and communicated by the Maricopa County Public Health Agency are added to our plan if in alignment with guidance from the Governor's Office. District directors attend the webinars to ensure we have the latest communication by MCPH. These changes are communicated to all staff and published on our website.

U.S. Department of Education Interim Final Rule (IFR)

(1) 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 Start Printed Page 212022001(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;

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- (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; an
- (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