

## **Safe Return to In-person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan**

### **Addendum Guidance**

**2023**

LEAs are required to update the Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan every six months through **Sept. 30, 2023**. Each time, local education agencies (LEAs) must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. The purpose of the plan is to keep stakeholders informed.

Every LEA should complete the addendum and upload it to ePlan in the LEA document library and post it to the LEA's website (March 1 and Sept. 15). 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.

Please consider the following when completing the addendum:

- Ensure the LEA used multiple models of engagement offered to stakeholders. Examples may include surveys, in-person or virtual committee meetings, town hall meetings, or other inclusive engagement opportunities.
- LEAs should engage all applicable groups noted in meaningful consultation during the crafting of the plan and when making any significant revisions or updates to the plan.
- The number of stakeholders engaged should represent the composition of students. For example, if students with disabilities make up 15 percent of students, then 10-20 percent of respondents should represent this subgroup.
- Ensure the stakeholder engagement happened prior to the development/revision of the plan.
- The LEA must engage the health department in the development and revision of the plan. This is different from providing the health department with COVID-19 numbers.
- Plans must explicitly address every bullet point in Question 3 regarding district policies and strategies.
- Plans require local board approval and public posting.
- LEAs must update the *Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan* at least every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, seek public input on the plan and any revisions, and take such input into account. All revisions must include an explanation and rationale of why the revisions were made.
- All revisions must include an explanation and rationale, with meaningful public consultation and in an understandable format. The American Rescue Plan (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.

## Coffee County Schools

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

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, was enacted on March 11, 2021. Funding provided to states and local educational agencies (LEAs) helps safely reopen and sustain the safe operation of schools and address the impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the nation's students.

In the fall of 2021, LEAs developed and made publicly available a Safe Return to In-Person Instruction and Continuity of Services Plan. All plans were developed with meaningful public consultation with stakeholder groups. LEAs are required to update the plan every six months through Sept. 30, 2023, and must seek public input on the plan and any revisions and must take such input into account. LEAs also must review and update their plans and ensure they align with any significant changes to 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.

The following information is intended to update stakeholders and address the requirement.

LEA Name: Coffee County Schools

Date: February 23, 2023

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#### **1. Describe how the LEA has continued to engage in meaningful consultation with stakeholders in the development of the revised plan.**

The district re-engaged stakeholders by administering an additional on-line survey February 2023. The survey link is on the CCSS webpage and was sent to all employees. An invitation to families and all other stakeholders to participate in the survey was posted on social media. The survey was posted on the district website and is currently still open for responses.

Monthly Health Council meetings continue to provide an opportunity for the community and stakeholders to discuss health issues and provide input on our plan. Leaders of the community met on May 12, 2022 for Coffee County Schools annual Board of Health meeting. Participants shared continuing concerns regarding COVID in our community.

**2. Describe how the LEA engaged the health department in the development of the revised plan.**

Coffee County Schools continues to track and monitor positive cases of staff and students. CCSS refers COVID-19 related questions and concerns to the local health department or PCP. Leaders of the community met on May 12, 2022 for Coffee County Schools' annual Board of Health meeting. Participants shared continuing concerns regarding COVID in our community, were asked for input on how the schools could improve or meet those continuing needs, and asked for suggestions on how to spend remaining monies addressing those needs.

**3. Provide the extent to which the LEA has updated adopted policies and a description of any such policies on each of the following health and safety strategies.**

<i>Appropriate accommodations for children with disabilities with respect to health and safety policies</i>
<u>Social distancing within the confines of a regular school schedule continues to be encouraged. Measures have been taken for sanitizing special education classrooms and buses. Additional communications take place with families with medically fragile students.</u>
<i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>
<u>Social distancing continues to be encouraged within the confines of a regular school schedule.</u>
<i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>
<u>Coffee County Schools continue to follow CDC guidance. The wearing of masks is not required. Proper handwashing and sanitizing continues to be emphasized. School nurses conduct proper handwashing techniques to all students.</u>
<i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>
<u>Continue frequent cleaning of common areas and buses. Increased airflow and filtration continues to be a point emphasis. The most recent stakeholder feedback suggests a concern to revisit our commitment to a higher standard of cleanliness.</u>
<i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>
<u>Students and staff that are positive with COVID-19 isolate for 5 days as per CDC guidelines.</u>
<i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>
<u>Staff and students are encouraged to see their PCP when sick</u>
<i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>
<u>Coffee County Schools’s Health Services Department offered the first and second Moderna Vaccine to all staff in 2021.</u>
<i>Universal and correct wearing of masks</i>
<u>Masks are available to all employees and students.</u>

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**7.4. Provide a current description as to how the LEA is ensuring continuity of services including but not limited to services that address students' academic needs and students' and staff's social, emotional, mental health, and other needs, which may include student health and food services.**

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Coffee County Schools is committed to ensure continuity of services that will address all students' academic needs, as well as all student and staff social, emotional, mental health, and other needs. Student needs will continue to be our primary focus.

ESSER money continues to be used to address the needs of students and staff.

- In person learning continues to occur with the exception of accepted applicants to our virtual academy.
- District Academic coaches (3 (hired in 2021-22 school year) = 1 additional Literacy coach and 2 Math coaches) continue to build the capacity of our teachers and assist in providing resources based on teacher/instructional needs.
- Interventions are provided during the school day, during after school tutoring programs, and during summer learning camps to meet the needs of students in order to close the achievement gaps.
- Summer School for grades 9-12 will continue to be provided
- All teachers are provided high quality instructional materials for ELA that have been vetted by TDOE.
- Professional development opportunities are provided to support these materials and the instructional needs of teachers.
- K-1 teachers have received extensive training during the summer of 2022 using the Foundations program.
- CCSS Tech Dept. continues to provide Professional Development to build teacher capacity for using technology effectively in the classroom or via distance learning.

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- Coffee County High School was reconstructed to better use available space. From that reconstruction, six additional classrooms were completed for the 2022 school year. Special education students benefit by larger spaces for the alternate academic diploma work and the PAES Lab (work based learning). Regular education students benefit from more academic space.
- Mental health, including social and emotional health, continue to be a priority as resources are available to support our students and their families as needed.
- School nurses will continue to monitor student and staff health needs.
- Transportation continues to level student loads on transfer buses to promote reduced numbers and physical distancing.