



ARP ESSER Health and Safety Plan Guidance & Template for Dunmore School District

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](#)

Health and Safety Plan Summary: Dunmore School District

Initial Effective Date: August 17, 2022

Date of Last Review: January 18, 2023

Date of Last Revision: August 17, 2022

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?

The Dunmore School District (DSD) will align with the guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) and the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PA DOH) to the maximum extent possible on all orders of health and safety related to the prevention and mitigation of COVID-19. The Superintendent will always bring current recommendations to the administrative team and school board, and as prevention and mitigation policies/procedures change, the Superintendent will present the school board with suggested amendments in order to pass a motion and formally update the health and safety plan.

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?

The Dunmore School District is returning to a five day a week in person instruction schedule for the 2022-2023 school year. There will be a strong focus on data-driven decision-making in order to close learning gaps.

During the summer of 2022, the district held a 4-week comprehensive enrichment program for grades K-6 that will specifically target ELA and Math instruction while incorporating Science and SEL lessons. Additionally, K-6 students had the opportunity to participate in camps focused on STEM, history, life-skills, and the arts. Students in grades 7-12 had the opportunity to take credit recovery courses. The district offered Extended School Year Education Services for Students with Learning Disabilities this summer, and plan to offer an after-school tutoring program during the school year.

The social and emotional well-being of students and staff is of utmost importance. A Guidance Counselor is on staff for the summer enrichment program. The counselor will incorporate SEL lessons into students' weekly routines. This will carry into the school year along with the use of an SEL screener to identify students' needs and them implementation of a new SEL curriculum for grades K-6. The district also works closely with Lackawanna County Office of Youth and Family Services, and has a School-Based Behavioral Health Team on site to help address students' mental health needs. Free meals will continue for all students for the 2022-23 school year.

The District will continue to train and implement best practices as they relate to closing achievement gaps, trauma informed care, and SEL practices.

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 <u>masks</u> ;	Adhere to all CDC and PA DOH guidelines and recommendations to the maximum extent possible. In accordance with the CDC, masks will be optional on district transportation (school busses and vans). All students and staff members of the Dunmore School District will have the option to wear masks or face coverings. It is not required. The District will closely monitor community transmission and vaccination coverage and make necessary changes to mask guidelines as needed.
b. Modifying facilities to allow for <u>physical distancing</u> (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);	Adhere to all CDC and PA DOH guidelines and recommendations to the maximum extent possible.
c. <u>Handwashing</u> and respiratory etiquette;	Adhere to all CDC and PA DOH guidelines and recommendations to the maximum extent possible.
d. <u>Cleaning</u> and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving <u>ventilation</u> ;	The DSD maintenance staff will conduct daily sanitizing. All cleaning and sanitizing will adhere to CDC and PA DOH guidelines and recommendations to the maximum extent possible.
e. <u>Contact tracing</u> in combination with <u>isolation</u> and <u>quarantine</u> , in collaboration with the State and local health departments;	The DSD will report all known COVID 19 cases to the PA DOH. The DSD will follow the guidance set forth by PA DOH as it relates to contact tracing, isolation, and quarantine.
f. <u>Diagnostic</u> and screening testing;	Any person displaying signs and symptoms of COVID-19 will be screened by our school nurses. An onsite Rapid Antigen test will be offered and administered with parental consent. The individual will be referred to their health care provider. It is suggested that a licensed clinician provide documentation for return to school.
g. Efforts to provide <u>vaccinations to school communities</u> ;	The DSD continues to partner with local health care providers to run vaccination clinics both on and off the premises to

ARP ESSER Requirement	Strategies, Policies, and Procedures
	assist in vaccinating as much of the population as possible.
h. Appropriate accommodations for students with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies; and	Adhere to all CDC and PA DOH guidelines and recommendations to the maximum extent possible.
i. Coordination with state and local health officials.	The DSD will continue to work in conjunction with PDE and the PA DOH by following their mandates and guidance to the maximum extent possible.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Dunmore School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on _____.

The plan was approved by a vote of:

_____ **Yes**

_____ **No**

Affirmed on: _____

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.

Health and Safety Plan Governing Body Affirmation Statement

The Board of Directors/Trustees for **Dunmore School District** reviewed and approved the Health and Safety Plan on 1-18-2023.

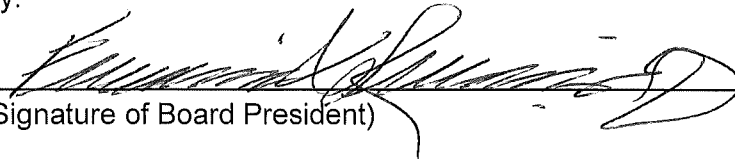
The plan was approved by a vote of:

9 ✓ Yes

 No

Affirmed on: Jan. 18, 2023

By:


(Signature of Board President)

Francis Kranick

(Print Name of Board President)

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