



DISTRICT: Public Plan

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

NOTE: If any of your answers to the following questions require additional space, please use the supplemental blank pages at the end of this document.

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



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. ARPA 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 to be 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. All plans must be made publicly available on the LEA's website and published on the Tennessee Department of Education's (department) website within thirty (30) days.

Please note that LEAs need to **update** the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan **at least every six months** through September 30, 2023, and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions, and must take such input into account. All revisions must include an explanation and rationale of why the revisions were made.

Questions in this health plan were developed by the US Department of Education.

Consultation with Stakeholders

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

- i. students;
- ii. families;
- iii. school and district administrators (including special education administrators); and
- iv. teachers, principals, school leaders, other educators, school staff, and their unions.
- v. tribes;
- vi. civil rights organizations (including disability rights organizations); and
- vii. 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.

See answer in additional space below.

2 Provide an overview of how the public stakeholder input was considered in the development of the LEA's plan for ARP ESSER funds.

After the completion of the public meetings, surveys were sent out and published for all stakeholders to complete. The results of the survey were used to conduct a needs assessment, and the results of the needs assessment were analyzed by district staff. Using the budgetary lanes provided by the state of Tennessee, district office personnel began to assign prioritized needs according to the guidance.

3 How did the LEA compile feedback during the open comment period for the ARP Plan?

The district utilized a stakeholder survey to compile needs assessment data. A link to the survey was published on the website and sent out using multiple media sources including: the local newspaper, district and school level social media accounts, school signs and the district all call system.

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4 How was the input considered during the open comment period time?

By planning meetings at each school in the district, staff was able to ensure that the feedback that was gathered equitably represented all schools and sub-groups. The data that was compiled helped district staff to determine the priorities for parents, students, and school personnel. The district staff prioritized the use of ARP (ESSER 3) funds to fulfill the needs as determined by the summaries from the surveys.

Safe Return to In-Person Instruction

5 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:

- universal and correct wearing of masks;
- physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding);
- hand washing and respiratory etiquette;
- cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities,
- including improving ventilation;
- contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine;
- diagnostic and screening testing;
- efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible; and
- appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies.

See reponse below.

Continuity of Services Plan

6 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.

Upon approval of the ESSER 3 plan by the state, the following services will be added to address the above needs:

1. Addition of 3 social workers for the district
2. Low ratio tutoring
3. Improved ventilation systems and roofing projects to eliminate mold from buildings
4. Various partnerships established with non-profit organizations to assist with social and emotional needs

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SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSES

Should you require additional space to complete your response to any of the above questions, please use these supplemental blank pages. If using this space for multiple answers, leave a space between and *be sure to include which area you are adding a response to at the beginning.*

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

Grundy County Schools will hold informational meetings for the public at each of the six elementary schools on June 15th at 6:00 pm and at GCHS on June 17th at 6:00 pm. The purpose of these meetings is to communicate information concerning the use of The Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Funding (ESSER) and to give the public an opportunity to give feedback and suggestions on the plans for these funds.

Planning for the meetings

A survey will be developed by instructional supervisors in order to collect feedback from the public. Suggestions for the survey will be gathered from all Central Office supervisors. The surveys will be available to be filled out at the school meetings on paper and electronically. In addition, Grundy County Schools will send the survey to teachers via email and will use the all call system to send the survey out to parents.

A PowerPoint presentation will be created by the CTE director and the Federal Programs Supervisor to be used at each of the informational meetings held at the schools. The PowerPoint will give specific details about ESSER funds and the state requirements for the funds. The presentation will also contain general ideas about the planning process that will be used to determine how the ESSER funds will be used. Communication about the informational meetings will be published in the Grundy County Herald, on the Grundy County Schools facebook page, on GCTV, and via all call. In addition, we will reach out to community partners which could include: Ben Lomand, SVEC, SCCF, Sewanee University, the county commissioners, Grundy Safe Community Coalition, and Mayor Brady. Exceptional Education Supervisor, Attendance Supervisor, Transportation Supervisor, Food Services Supervisor, and Maintenance Supervisor will handle communication with community partners.

Plans for the informational meetings at the schools

Each building level principal will use the PowerPoint created by Central Office to deliver the message about ESSER funds. The Federal Programs Supervisor will provide the PowerPoint and content review to all principals.

Central Office staff will support the principals at the meetings by being in attendance to help with the collection of data and Q&A. The following Central Office Staff will be assigned to each school:

North Elementary - Gina Sircy

Coalmont Elementary - Anna Meeks and Dr. Durley

Pelham Elementary - Billy Moon and Kathy Moon

Swiss Memorial - Dr. Jennifer Webb

Tracy City - Taylor Parmley and Russell Fugate

Grundy County High School - Deidre Helton and Dr. Jennifer Webb

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SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSES *(continued)*

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2021-2022 Back to School COVID Guidelines

Our School System recognizes the ongoing, ever-changing dynamics of COVID and/or its new variant(s). In addition, the CDC has communicated concern over children's vulnerability to COVID and/or its new variant(s). It is the intention of the Grundy County Board of Education to continue to follow the recommendations of the state health department and the CDC to keep the faculty, staff, and students safe. These recommendations include: social distancing, sanitation of classroom spaces, and the option for students, faculty, and staff to wear a facemask. While it is recommended, masks are not required. Covid-19 vaccinations are available for everyone 12 and older at the health department. As a district, we will continue to monitor local health department and state guideline updates to make changes to district protocols/procedures when appropriate. For the beginning of the school year, we will follow the procedures below:

Students with COVID

Principal and/or School Nurse are to be notified

Isolation begins on positive diagnosis

A doctor's note should be provided to the School Secretary

COVID verified absences will be excused

Student with close contact of another student or adult.

Principal and/or School Nurse shall notify the parents/guardians of students deemed to be "close contact" (within 6 ft for 15 minutes) via phone call or letter

Identified "close contacts" should watch for symptoms

If symptoms occur, seek medical attention and begin COVID protocol (if advised).

If no symptoms occur, student may report to school

If symptoms occur, students should stay home for 5 days or until no symptoms have been present for 3 days.

Employee with COVID

Building Principal & HR Supervisor shall be notified

Doctor's note/verification is required

Employees must stay home 5 school days and may return on the 8th day with no fever or symptoms unless medical guidance states otherwise.

Employees must use sick leave, no COVID leave available

Employee with contact tracing (Self-Reported) (Notified by Principal)

Consider 6ft for 15 minutes rule

Watch for symptoms

If no symptoms occur, employee may report to work

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