

ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template

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*.

Based on ARP requirements, 90 percent of ARP ESSER funds will be distributed to school districts and charter schools based on their relative share of Title I-A funding in FY 2020-2021.

Given Federally required timelines, LEAs eligible to apply for and receive this portion of the ARP ESSER funding must submit a Health and Safety Plan that meets ARP Act requirements to the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) by Friday, July 30, 2021, regardless of when the LEA submits its ARP ESSER application.

Each LEA must create a Health and Safety Plan that addresses how it will maintain the health and safety of students, educators, and other staff, and which will serve as local guidelines for all instructional and non-instructional school activities during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. The Health and Safety Plan should be tailored to the unique needs of each LEA and its schools and must take into account public comment related to the development of, and subsequent revisions to, the Health and Safety Plan.

The ARP Act and U.S. Department of Education rules require Health and Safety plans include the following components:

1. How the LEA will, to the greatest extent practicable, implement prevention and mitigation policies in line with the most up-to-date guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for the reopening and operation of school facilities in order to continuously and safely open and operate schools for in-person learning;
2. How the LEA will 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;
3. 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:
 - 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 State and local health departments;
- f. [Diagnostic](#) and screening testing;
- g. Efforts to provide COVID-19 [vaccinations to school communities](#);
- h. Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and
- i. Coordination with state and local health officials.

The LEA's Health and Safety Plan must be approved by its governing body and posted on the LEA's publicly available website by July 30, 2021.* The ARP Act requires LEAs to post their Health and Safety Plans online in a language that parents/caregivers can understand, or, if it is not practicable to provide written translations to an individual with limited English proficiency, be orally translated. The plan also must be provided in an alternative format accessible, upon request, by a parent who is an individual with a disability as defined by the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Each LEA will upload in the eGrants system its updated Health and Safety Plan and webpage URL where the plan is located on the LEA's publicly available website.

The ARP Act requires LEAs to review their Health and Safety Plans at least every six months during the period of the LEA's ARP ESSER grant. LEAs also must review and update their plans whenever there are significant changes to the CDC recommendations for K-12 schools. Like the development of the plan, all revisions must be informed by community input and reviewed and approved by the governing body prior to posting on the LEA's publicly available website.

LEAs may use the template to revise their current Health and Safety Plans to meet ARP requirements and ensure all stakeholders are fully informed of the LEA's plan to safely resume instructional and non-instructional school activities, including in-person learning, for the current school year. An LEA may use a different plan template or format provided it includes all the elements required by the ARP Act, as listed above.

* The July 30 deadline applies only to school districts and charter schools that received federal Title I-A funds in FY 2020-2021 and intend to apply for and receive ARP ESSER funding.

Additional Resources

LEAs are advised to review the following resources when developing their Health and Safety Plans:

- [CDC K-12 School Operational Strategy](#)
- [PDE Resources for School Communities During COVID-19](#)
- [PDE Roadmap for Education Leaders](#)
- [PDE Accelerated Learning Through an Integrated System of Support](#)
- [PA Department of Health - COVID-19 in Pennsylvania](#)

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Health and Safety Plan Summary:

Lindley Academy Charter School at Birney

Initial Effective Date: 8/18/20

Date of Last Review: 10/1/2024

Date of Last Revision: to be approved 10/15/24

1. 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?

Lindley Academy Charter School's ("LACS") goal for the 2024-2025 school year is to continue to keep all students safely in school for full in-person learning five days a week. This plan is designed to prioritize student learning recovery and acceleration; attend to the social, emotional, and mental health needs of students and staff; and provide safe

and healthy schools that support high-quality teaching and learning and equitable outcomes for all students. Overall student and staff health and wellness, and protecting staff and students from COVID-19 in particular, is a priority for LACS. LACS has used the most up-to-date guidance, recommendations, and guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ("CDC"), the Pennsylvania Department of Education ("PDE"), the Philadelphia Department of Public Health ("PDPH"), and Children's Hospital of Philadelphia ("CHOP"). LACS will use a combination of as needed mask requirements for staff and students based on public health recommendations, daily cleaning, continued promotion of vaccinations, and additional prevention and mitigation strategies described below in order to create and maintain safe and healthy learning environments. As recommended by the CDC, LACS layers multiple prevention strategies.

LACS will continue to consult with local public health experts from CHOP and PDPH throughout the 24-25 school year and make adjustments to this plan based on their recommendations as necessary.

2. 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?

Instructional design: LACS is fully open for five-day-a-week, in-person learning for all students in fall 2024. LACS strategic plan prioritizes academic success on standardized assessments, 95% attendance for all students, full continuum of mental health supports for students and integration and improvement of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging Practices. There are several evidence based strategies designed to accelerate student achievement. One of our evidence based strategies is to implement standards aligned core instructional resources. Our instructional design model focuses on standards-aligned instruction to facilitate student mastery of grade level content. There will be an intentional focus on this priority to accelerate students' achievement across content areas. As student achievement is a fundamental priority, we promote equity and access to quality grade level instruction for all students with accommodations and/or modifications provided to students with diverse learning needs. We engage students to apply key learning concepts to reach a deeper understanding of content and regularly monitor student progress to offer targeted intervention tailored to students' needs.

