

# 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.

## 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: Bradford Special School District

Date: 02/10/2023

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

Bradford Special School District posted a survey for all community stakeholders on our district website and social media platforms. The results of the survey were aligned to our ESSER plans so there are no revisions being made at this time. We plan to continue to focus on the areas of after-school and summer intervention, addressing the social emotional needs of students, addressing the needs of special populations, technology, and construction of two new intervention rooms.

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

Bradford Special School District continues to consult with the Gibson County Health Department concerning updated guidance from the CDC and any new procedures that are developed to assist with student and staff safety in regard to COVID. Our School Nurse also monitors all updated COVID information and maintains communication with the Gibson County Health Department.



**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>Our district will continue to utilize cleaning supplies in classrooms with medically fragile students. Students with disabilities are in a larger divided room to provide for additional spacing. Teachers and assistants both teach and model proper hygiene, such as, hand washing, covering your mouth when sneezing, etc.</u>
<i>Physical distancing (e.g., use of cohorts/podding)</i>
<u>All students continue to eat in the cafeteria for lunch during this school year. Our middle/high school has added an additional lunch period in the day to reduce the number of students in the cafeteria. We no longer use seating charts due to the reduction of COVID cases within our district.</u>
<i>Hand washing and respiratory etiquette</i>
<u>Students are encouraged to wash their hands throughout the school day and use proper respiratory etiquette. Teachers and school nurses have discussed these procedures with students at the beginning of the school year. We have hand sanitizer stations located throughout both schools.</u>
<i>Cleaning and maintaining healthy facilities including improving ventilation</i>
<u>Bradford Special School District has employed extra staff to clean and sanitize classrooms each night. Teachers have been provided extra cleaning materials/supplies for their classrooms. In addition, restrooms are deep cleaned weekly.</u>
<i>Contact tracing in combination with isolation and quarantine</i>
<u>We have revised our isolation policies to include the five-day isolation period from the onset of COVID19 symptoms to align with the CDC guidelines. Masks continue to remain optional for students and staff. Our district is not contact tracing at this point in the school year. School secretaries maintain the return date for students that are in the five-day isolation window.</u>
<i>Diagnostic and screening testing</i>
<u>Our district participates in the ELC grant. Through the grant, we purchased COVID tests kits. Our school nurses administer COVID testing when requested by parents for students or for teachers and staff.</u>
<i>Efforts to provide vaccinations to educators, other staff, and students, if eligible</i>
<u>Vaccinations are not being offered by the school district at this time. However, in the fall, teachers and staff had the option to receive a flu and/or COVID vaccination during the school day as scheduled by our school nurse. If students or staff request information on vaccines, the school nurse can provide vaccination sites.</u>
<i>Universal and correct wearing of masks</i>
<u>All information concerning masks is provided to students, parents, and staff in accordance with CDC guidelines. The correct wearing of paper masks is encouraged in the school setting, but it is not required. Both schools have a supply of extra masks for anyone that wants to wear one in the school setting.</u>

**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.**

Our district remains capable of providing virtual instruction, if necessary, for students that are isolated due to COVID. We have returned to school in a normal setting this school year. Students are provided technology and internet hot spots if needed to ensure they have educational access if they are isolated due to COVID. We are providing before and after school remediation, and summer school tutoring to assist students with learning loss due to COVID. Our School Social Worker provides additional afternoon support services for students and staff two afternoons weekly to address any social/emotional or mental health needs.