



HARMONY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan

Section 2001(i)(1) of the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act requires each local education agency (LEA) that receives funding under the ARP Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) Fund to develop and make publicly available on the LEA's website a *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan*, hereinafter referred to as a *Health and Safety Plan*.

Health and Safety Plan Summary:

Initial Effective Date: August 1, 2021

Date of Last Review: July 27, 2021

Date of Last Revision: June 27, 2021

How will the LEA, to the greatest extent practicable, support prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the CDC for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning?

The LEA will monitor the latest recommendations from PDE, PADOH, and CDC and update their Health and Safety Plans as needed. Plans will be presented to the governing Board for approval when changes are necessary. Facilities and practices will be adapted to the extent possible to ensure that appropriate prevention and mitigation processes are followed.

The Harmony Area School District Board of Directors has authorized the school superintendent to amend and adjust these guidelines as brought forth by the CDC/DOH/PDE.

1. How will the LEA ensure continuity of services, including but not limited to services to address the students' academic needs, and students' and staff members' social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services?

Educational models will be adapted to the needs of the students as appropriate including virtual if needed. Social, emotional, mental health and other needs will be monitored and provided by school health providers, social workers and other mental behavior specialists when needed. Food service will be provided using various models as appropriate to the situation, including the availability of free meals if needed for students throughout the entire year.

2. Use the table below to explain 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 policy on each of the following safety recommendations established by the CDC.

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Universal and correct wearing of masks; <p>CDC GUIDELINES:</p> <p>https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/schools-childcare/k-12-guidance.html</p> <p>Procedures and protocol will be amended and adjusted as the mandates, guidelines and recommendations are brought forth.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ARP ESSER requires school districts and charter schools to develop mitigation plans in line with the most recent CDC guidance with plans being updated every six months as needed. At the current time, mask wearing is optional. Students and staff are not required to wear a mask in school, but are required to wear a mask on school transportation (buses, vans). As mandates change or are adjusted, the Harmony Area School District will follow all mandates outline by CDC/DOH/PDE. For those who wear a mask, correct and consistent mask use is a critical step everyone can take to reduce their risk of getting and spreading COVID-19. Staff and students will be trained on and reminded of proper mask use. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding); | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Determine the maximum capacity for each room. Turn desks in the same direction. Balance class numbers as much as possible – remove unused desks and furniture in classrooms; maximize social distancing (to the extent practicable). Staff will maintain a safe distance as outlined in the CDC guidelines from other adults to the maximum extent feasible. |

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff will maintain a safe distance as outlined in the CDC guidelines from students, whenever possible and when not disruptive to the educational process. • Limit physical interaction through partner or group work. • Establish distance between the teacher's desk/board and students' desks. • Identify and utilize large spaces (i.e. gymnasiums and outside spaces – as weather permits) for social distancing. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Handwashing and respiratory etiquette; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach and reinforce good hygiene measures such as handwashing, covering coughs, and face coverings when required. • Provide hand soap, hand sanitizer with at least 70% alcohol, cleaning wipes/disinfectant spray, tissues, and paper towels in all classrooms and frequently trafficked areas. • Post signage in classrooms, hallways, and entrances to communicate how to stop the spread. COVID-19 symptoms, preventative measures (including staying home when sick), good hygiene, proper respiratory etiquette and school/district specific protocols. • Cover mouth and nose with a tissue when coughing or sneezing. • Use the nearest waste receptacle to dispose of tissues after use. • Perform hand hygiene after having contact with respiratory secretions and contaminated objects or materials. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Daily cleaning of schools with soap and water to decrease how much of the virus is on surfaces and objects, which reduces the risk of exposure. |

| ARP ESSER Requirement | Strategies, Policies, and Procedures |
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| | <p>Apply to frequently touched surfaces and objects including door handles, sink handles and drinking fountains.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least daily and throughout the day disinfecting schools and transportation vehicles using EPA-approved disinfectants against COVID-19 to reduce the risk. • Use of routine cleaning practices for indoor areas that have not been used for 7 or more days or outdoor equipment. • Follow standard protocols to clean surfaces that are not high touch. • Ensure ventilation systems operate properly and increase circulation of outdoor air as much as possible, for example by opening windows and doors. Do not open windows and doors if doing so poses a safety or health risk (e.g., risk of falling, triggering asthma symptoms) to children using the facility. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with school administrators and school nurses to identify an isolation room or area to separate anyone who exhibits COVID-like symptoms. • School nurses and other healthcare providers should use Standard and Transmission- Based Precautions when caring for sick people. • Establish procedures for safely transporting anyone who is sick home or to a healthcare facility. • Contact the local health authority before acting in response to a known or suspected communicable disease. • Contact the local health authority for further guidance if a parent/guardian/caregiver notifies the school of potential exposure by a student, staff member, or school visitor. • Fill out and submit the Self Report and Line List forms provided by |

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| | <p>PDE and PADOH Joint Task Force for contact tracing.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Send out notifications to building staff and students with the appropriate information as needed. • Work closely with the DOH nurses to follow-up and complete contract tracing. • Develop policies and procedures based on CDC guidelines. Ensure that staff and students meet all requirements before returning to school safely. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diagnostic and screening testing; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a system for home/self-screening and reporting procedures. • Encourage staff to stay home if they are sick and encourage parents to keep sick children home. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with community health centers and hospitals to either provide on-site vaccinations or provide brochures and other information as to when and where staff and students can receive vaccinations at their sites. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that any policy regarding face coverings or any other parts of the health and safety plans should be sensitive to the needs of students and staff with medical issues. Appropriate accommodations in compliance with federal and state laws should be made for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies and procedures. |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coordination with state and local health officials. | <p>LEA will work together with the Joint Task Force, PADOH, community health agencies and County Emergency Management Agencies to coordinate resources in accordance with their health and safety plan.</p> |

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on

The plan was approved by a vote of:

6 Yes

0 No

Affirmed on: July 27, 2021

By:

Nancy J. Oaks
(Signature* of Board President)

Nancy Oaks
(Print Name of Board President)

*Electronic signatures on this document are acceptable using one of the two methods detailed below.

Option A: The use of actual signatures is encouraged whenever possible. This method requires that the document be printed, signed, scanned, and then submitted.

Option B: If printing and scanning are not possible, add an electronic signature using the resident Microsoft Office product signature option, which is free to everyone, no installation or purchase needed.