Technology: During the 2019-2020 school year LACS distributed chromebooks to all students. LACS will continue to operate as a 1:1 district through the upcoming school year and to offer technology support.

Student social, emotional, and mental health supports: Supporting the social-emotional well-being of students and staff alike is a priority for 2024-25. LACS has developed a robust set of resources and programming in this area –school staff will be trained for implementation. All staff will be trained and receive support for implementing the Caring

School Community SEL Model. Specifically, at LACS time is allocated in the school day for classroom-based morning meetings, class meetings and closing circles which focus on building relationships and social-emotional learning. SEL goals and activities will also be embedded in academic lesson plans.

Staff social, emotional, and mental health supports: LACS's Employee Assistance Program ("EAP") provides every employee and members of their household 24/7 access to assistance connecting with licensed counselors for emotional/mental health support.

Food services: Schools will continue with regular meal service during SY 24-25.

3. 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
a. Universal and correct wearing of masks ;	Indoor mask requirements for employees, students and visitors will be dependent upon recommendations from PDPH and CDC. Required indoor masking may be necessary for employees and students with recent COVID infection. Students receiving transportation will be required to adhere to SDP's health and safety rules including mask wearing.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	At this time social distancing is not required, per CDC and PDPH guidance.
c. Handwashing and respiratory etiquette ;	LACS has installed hand sanitizing stations. Soap and/or hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol will be available in every classroom, restroom, and throughout the school to encourage good hand hygiene. All staff will model healthy hygiene practices for students. There will be a system for routine use of handwashing stations and/or hand sanitizer applications for students that ensures handwashing strategies include washing with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after going to the bathroom; before eating, and after blowing the nose, coughing, or sneezing. If soap and water are not available and hands are not visibly dirty, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.
d. Cleaning and maintaining healthy	LACS has installed an air and surface purifier (NOVAROUS) in every instructional space and office space. We are also

<p>facilities, including improving ventilation;</p>	<p>cleaning in accordance with CDC guidelines & APPA 2 standards cleaning and sanitizing every school, including all walls, floors, furniture, doors, windows, restrooms, railings, and more. LACS has installed hydration stations with a touchless bottle fill feature to comply with safe drinking water regulations on every floor. LACS refills touchless hand sanitizer stations regularly. The cleaning contractor under the supervision of the LACS facilities coordinator cleans the school during and after the school day ends, using EPA registered cleaning supplies.</p>
<p>e. Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State and local health departments;</p>	<p>At this time contact tracing is not required, per CDC and PDPH guidance.</p>
<p>f. Diagnostic and screening testing;</p>	<p>At this time screening is not required, per CDC and PDPH guidance; however, testing for students and staff will be available at PDPH locations across the city. Testing models and schedules are subject to change with updated guidance from CDC and PDPH.</p>
<p>g. Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities;</p>	<p>The vaccination status of students will be tracked and documented by Student Health Services. The COVID-19 vaccine is not required for students</p>
<p>h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and</p>	<p>When recommended by the CDC and the Philadelphia Dept of Health an individualized approach for COVID-19 may be utilized for individuals who have difficulty accessing information, require close contact with direct service providers, have trouble understanding information, have difficulties with changes in routines, or have other concerns related to their disability. This approach may account for the following: • Social distancing and isolating may be difficult for many people with disabilities. • Wearing face coverings may be difficult for people with sensory, cognitive, medical, or behavioral issues. • Face coverings are not recommended for children under 2 or anyone who has trouble breathing or is unconscious, incapacitated, or otherwise unable to remove the covering without assistance.</p> <p>Extra precautions will be taken for students with needs including but not limited to low incidence Autism Support,</p>

	<p>Multi-Disabilities Support, Life Skills, Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Visually Impaired programs. If a student is unable to wear a mask as a result of their disability, or a health or medical condition, the EP team will re-evaluate the type and method of face covering for the student. Mask/Face Covering accommodations are available for students.</p> <p>If a student is unable to wear a mask as a result of their disability, or a health or medical condition, the EP team will re-evaluate the type and method of face covering for the student. Mask/Face Covering accommodations are available for students. Staff will clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces (e.g., counters, tabletops, doorknobs, bathroom fixtures, toilets, phones, keyboards, tablets); and equipment such as wheelchairs, scooters, walkers, canes, oxygen tanks, and tubing; communication boards; and other assistive devices before and after student use. If there is potential that staff may be splashed or sprayed by bodily fluids during the course of the workday, they will use standard precautions and personal protective equipment (PPE) including facemask, eye protection, disposable gloves, and a gown. Staff will wash their hands with soap and water: when entering and leaving the home or community setting; when adjusting or putting on or off face masks or cloth face coverings; or before putting on and after taking off disposable gloves. If soap and water are not readily available, staff will use a hand sanitizer that contains at least 60% alcohol.</p>
<p>i. Coordination with state and local health officials.</p>	<p>LACS will continue to be in communication and consult with the PDPH in regards to all COVID-19 health, prevention, and response policies and actions. LACS' website will be updated frequently with changes in protocols related to COVID-19 mitigation strategies.</p>

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Lindley Academy Charter School** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on **10/15/24**

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: 10.15.24

By:

(Signature of Board President)*

(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.