



Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan

District: Park County School District #16

The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief 3.0 (ESSER 3.0) Fund under the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Act of 2021, Public Law 117-2, enacted on March 11, 2021. ARP ESSER Funding provides a total of nearly \$122 billion to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) to help safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation’s students. In addition to ARP ESSER Funding, ARP includes \$3 billion for special education, \$850 million for the Outlying Areas, \$2.75 billion to support non-public schools, and additional funding for homeless children and youth, Tribal educational agencies, Native Hawaiians, and Alaska Natives.

LEAs must develop and make publicly available a **Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan that meets the following requirements within 30 days of receiving ARP ESSER allocation.** If an LEA developed a plan before ARP was enacted that does not address the requirements, the LEA must revise its plan no later than six months after it last reviewed its plan. All plans must be developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups (i.e., families, students, teachers, principals, school and district administrators, school leaders, other educators, school staff, advocacy organizations representing student groups). The consultation process must include an opportunity for input and meaning consideration of that input. ARP ESSER plans need to be published in an understandable and uniform format; to the extent practicable, written in a language that parents can understand or, if not practicable, orally translated; and upon request by a parent who is an individual with a disability, provided in an alternative format accessible to that parent.

Note: **LEAs need to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan at least every six months** through the life of the grant. Additionally, LEAs must seek public input on any of these revisions and must take that input into account. All revisions must include a rationale of why the revisions were made.

Please see the WDE’s [District Plan Checklist](#) as an additional resource.

Part One: Safe Return to In-Person Instruction Plan:

1. Describe to the extent to which the LEA has adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.

Mitigation Strategy	LEA Response
Universal and correct wearing of masks	PCSD16 considers all recommendations made by the Center for Disease Control (CDC). During the 2020-2021 School Year, all students, staff, and visitors were required to

	<p>wear masks when not able to adhere to 6 feet spacing between individuals. Beginning in August 2021, the district determined that with the size of our classrooms and low number of students in our K-12 school, that we would not require the mask to be worn by everyone. We do still require masks to be worn by individuals who show respiratory issues as determined by our school nurse. We provide single use medical masks for any individual wishing to wear masks, and encourage masks to be worn when 6 feet of distancing is not possible.</p>
<p>Physical distancing (e.g., including use of cohorts/podding)</p>	<p>Due the size of our classes and physical size of our classrooms, PCSD16 continues to utilize social distancing as much as possible throughout the day. We encourage all involved to social distance when possible.</p>
<p>Handwashing and respiratory etiquette</p>	<p>We have hand sanitizing stations in every classroom, and multiple in congregational areas (lunchroom, gymnasium, commons). We require students to sanitize once entering the cafeteria and before picking up their trays. We continue to encourage proper and often handwashing, and our school nurse conducts trainings with students on proper procedures. We have signs in bathrooms about washing hands and other signs throughout the school about good hygiene practices.</p>
<p>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation</p>	<p>We have an air filtration system in each space of our district, including offices and common areas. In addition to providing this, we have employed an additional custodian to work during the school day hours cleaning and sanitizing frequently touched areas of our buildings. Nightly, we are sanitizing the entire district as part of our routine cleaning schedule.</p>
<p>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</p>	<p>PCSD16 continues to contact trace in cooperation with the Park County Department of Health. Our school nurse is often the first to hear of possible contagions and we perform PCR testing out of her office. Students, Parents, and Staff are all informed if they or</p>

	their student has been in close contact. They are informed of the isolation requirements (if they themselves are positive) as well as their options regarding quarantine.
Diagnostic and screening testing	We utilize the CUE system to test any school individual who is showing signs of Covid or are desiring to return to school after a quarantine or close contact exposure. We inform our parents and community of the free testing provided by Vault and the State of Wyoming and help them order at home testing.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible	PCSD16 maintains that vaccination is a family choice. We support families in those decisions. At the same time, we have provided vaccination clinics at our school at different times to allow school and community members the option to be vaccinated in town, rather than having to travel to Cody.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.	Students with health needs are identified and teachers and advisors are made aware of their condition and needed accommodations. We have developed all of our courses to be posted on CANVAS and so a student who may need to stay home for health reasons, may continue to participate with their class. We also allow in school accommodations to take place following discussions with parents and possible creation of a 504 plan.

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

a Park County School District 16 wants to ensure that there is a continuity of services being provided to all students. We utilize our school nurse and school counselor to address general health and mental health issues. Collaboration time is generated on a weekly or as needed basis to address any academic, social, or health needs of students and staff. As funds become available under ARP the district is considering what additional supports may be possible through those funds.

b Academics are being supported by creating the option for students to continue their learning at home. We provide each student with a device and have Wi-Fi hotspots available to send home to few homes without internet service. We continue to work with our local ISP to provide better quality internet connectivity to all of our students.

3. The State requires a description of the process by which the LEA will collaborate with local health officials to monitor student health metrics throughout the school year. Provide that description below.

a Park County School District 16 has formed a great relationship with the county health official and the staff at the county health department. The county health official and superintendent communicate on an as needed basis, with a minimum of communication every two weeks. During the beginning of the year and prior year, this communication took place weekly. Both the district and the health department track the numbers of students/families and community infections respectfully. If either sees and increase in any factor, collaboration takes place.

Part Two: Consultation with Stakeholders

1. Describe how the LEA will, in planning for the use of ARP ESSER funds, engaged in meaningful consultation with stakeholders, including, but not limited to:

- a. students;
- b. families;
- c. school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and
- d. teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.
- e. tribes;
- f. civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and
- g. stakeholders representing the interests of children with disabilities, English learners, children experiencing homelessness, children and youth in foster care, migratory students, children who are incarcerated, and other underserved students.
 - a. Over the past year, the district has held multiple public input meetings and board meetings to solicit the feedback from the community. These meetings will continue to take place. We also send out surveys to our parents and community regarding protocols and possible expenditures of federal dollars. This information is collected and our school improvement team reviews this information as well as survey results from staff and students. The team compiles the information and includes their recommendations, which is then presented to the school board.
 - b. We will continue to utilize other federal program meetings to include feedback on these items.

2. Provide an overview of how the public stakeholder input was considered in the development of the LEA's Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan?
 - a. This current plan is an adaptation from our 2020-2021 Smart Start Plan. The process used to obtain stakeholder input for that plan is outlined in the previous question. We will continue to use that model.
 - b. Several personal phone calls were made by administration and board members to hear concerns and suggestions from community members to start the 2021-2022 school year. This input was followed by presentations at board meetings and invitations to community stakeholders to come and have their voices heard.
 - c. Twice this year, the board has held workshops to provide time for stakeholders to openly talk about their recommendations and provide feedback on the proposed procedures.

To facilitate transparency, the department will post the link to each school district's plan on its website. It will be the responsibility of the district to ensure its link remains valid.