

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



Entity ID	CTDS	LEA NAME
4162	010309000	Vernon 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	Y	Was a requirement indoors, due to AZ legislation it will be recommended. Students have been trained how to wear masks properly. Policy will be considered for continuation by the board since the requirement was rescinded.
Modifying facilities to allow for physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)	Y	Multiple different versions depending on the matrix level, 3 feet of distance, or masks in classrooms.
Handwashing and respiratory etiquette	Y	Signage and extra time given for students to wash hands
Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities, including improving ventilation	Y	Cleaned multiple times a day. Proper supply of extra cleaning supplies
Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine, in collaboration with the State, local, territorial, or Tribal health departments	Y	Apache County Health department works with us for tracing and Quarantine Recommendations. We also follow the CDC guidelines.
Diagnostic and screening testing	Y	Screening questions with temperature checks prior to the start of school. Teachers all have thermometers in the classroom.
Efforts to provide vaccinations to school communities	Y	Testing and vaccinations provided in the community this year.
Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies	Y	Virtual learning and safe rooms for needed students.
Coordination with State and local health officials	Y	Worked with Apache County and CDC guidelines to develop

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?

Vernon has a plan for in person and distance learning. We also have an SEL program we will be using with teachers and students. Our goal is 100% in person learning, but we are prepared to go remote if needed.

Students' Needs:

Academic Needs	Summer School and After School Tutoring
Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Leadership classes that address SEL, Mindfulness classes and counseling provided
Other Needs (which may include student health and food services)	Free breakfast and lunch, also fresh produce given out once a week.

Staff Needs:

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Social, Emotional and Mental Health Needs	Mindfulness training provided, support groups online. Staff input with all decisions.
Other Needs	Training on distance learning and SEL program.

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	08/21/2023
Public Input	
Describe the process used to seek public input, and how that input was taken into account in the revision of the plan:	Open house, surveys, talking with parents and governing board

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).

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- (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;
 - (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; and
 - (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